HIST 2311
Western Civilization I
Fall 2018
M, W 2:00-3:15 pm CS 115
3 semester hours

Course Description
This course is a survey of the cultures and civilizations of the Ancient
Mediterranean world and the political, social, economic, military, cultural, and
intellectual influences shaping the emergence of Europe to the early modern era.

Student Learning Outcomes
Students in this course will

➢ Read and analyze primary source documents from the past
➢ Develop historical interpretations through class discussion and written assignments
➢ Demonstrate an understanding of continuity and change in Western society, politics, and culture through class discussion and written assignments

Required Texts
There are two required texts for this class. Students are expected to acquire, rent, or otherwise obtain stable access to these texts. The campus bookstore has these texts
in stock. A copy of the main document reader is on reserve in the Bell Library. Students are expected to bring the text with them to class to facilitate class discussions. If a student is relying on the reserve copy, then they need to bring sufficient notes on the assigned readings to participate.


*Please note: Older editions of these texts are available. *For the most part*, these older editions are acceptable. However, if you do obtain an older edition, make sure you compare your copy with the above edition to note the changes.

*In Addition:* There are additional assigned readings and resources place on our course’s Blackboard site.

*Electronics Policy*

In class the use of printed material is preferred, as well as the use of tablets without keyboards. Some days the use of laptops will be encouraged for group activities and discussions. The professor will alert students beforehand in class and on Blackboard when they should remember to bring available laptops to class. (Use of laptops on these days is not required and will not affect participation.) At any point, if the use of electronic devices becomes a problem, the professor reserves the right to ask the student to leave the classroom. *The use of cell phones for any purpose is not
permitted in class. Students who cannot follow this guideline may be asked to leave. See Professor Johnson with any concerns.

**Disabilities Accommodations**
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall 116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

**Assignments and Grades**
**At-home written assignments** 45%: There are three at-home written assignments due throughout the semester. Specific instructions for each assignment are posted on Blackboard. Each assignment is worth 15% of the semester grade.

*Plagiarism* is the unattributed use of another person or group's ideas and work. Plagiarism is a violation of TAMUCC standards; at minimum, evidence of plagiarism will result in a failing grade for the assignment and will be reported to the university administration. Proper citation and attribution of written materials will be discussed in class. Consult your instructor if you have any additional questions.

**Class participation and in-class assignments** 15%: Regular and thoughtful contributions to classroom discussion (when appropriate), attentiveness, active note taking, arriving on time, and minimizing distractions (for yourself and others) all
constitute your participation. While attendance is a minimum, note that simply attending class does not count as participation. If students are unsure how to best participate in the class, they should meet with the Professor to discuss successful strategies.

*Regular attendance* is required for this course. Students may miss two class periods without any excuse provided or documentation without incurring any penalty. Each subsequent absence will negatively affect the student’s participation grade. Excessive absences may result in a failing participation grade.

*In-Class Group and Individual Writing Assignments:* Short group and writing assignments will be administered in class throughout the semester. When collected, these assignments will be factored into the class participation grade. Missed assignments cannot be made up.

*Quizzes:* The Instructor reserves the right to administer pop quizzes on the day’s assigned reading. If missed, these quizzes cannot be made up. Quiz scores will be factored into the overall class participation grade.

*Exams 40%:* There are four exams throughout the semester. Exams are closed book, closed note individual exercises. Each exam will be written, either in the form of short answer identifications, document analyses, and/or essays. No exam is cumulative. Each exam is worth 10% of the semester grade/

**Academic Advising**
The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information please call 361-825-3466.
Dropping a Class

I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with your academic advisor, the Financial Aid Office, and me, before you decide to drop this course. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class.

Grade Appeals

As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.03, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.03, Student Grade Appeals. These documents are accessible online at: http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/rules_procedures/assets/13.02.99.C0.03_student_grade_appeals.pdf. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean’s office in the college in which the course is taught. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal in CLA, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, http://cla.tamucc.edu/about/student-resources.html.
Course and Reading Schedule

All scheduled readings are from the main textbook unless otherwise noted.

