

Western Civilization

Early Civilization to 1715

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Tuesday/Thursday 1:30-2:50am

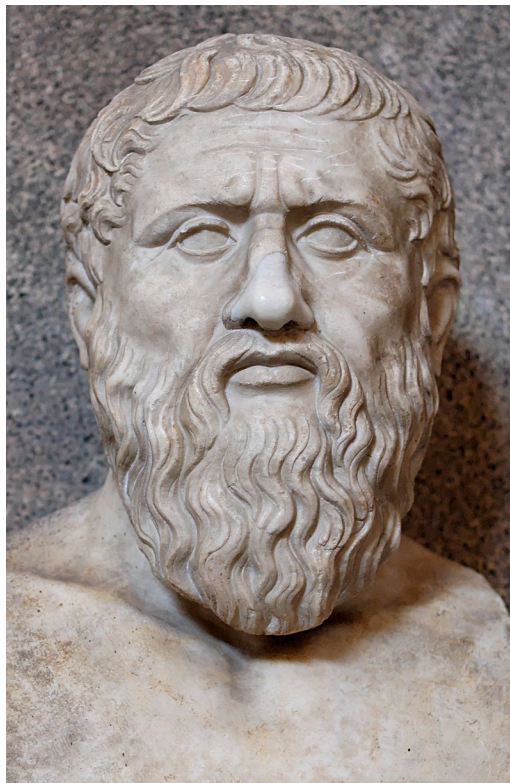
Room: ATG 121

Professor Mokhberi

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Office Hours: 10:30-11 and 12:20-1:20 Tuesdays and Thursdays, or by
appointment



This course introduces students to the roots of Western Civilization in Mesopotamia to the political and scientific revolutions of the 17th century. Students will explore the ancient worlds of Greece and Rome, the rise of Christianity, the Gothic and Romanesque Churches, the growth of monarchies and the state, the Renaissance, and rebellions against the state.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Midterm Exam: 20%

Four Quizzes: 40% (No Make-up Quizzes. Dates of the quizzes will be announced in advance.)

Final Exam: 30%

Attendance: 10% (You are allowed TWO absences. I do not need to know why you are absent. After two absences, your attendance grade will drop.

Repeated tardiness will also lower your grade.)

READING: The four books that are for purchase at the bookstore are listed below. Shorter readings will be posted online. You must do all the reading to do well on the exams and quizzes.

TEXTBOOKS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE:

The Epic of Gilgamesh

Plato, *The Last Days of Socrates*

The Song of Roland

Moliere, *Tartuffe*

NOTE: All other Readings will be posted online.

RECOMMENDED READING: *The Western Experience Volume I* by Chambers.

ETIQUETTE: Please come on time, silence cell phones, and refrain from surfing the Internet during class. It is your responsibility to obtain any missing notes from a fellow student. Feel free to email me with a respectful, formal email and I will try my best to reply as promptly as possible.

PLAGIARISM will be taken very seriously and will be reported. Feel free to discuss the course material and your paper ideas with other students but you can only hand in your own individual work.

Week 1

Sept. 6: Mesopotamia (Sumer, Akkad, Babylon)

Sept. 8: Egypt

Read: *Epic of Gilgamesh*; Code of Hammurabi

Recommended Reading: *The Western Experience*, pp. 4-20

Week 2

Sept. 13: Israel, the Old Testament, and Assyria

Sept. 15: Homer's Greece

Read: Exodus

Recommended Reading: *The Western Experience*, pp.20-46

Week 3

Sept: 20: Colonization

Sept: 22: The Polis: Sparta and Athens

Read: Excerpt from Herodotus, *The Histories*

Recommended Reading: *The Western Experience*, pp. 46-57

Week 4

Sept 27: Persia

Sept 29: Alexander

Read: Plato, *The Apology*

Recommended Reading: pp. 62-86

*** Sept. 29 In-Class Quiz on *Epic of Gilgamesh* ***

Week 5

Oct. 4: Rome: Foundations

Oct. 6: Rome: Struggle of the Orders

Read: The Twelve Tables

Recommended Reading: *The Western Experience*, pp. 90-102

Week 6

Oct. 11: Punic Wars and Revolution

Oct. 13: Caesar and Augustus

Read: Plutarch, Assassination of Julius Caesar; The Deeds of the Divine Augustus

Recommended Reading: *The Western Experience*, pp. 102-114

*** In-Class Quiz on Oct. 13 *The Apology* ***

Week 7

Oct. 18: Early Christianity

Oct. 20: Byzantium

Recommended Reading: *The Western Experience*, pp. 118- 136; 162-166; 188-192

Week 8

Oct. 25: MIDTERM EXAM

Oct. 27: Dawn of Europe

Read: Annales of Xanten, Three Sources on the Ravages of the Norsemen

Recommended Reading: *The Western Experience*, pp.156-162; 166-174

Week 9

Nov. 1: Peasants and Nobles (1050-1150)

Nov. 3: Romanesque Church (1050-1150) and Crusades (1150-1281)

Read: *The Song of Roland*

Recommended Reading: *The Western Experience*, pp. 212-239; 251-253

Week 10

Nov. 8: Emergence of Kings 1150-1250 and the Gothic Cathedral

Nov. 10: Crisis of the 14th and 15th centuries and the Great Plague

Read: Boccaccio, Excerpt from *The Decameron*

Recommended Reading: *The Western Experience*, pp. 254-269; 281-285; 297-318

Week 11

Nov. 15: The Renaissance

Nov. 17: The Protestant Reformation

Read: John Calvin excerpts; Martin Luther excerpts

Recommended Reading: *The Western Experience*, pp.327-344; 355-375

*** In-Class Quiz Nov. 15 *Song of Roland* ***

Week 12

Nov. 22: Witchcraft and Rebellion

Nov. 24: Thanksgiving

Read: Moliere, *Tartuffe*; Hammer of the Witches; Richelieu's Political Testament

Recommended Reading: *The Western Experience*, pp. 433- 442; 450-460; 473-476

Week 13

Nov. 29: The Scientific Revolution

Dec. 1: *Tartuffe*

Week 14

Dec. 6: Absolutism in France

Dec. 8: Constitutional Monarchy: The English Civil Wars

Read: John Locke, *Second Treatise on Government*; Saint Simon, *Memoirs*

Recommended Reading: *The Western Experience*, pp. 480-488; 500-502

*** In-Class Quiz on Dec. 6th *Tartuffe* ***

Week 15

Dec. 13: Final Exam Review

FINAL EXAM: Dec. 17th 9am-11am.

All students must take the exam on the specified time/date.

There are no makeup exams!

Note: You will have **TWO** hours to complete the exam

(Please Note: Syllabus is subject to change by the Instructor.)