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[Sitemap \(NewSiteMap/sitemap.html\)](#)

History 110/111 Western Civilization I

(Ancient World to c. 1688)

Fall 2001

TAs ~ Description ~ Textbooks ~ Requirements/Grades ~ Lectures/Readings

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Dr. Michael Myers

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Foellinger Auditorium

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Office: 301 Gregory Hall; Phone: 244-2083

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Lecture: 9:00 am Tuesday & Thursday

Office Hours: MW 10am-noon; & By Appointment

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E-mail: mdmyers@uiuc.edu

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_Teaching Assistants _

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Mike Pedrotty

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Laurence Pittenger

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Grace Chan

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Yongtao Du

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Ion Costinescu

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Aaron Smith

CourseDescription

This survey course will examine the major developments that contributed to the formation of western civilization and its culture. Roughly the first half of the course will focus on the ancient civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, the Hebrews, Greece, Rome, and early Christianity to approximately the end of the tenth century C.E. The second half will examine the High and Late Middle Ages, the Renaissance and Reformation, and early modern Europe up until the contrasting political developments of absolutism of Louis XIV and Britains Glorious Revolution approximately at the end of the seventeenth century.

The content of the course ranges widely but overall will tend to focus on the individual, society, structures of authority, and systems of belief as well as the relations between the four. Integral to the course is development of historical methodology including critical analysis and reading in the understanding and interpreting of historical events in their own contemporary context and not as some preplanned, prearranged, and predestined antecedent to present modernity. As such, analysis and interpretation of texts rather than the memorization of material will be emphasized and critical to the successful completion of the course.

Textbooks (All available at Illini Union, Folletts, and TIS bookstores, except the course packet, see below). The principle texts for the class

will be numbers 1–4 and numbers 5–8 will form the texts for the semester microtheme papers.

1. Perry, Chase, Jacob, et al. *Western Civilization, Ideas, Politics & Society*. Vol. I. 6th Ed. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 2000.
2. Perry, Peden, & Von Laue. *Sources of the Western Tradition*. Vol. I. 4th Ed. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1999.
3. Golden, Richard M. *The Social Dimension of Western Civilization*. Vol. I. 4th Ed. New York: Bedford/St. Martins, 1999.
4. Course Packet (Available at Notes & Quotes, 502 East John Street in the Johnstown Center).
5. Euripides. *The Bacchae*. Trans. David Franklin. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2000.
6. *Beowulf*. Trans. by Michael Alexander. London: Penguin Classics, 1973.
7. Alighieri, Dante. *The Inferno*. Trans by John Ciardi. New York: Signet Classic, 2001.
8. Shakespeare, William. *The Tempest*. London: J.M. Dent, 1991. _

Course Requirements, Grades, and Policies

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Semester grades will be determined by your performance in the following categories:

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Midterm Exam

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100 points

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Final (Cumulative)

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200 points

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Four microthemes (@50 points each)

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200 points

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Discussion (Participation, Attendance,

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Quizzes, presentations, etc.)
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100 points
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|
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600 points total

From this schema, it seems that one-half of the semester grade derives from lecture, the other half from discussion sections. But this is completely WRONG. Exams and papers are completely integrated with one another: failure to attend and prepare for lecture will entail failure in discussion and vice versa. Discussion classes will be devoted primarily to developing the skills of historical inquiry and methodology (as stated above, memorization of material will count for little) of historical texts. And of course, texts must be placed in context which will be the primary focus of lecture and the textbook. Because anywhere from 25 to 40% of exams will be devoted solely to the analysis of historical texts, skills acquired in discussion and context derived from lecture and textbooks must be mastered (for importance of this see grading schemata above).

Course grades will follow a straight curve with the following breakdown (including +s and s): As, 90% & above; Bs, 89-80%; Cs, 79-70%; Ds, 69-60%; and Fs, less than 59%.

Four microtheme papers will be due during the semester in discussion class and are listed on the syllabus. Each paper will be approximately 750 words (about 3 pages) and will follow the format determined by your individual TA. The papers will require the critical analysis of assigned texts focused on the particular theme/question of the assignment.

****Other Policies:**** Late Papers, None; Make-up Papers, None; Extra-credit Work, None.

****Attendance**** for lecture and discussion sections is mandatory. TAs are encouraged to give quizzes and extra short papers to ensure preparation for class as well as to mark class attendance (or note lack thereof) and participation (or note the lack thereof).