Mon., Aug. 27
Syllabus, Assignments, Expectations, Navigating the Textbook

Unit 1: The Ancient Mediterranean
Wed., Aug. 29
Situating Mediterranean Cultures in Eurasia and Africa c. 800 BCE.
Read: introductions to Early Civilizations and Peoples, Gods, and Empires pp. 1-4, 37-40

Wed., Sep. 5
Greek Culture and Society
Read: Spartan Society and Values; Constitution of the Athenians (on Blackboard)

Mon., Sep. 10
Greek Politics and the Hellenistic Age
Read: Peloponnesian Wars; Politics; Life of Alexander

Wed., Sep. 12
Rise of Roman Society
Read: Twelve Tables; On the Laws

Mon., Sep. 17
Challenges to Rome inside and out
Read: Germania; selections from Gospel of Matthew
Wed., Sep. 19

Late Antiquity

*Read:* City of God and Confessions; Theodosian Code

Mon., Sep. 24

Exam 1 in class

**Unit 2: Medieval Europe**

Wed., Sep. 26

Introduction to Medieval World(s)

*Read:* selections from the Qur’an; History of the Franks

Mon., Oct. 1

Medieval Politics and Economy 1: Feudalism and Political Rebellion

*Read:* Meadows of Gold; Life of Charlemagne; Murder of Bishop Gaudry; Magna Carta

Wed., Oct. 3

Medieval Politics and Economy 2: The Crusades

*Read:* Song of Roland; Anonymous of Mainz; Arabic Account of First Crusade

Mon., Oct. 8

Medieval Culture and Identity

*Read:* History of the English Church and People; translation of the Book of Genesis; Letter to Bishop Hermann of Metz

Wed., Oct. 10

Plague, Disease, and Dying in the Early and Late Middle Ages
Read: Divine Comedy; Decameron

Mon., Oct. 15
Exam 2

Unit 3: The Renaissance
Wed., Oct. 17
Humanism and the Golden Age
Read: Oration on the Dignity of Man

Mon., Oct. 22
Politics and Society
Read: The Book of the City of Ladies; I Libri della Famiglia (The Books of the Family)

Wed., Oct. 24
Exploration and Western Expansion
Read: Round Africa to India; Letter on His First Voyage; Of Cannibals

Mon., Oct. 29
Religious Reform 1: Protestantism
Read: The Large Catechism; Twelve Articles of the Peasants of Swabia; Draft of Ecclesiastical Ordinances; Venetian Report on St. Bartholomew's Day Massacre; Peace of Augsburg
Wed., Oct. 31
Religious Reform 2: Catholic Reform

*Read:* Spiritual Exercises; Life of Teresa; Council of Trent

Mon., Nov. 5
Religious Reform 3: The Thirty Years War and Witchcraft

*Read:* Peace of Westphalia; Discoverie of Witchcraft

Wed., Nov. 7
Exam 3 in Class

Mon., Nov. 12

*The Cheese and the Worms*

*Read:* Prefaces to the English and Italian Editions

Wed., Nov. 14

*The Cheese and the Worms*

*Read:* The Rest of the Book

**Due:** 500 word analysis on *The Cheese and the Worms* (directions on Blackboard)

Mon., Nov. 19

*The Cheese and the Worms*

Mon., Nov. 26

Scientific Revolutions

*Read:* Letters from Galileo and Sarrochi (on Blackboard); Bacon, selections from Novum Organum (on Blackboard)
Wed., Nov. 28
Absolutist Consolidation
Read: On Sovereignty

Mon., Dec. 3
Republicanism
Read: Two Treatises of Government

Wed., Dec. 5
Exam 4 in Class

Mon., Dec 10
Final exam day: Third essay is due on Blackboard at 1:45 pm

Assignment Due Dates
More detailed instructions for each assignment can be found on Blackboard. Consult Dr. Johnson if you have any further questions or concerns.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Date Due (on Blackboard)</th>
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<tr>
<td>500 word (minimum) analysis comparing two of the documents assigned for Unit 1</td>
<td>Sunday, September 30, 11:59 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>500 word (minimum) analysis of <em>The Cheese and the Worms</em></td>
<td>Tuesday, November 13, 11:59 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>500 word (minimum) essay</td>
<td>Monday, December 10, 1:45 pm</td>
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