**HISTORY OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION I**

**50:510:101:02**

**Fall 2016**

**M/W 4:20-5:40**

Abbe Walker

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Office: 429 Cooper St. #200

Office hours: M 1:30-2:30

**Required Texts:**

* Hunt, et al., *The Making of the West*, Volume I: To 1750, 5th ed.
* Lualdi, *Sources for the Making of the West*, Volume I: to 1750, 4th ed.

**Course Description:**

This course gives students an overview of the major events and developments in the history of Western Civilization from its origins in ancient times to the 17th century. It is divided into six segments, each centering on a specific historical era: Ancient Near East, Ancient Greece, Ancient Rome, Medieval Europe, the Renaissance and the Reformation, and the Scientific Revolution and Monarchy. In each segment, we will focus on the political, religious, social, and cultural developments that served as the basis for modern Western culture.

**Course Requirements:**

*Class participation:*

Participation, of course, includes attendance, since you cannot participate if you are not in class. Each student should be prepared to discuss and answer questions on the material covered in the lesson for the week. Coming prepared with questions on the material is even better than coming with answers to the basics. If, for some reason, you cannot prepare for class, please attend anyway - you will be better prepared for the next class. Please come on time, silence your phones, and refrain from checking your email/Facebook/Snapchat/Instagram/Fantasy Football/whatever during class.

Discussion questions will be posted on Sakai. All students are expected to respond to these questions on the class discussion board at least 24 hours before class on Wednesday. Doing all the assigned readings is essential to doing well on exams, quizzes, and discussion questions.

*Quizzes:*

There will be 4 ten-fifteen minute long quizzes given at the beginning of class on the dates indicated below. These quizzes will be based on material previously discussed in class, as well as the readings assigned for the day of the quiz. There are no makeup quizzes.

*Examinations:*

There will be two exams for this course: one on the pre-medieval material (segments 1-3) and one on the medieval and post-medieval material (segments 5-6).

**Grade Distribution:**

* Class Participation 10%
* Quizzes 40%
* Midterm Exam 20%
* Final Exam 30%

Plagiarism will be taken very seriously and will be reported. Of course, feel free to discuss the course material with other students, but you must turn in your own individual work.

**CLASS SCHEDULE**

**SEGMENT ONE: ANCIENT NEAR EAST**

**Week I (Sept. 7)**

**W:** Introduction, What is Western Civilization, Prehistory: Paleolithic Age, Neolithic Revolution

**Read: Kagan “Why We Should Study the History of Western Civilization”**

**Week II (Sept. 12 &14)**

**M:** Mesopotamian Civilization: Sumer, Akkad, Babylon

**W:** Egypt: Old, Middle, New Kingdoms; Hittites

**Read: Hunt ch. 1 (up to pg. 28), Lualdi ch. 1**

**Week III (Sept. 19 & 21)**

**M:** The Phoenicians and The Hebrews

**W:** Mesopotamia again: Assyria, Neo-Babylonia, Persia

**Read: Hunt pp. 41-50, Lualdi 2.1-2**

**\* In Class Quiz Sept. 21 \***

**SEGMENT TWO: ANCIENT GREECE**

**Week IV (Sept. 26 & 28)**

**M:** The Archaic Greek World: The Minoans and Mycenaeans, Dark Ages, Homeric Epic, the creation of the city-state, colonization

**W:** The Archaic Greek World: Athens and Sparta

**Read: Hunt pp. 28-39, ch. 2, Lualdi 2.3-5**

**Week V (Oct. 3 & 5)**

**M:** Classical Greek World: Persian Wars, Herodotus and the birth of history

**W:** Classical Greek World: Pericles and Athens, The Peloponnesian War

**Read: Hunt ch. 3, Lualdi ch. 3**

**Week VI (Oct. 10 & 12)**

**M:** The Rise of Alexander the Great: Athens after Peloponnesian War, Philip of Macedon, Alexander’s conquests

**W:** The Hellenistic World: Alexander’s successors, new kingdoms, Hellenistic culture

**Read: Hunt ch. 4, Lualdi ch. 4**

**\* In Class Quiz Oct. 12 \***

**SEGMENT THREE: ANCIENT ROME**

**Week VII (Oct. 17 & 19)**

**M:** The Roman Republic: From monarchy to Republic, imperialism, wars with Carthage, culture of the Roman Republic

**W:** The Roman Republic: the Gracchi, Marius, Sulla, the rise of Julius Caesar

**Read: Hunt ch. 5, Lualdi ch. 5**

**Week VIII (Oct. 24 & 26)**

**M:** From Republic to Empire: civil wars

**W: QUIZ;** Imperial Rome: The Julio-Claudians, Rome’s Golden and Silver Ages

**Read: Hunt pp. 175-192, Lualdi 6.1-3**

**Week IX (Oct. 31 & Nov. 2)**

**M: MIDTERM EXAM**

**W:** Imperial Rome: Christianity and Roman Rule, “Barbarian Invasions”

**Read: Hunt pp. 193-209, ch.7, Lualdi ch. 7**

**SEGMENT FOUR: MEDIEVAL EUROPE**

**Week X (Nov. 7 & 9)**

**M:** Islam, Byzantium, and Europe

**W:** Carolingian Empire and The Feudal World

**Read: Hunt ch. 8-9, Lualdi ch. 8-9**

**Week XI (Nov. 14 & 16)**

**M:** Peasants and Nobles (1050-1150)

**W: QUIZ;** Romanesque Church (1050-1150) and Crusades (1150-1281)

**Read: Hunt ch. 10-11, 409-420, Lualdi ch. 10-11**

**Week XII (Nov. 21 & 23)**

**M:** Emergence of Kings 1150-1250 and the Gothic Cathedral

**W:** Crisis of the 14th and 15th centuries and the Great Plague

**Read: Hunt ch. 12 and pp. 409-421, Lualdi ch. 12 and 13.1-3**

**\* In Class Quiz Nov. 23 \***

**SEGMENT FIVE: THE RENAISSANCE AND REFORMATION**

**Week XIII (Nov. 28 & 30)**

**M:** The Renaissance

**W:** The Protestant Reformation

**Read: Hunt 421-439 and ch. 14, Lualdi ch. 13.5-6 and ch. 14**

**\* In Class Quiz Nov. 30 \***

**SEGMENT SIX: THE SCIENTIFIC REVOLUTION AND MONARCHY**

**Week XIV (Dec. 5 & 7)**

**M:** Witchcraft

**W:** The Scientific Revolution

**Read: Hunt ch. 15, Lualdi ch. 15**

**Week XV (Dec. 12 & 14)**

**M:** Aboslutism in France and Constitutional Monarchy

**Read: Hunt ch. 16, Lualdi ch. 16**

**W:** Review for Final

**FINAL EXAM DECEMBER 16, 2:45-5:45 PM**

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| **Dates of In-Class Quizzes** | **Dates of Exams** |
| Sept. 21 Quiz 1 | Oct. 31 Midterm Exam |
| Oct. 12 Quiz 2 | Dec. 16 Final Exam |
| Nov. 23 Quiz 3 |  |
| Nov. 30 Quiz 4 |  |