The mid-term and final cumulative exam will be held in Foellinger Auditorium. Note Bene: the final exam must be taken, if not, an F will be awarded for the semester grade regardless of previous performance in the semester.

Syllabus

Week I

1. August 23 Introduction to Class, Pre-history, History, & Civilization
Read: 4. Lewis and Halpern.

Week II

[2. August 28 \(Week2.htm\)](#) Geography & Religion: Egypt & Mesopotamia

Read: 1. 4–32; 2. Gilgamesh 4–9, Hammurabi 10–12, & Hymns 13–14; & 3. Mendelsohn, Slavery . . .

[3. August 30 \(Hebrews Outl.htm\)](#) The Hebrews: Self, God, and Covenants

Read: 1. 34–49; 2. Babylonian Genesis 24–25 & Hebrew Literature 29–36; & 3. Solar, Why the Hebrews

Week III

[4. September 4 \(Week III 4.htm\)](#) Greek Politics: Democracy and Kings

Read: 1. 50–62; 2. Plato 83–89; 3. Dover, Classical Greek ; & 5. *The Bacchae*.

[5. September 6 \(Week IV 6.htm\)](#) Honor, Glory, Greed, & Stupidity: The Peloponnesian War

Read: 1. 62–73; & 2. Thucydides 53–54, 66–68, & 73–78.

Week IV

[6. September 11 \(Week IV 6.htm\)](#) Greek Thought: New Directions

Read: 1. 75–101; & 2. Aristotle – Hippocrates, 49–53.

**NB: MICROTHEME #1 ON *THE BACCHAE* DUE THIS WEEK

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[7. September 13 \(Week IV 71.htm\)](#) Alexander the Great, Hellenism, & the Cultural Legacy of Greece

Read: 1. 103–118; & 2. Xenophon 68–69, Aristophanes 69–73, Epicurus 95–96, First Maccabees 97–98, & Philo 98–100.

Week V

[8. September 18 \(Week V 8 Sept 18.htm\)](#) The Roman Republic: Expansion & Culture

Read: 1. 120–132; 2. Polybius–Appian 102–108, Diodorus 112–14, & Juvenal 138–40; 3. Dixon, Roman Marriage; & 4. Horace.

[9. September 20 \(Wk V 9.htm\)](#) Smoke and Mirrors: The

Principate to Empire Read: 1. 132–146; & 2. Livy 115–17, Sallust 121–23; Cicero 126, Dio 127–28, Augustus 132–33, & Tacitus 133–34.

Week VI

[10. September 25 \(Wk VI Lec 10.htm\)](#) *Pax Romana*

Read 1. 146–158; 2. Aelius 152–53, Tacitus 154–55, & Josephus 155–58; 3. Veyne, Pleasure ; & 6. *Beowulf*.

[11. September 27 \(Wk VI Lec. 11.htm\)](#) Christianity

Read: 1. 172–95; 2. Cicero 125–25, Seneca 140–43; Mathew 169–71, Paul 172–73, & Persecutions 176–8; & 4. Pliny the Younger.

Week VII

[12. October 2 \(Wk VII Lec 12.htm\)](#) Late Antiquity and the Demise of the Empire

Read: 1. 158–170; & 2. Theophylact 197–99, & Avicenna 198–200.

**NB: MICROTHEME #2 ON *BEOWULF* DUE THIS WEEK

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[13. October 4 \(Wk VII Lec 13.htm\)](#) Byzantium & Islam

Read: 1. 199–212; 2. Koran 194–96; & 4. Pirenne (Havinghurst).

Week VIII

14. October 9 **MID-TERM EXAM**

[15. October 11 \(Wk VIII Lec 15 10-11.htm\)](#)

Civilization Heads North: The Carolingians; & Destruction Heads South: The Vikings

Read: 1. 213–221; 2. Bede 201–3, Boniface 203–5, Einhard 208–10, & Charlemagne 210–11; & 3. Duby, Rural Economy

Week IX

[16. October 16 \(Week IX Lec 16 10-16.htm\)](#) Recovery

and Rebuilding: Towns, Feudalism, and the Rise of Feudal Monarchies

Read: 1. 221–241; & 2. Ordinances 223–24, Salisbury 259–60, & Magna Carta 260–62.

