

Syllabus History 104: Honors Western Civilization II

Course Description: An in-depth survey of Western Civilization until 1500.

History is a story -- a story about us all. The way we look at the world around us, our world-view, is determined by our history. We are the product of all the generations who lived before us. History teaches us who we are by teaching us how we got here. Therefore, the purpose of this course is to provide the student with the necessary information to understand the evolution of Western Civilization from the earliest times to the Renaissance. Through discussing the various cultures that have contributed to Western Civilization, students will gain an appreciation of the diversity of our Civilization. The best way to understand historical developments is to read and write about them, thus, you can expect a good amount of both in this course. So that we may all learn from this class, active student participation is expected in a course that is, in essence, a seminar. Your grade will be determined by how well you do on the various components listed below. Absenteeism will adversely affect your grades.

Credit Hours: 3 semester hours

Prerequisites and Course Standards: 1.) ACT composite score of 22 or higher and an ACT reading score of 24 or higher. 2.) Students must be able to read and communicate in standard American-English.

Course Objectives: 1.) Students will gain an understanding of the past and its impact on their lives today. 2.) Through the processes of reading, note taking, test taking, and seminar discussions, students will improve their reasoning abilities and abilities to develop a logical argument.

Course Content:

Tentative Schedule of Lecture Topics

DATE	TOPICS	PAGES
Aug. 18	Historical setting of <u>Gilgamesh</u>	
20	<u>Gilgamesh</u>	1-18
22	<u>Gilgamesh</u>	ix-xlv; 19-44
25	<u>Gilgamesh</u>	45-71
27	<u>Gilgamesh</u>	72-92
Term paper topics due		
. 29	Historical setting of <u>Republic</u>	
Sept. 3	<u>Republic</u>	vii-34
5	<u>Republic</u>	35-62
8	<u>Republic</u>	63-96
10	<u>Republic</u>	97-126
12	<u>Republic</u>	127-61
15	<u>Republic</u>	163-92

	17	<u>Republic</u>	193-220
	19	<u>Republic</u>	221-50
	22	<u>Republic</u>	251-76
	24	<u>Republic</u>	277-303
	26	<u>Republic</u>	
	29	Historical setting of <u>On the Good Life</u>	
Oct.	1	First Book Test	
	3	<u>Good Life</u>	7-48
		Term paper bibliographies due	
	6	<u>Good Life</u>	49-116
	8	<u>Good Life</u>	117-171
	10	<u>Good Life</u>	172-227
	13	<u>Good Life</u>	228-80
	15	<u>Good Life</u>	280-355
	17	<u>Good Life</u>	
	20	Historical setting of <u>Hildegard of Bingen</u>	
	22	<u>Hildegard of Bingen</u>	xiii-22; 60-84
	24	<u>Hildegard of Bingen</u>	85-126
	27	<u>Hildegard of Bingen</u>	127-51
	29	Historical setting of <u>Song of Roland</u>	
	31	Second Book Test	
Nov.	3	<u>Song of Roland</u>	7-54
	5	<u>Song of Roland</u>	55-80
	7	<u>Song of Roland</u>	80-130
	10	<u>Song of Roland</u>	130-56
	12	Historical setting of <u>The Prince</u>	
		Term papers due	
	14	<u>The Prince</u>	xi-28
	17	<u>The Prince</u>	29-61
	19	<u>The Prince</u>	62-92
	21	<u>The Prince</u>	93-125
Dec.	1	<u>The Prince</u>	126-58
	3	<u>The Prince</u>	

10 **Final Exam** 8:00-10:00

Topics may change or be compressed as time requires and as the needs of the class dictate.

Course Requirements, Evaluations, and Gradings:

Your grade will be determined by your success in the following endeavors:

- 100 pts. for each book test
- 100 pts. for the final exam (necessary to pass the course)
- 100 pts. for the term paper (necessary to pass the course)
- 100 pts. for class participation
- 30 pts. for internet assignments

Book Test: Students will answer an essay question on each of two books for each book test. Students will have a choice of essays questions for each book.

