

History 101  
European History to 1648  
Instructor: Dr. David Leinweber  
Seney 316, 770-784-8320  
Office Hours, M,W,F, 2-4:00 p.m.  
dleinwe@emory.edu

**I. COURSE OBJECTIVES:** Course objectives are as follows:

- A. To gain an understanding and appreciation of the major events, issues and trends which constitute European history from the ancient period to 1648.
- B. To reflect upon the meaning of the term “Western.”
- C. To develop critical writing and thinking skills.

**II. Texts:**

**A. Primary Texts:** For your reading pleasure, several texts have been assigned. They are:

1. Instructor’s Course Materials Book. Available from Joan Baillie, Secretary for the Division of History/Social Sciences.
2. Harrison, Sullivan and Sherman, A Short History of Western Civilization, Volume 1: to 1776.
3. Gress, David, *From Plato to Nato: The Idea of the West and Its Opponents*
4. Daniel Segal, “Western Civ and the Staging of History, in American Historical Review 105 (June, 2000). Available on Electronic Reserves.

**B. Collateral Readings:**

1. The Holy Bible
2. Homer, *The Odyssey*
3. Vergil, *The Aeneid*
4. *Beowulf*
5. Dante, *The Inferno*

**III. Grading:** Three four units, each equal in value, will be averaged into a 100 point scale to tally the final grade. The three units will be broken as follows:

- A. Exams. There will be two examinations, each covering material from both reading and lectures. Each examination will be worth 95 points, plus:
  1. Journal Entries: Students will complete one 300 word journal entry following each class, reflecting on the material treated during that day’s lecture/discussion. These journals will be submitted with both exams, and constitute 5 points towards each examination grade. Journals
- B. Paper. Each student must complete one six to eight page paper. The paper will be a response to an interpretative essay question provided in the course materials. Each paper will be worth 100 points. As they work towards a completed paper, students will be asked to submit various preparations assignments, such as a short bibliographic essay. While further materials will be provided, this paper will ask the students to evaluate some aspect of the assigned reading *From Plato to Nato: The Idea of the West and its Opponents*, by David Gress and Segal’s essay “Western Civ and the Staging of History.”
- C. Short Essay: Students will also write a single page, single, spaced, 10 pitch font, two paragraph essay addressing the issue highlighted in the readings by Segal and Gress. This will be graded on a 0 to 4 point scale and added onto the first mid-term examination score as extra points. Failure to write the essay will result in a lowering of the mid-term grade by ten points.

- D. LearnLink. Occasionally, the instructor might ask each student to post a thoughtful response to some issue addressed in the class on LearnLink. These topic paragraphs must be done on time and in good faith.

#### IV. Various Course Policies:

- A. Your notes are your own work. Sharing of notes is impermissible, unless expressly authorized by the instructor.
- B. Attendance is strongly encouraged, recorded, and a valuable piece of information to be considered at grading time. Moreover, four absences deemed unexcused by the instructor will result in a lowering of the student's grade one full letter.
- C. The instructor reserves the right to amend procedures, schedules, and course format, described in the syllabus, as each class evolves in its particular way. .
- D. This syllabus presents a skeletal overview of the class. The content of the course, and the specific expectations about it, are presented in the class itself.
- E. The Honor Code applies to all work prepared for this course, and all examinations taken during this course.

#### V. Course Schedule

Note: The new PowerPoint course materials book assigned is the primary daily text for this course. Students should consult this as the primary guideline for course content. It was revised over the summer, and includes many more textual and topical references than its previous edition.

The units are as follows:

- What is Civilization? What is Western Civilization?
- The Biblical Heritage

#### **One-Page Essays Due: September 12**

- The Greek Heritage
- Rome

#### **Mid Term Examination: October 17**

- One World Becomes Three Worlds: Byzantium and Islam
- One World Becomes Three Worlds: The Latin West and the “Dark” Ages
- The Medieval Synthesis
- The Waning of the Middle Ages

#### **Major Essays on “The Idea of the West” due, December 3.**

#### **Final Examination:**

**HST 101:08a: Tuesday, December 18, 9:00-12:00 a.m.**

**HST 101:09a: Wednesday, December 19, 9:00-12:00 a.m.**