[17. October 18 \(Wk IX Lec 17 10-18.htm\)](#) The Papal

Monarchy

Read: 1. 241–246; 2. Gelasius 189–90, & Gregory VII 225–28; & 4. Innocent III, & Boniface VIII (Unam Sanctam).

Week X

[18. October 23 \(Wk X Lec 18 10-23.htm\)](#) Conflict in

the Search for God: The Crusades, Heresy, & Jews

Read: 1. 246–256; 2. Robert the Monk 228–30, Gui 231–33, Aix-la-Chapelle 244–46, Innocent III 246, & Ritual Murder 246–47; 3. Hsia, A Ritual Murder ; 4. Maalouf; & 7. *The Inferno*.

[19. October 25 \(Week X Lec 19 10-25.htm\)](#) Faith and

Rationality: Medieval Thought

Read: 1. 258–78; 2. Tertullian 178–79, Clement 19–80, Aquinas 236–40, Salisbury 240–41, & Letters 243–44; & 4. Myrc.

Week XI

[20. October 30 \(Week XI Lec 20 10-30.htm\)](#) The

Triology (in four parts) of Medieval Society

Read: 1. 221–25 (again); 2. Galbert 211–12, Fulbert 213, Bertran 213–14, & Customs 214–17; & 3. Herlihy, The Family

NB: MICROTHEME #3 ON *THE INFERNO* ** DUE THIS WEEK

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[21. November 1 \(Week XI Lec 21 11-1.htm\)](#) Knaves &

Knights: Robin Hood & Sir Lancelot

Read: 2. Troubadour 249–52, Sprenger 252–54, Merchant 257–59; & 4. Chaucer, Robin Hood, & Marie de France.

Week XII

[22. November 6 \(Week XII Lec 22 11-6.htm\)](#) The Crisis of

the Fourteenth Century I: The Black Death & Peasants Revolts

Read: 1. 280–284; 2. De Venette 264–7 & Froissart 267–69; & 4. Boccaccio.

[23. November 8 \(Week XII Lec 23 11-8.htm\)](#) The Crisis of

the Fourteenth Century II: The Hundred Years War, Captivity & Schism

Read: 1. 284–290; & 3. Keegan, The Face

Week XIII

[24. November 13 \(Wk XIII Lec 24 11-13.htm\)](#) Social

Capital, Social Regulation, & Law

Read: 2. Corpus 146-8; & 4. Goodman & Anglo-Saxon Laws.

[25. November 15 \(Week XIII Lec 25 11-15.htm\)](#) Renaissance

& Humanism

Read: 1. 298-321 (including section on art); 2. Lothario 270-71, Petrarch 280-82, Bruni 283-85, Mirandolla 286-87, & Machieavelli 288-91;
& 8. *The Tempest*.

Week XIV No Classes, Thanksgiving Break (and a Happy Thanksgiving to ya too!)

Week XV

[26. November 27 \(Week XV Lec 26 11-27.htm\)](#) Reformation &

Counter-Reformation

Read: 1. 323-347; 2. À Kempis 306-10, Erasmus 310-13, Luther 313-20, Calvin 323-26, & Trent 327-30.

**NB: MICROTHEME # 4 ON *THE TEMPEST* DUE THIS WEEK

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[27. November 29 \(Week XV Lec 27 11-29.htm\)](#) New

Technology, New Ideas, and the New World

Read: 1. 348-362; 2. Del Castillo 334-39; & 3. McNeill, Transoceanic & Grieco, The Body

Week XVI

[28. December 4 \(Week XVI Lec 28 12-4.htm\)](#) New Forms of

Order I: Capitalism & Witchcraft

Read: 1. 362-376; 2. Carr 343-45, Slave Trade 346-48, Equiero 349-51, Sprenger 351-54, & Melebranche 355-57; & 3. Muir, Carnival

[29. December 6 \(Wk XVI Lec 29 12-61.htm\)](#) New Forms of

Order II: Letat cest moi vs. Glorious Revolution

Read: 1. 377-409; 2. James I 357-8, Hobbes 369-72, Plessis-Mornay 365-69, & Declaration 372-75.

Final Exam (Cumulative): 8:00 11:00 am, Saturday, December 15

(Dont blame me, I dont like the time either!)