Final Exam: This will cover the last two books read as well as an essay covering the entire course.

Term Papers: Each student is required to write a five-page, typed, double-spaced term paper. Topics must be approved ahead of time by the professor. Students must have three references (each reference must be cited three times from different pages to be valid). Dictionaries, assigned readings, and encyclopedias may be used, but they do not count as valid sources. Only one internet source can be used toward the required number of sources. The internet source must be "signed." For a useful guide to the assessment of internet sites, please see <http://gateway.lib.ohio-state.edu/tutor/les1/pg1.html>. All ideas not the student's must be end noted. Quotation marks do not count as endnotes, and endnotes do not count as quotation marks. Endnotes are to be numbered sequentially and placed at the end of the paper. The endnote pages do not count toward the five-page minimum. All endnotes and rules of grammar must conform to the Turabian or Chicago Manual of Style format. Plagiarism of any kind will result in a grade of zero for this assignment. Since this assignment is necessary to pass this course, plagiarism will result in the student failing this course. For a fuller discussion of plagiarism, please see the American Historical Association's Statement on Plagiarism at www.theaha.org/standard_02.htm. Further, the student is expected to read the university's statement on plagiarism on pages 53-4 in the 2002-2003 General Catalogue. The two most common forms of plagiarism are using the same or similar words as another to describe some historical event and simply stealing another person's ideas verbatim. The easiest ways to prevent the first type of plagiarism are to use several sources for the same or similar ideas; use notecards instead of simply composing the paper directly from a source to the paper; and revise the paper several times. The way to prevent the second form of plagiarism is honesty. The paper is due in class. The student must turn in his or her paper in a manilla envelope containing the complete paper and photocopies of all sources used in the writing of the paper. In addition to the actual pages used, the student must include a copy of the title page of the book(s) cited. Pages from the same source must be stapled together (do not staple all the sources together in a clump). The student must write his or her name on the outside of the manilla envelope. Failure to turn in these photocopies will result in a reduction of one half letter grade and an incomplete until I receive these photocopies. For each day the paper is late, the grade will be reduced by half a letter grade. Failure to meet the minimum length requirement, source requirement, or citation requirement will result in a reduction of one half letter grade for each infraction. We will discuss this format at greater length in class. Students are encouraged to keep a backup of their paper on at least two different computer disks.

Class Participation: Merely attending classes will not ensure students 100 points class participation. This is a seminar-style class. Students are expected to answer questions and ask questions in class -- to continuously participate and contribute to the class.

Internet Assignments: Each student will find a review or a discussion of the books on the internet and forward this to me at rca@uwa.edu as an attachment. Each of the six reviews/discussions is worth five points. These must be e-mailed to me no later than 5:00 pm

the day before we discuss the book in class. This assignment is to encourage students to use the internet in the study of history and gain confidence e-mailing the instructor.

Any student who is dissatisfied with his/her grades during this course is urged to discuss this with the instructor.

Course Materials:

The Epic of Gilgamesh, trans. Danny P. Jackson (Wauconda, IL: Bolchazy-Carducci Publishers, 1992).

Plato, The Republic of Plato, trans. Allan Bloom ((NY: Basic Books, 1968).

Cicero, On the Good Life, trans. Michael Grant (NY: Penguin Books, 1973).

Hildegard of Bingen: Mystical Writings, eds. Fiona Bowie and Oliver Davies (NY: The Crossroad Publishing Co., 1990).

The Song of Roland, trans. Glyn Burgess (NY: Penguin Books, 1990).

Machiavelli, Niccolo, The Prince trans. Leo Paul S. de Alvarez (Prospect Heights, IL: Waveland Press, 1989).

Since this class depends on student discussion, students must buy these editions so we are literally "on the same page."

Absence Policy: More than two absences will result in a reduction of the class participation portion of your grade. Tardiness and/or leaving class early two times will equal one absence. If you miss an exam, you must present a written medical excuse or some other written excuse for missing the exam. Without a written excuse, you may not make up the exam. We will follow the attendance policy in the university catalogue.

Disability: Reasonable accommodations in accordance with ADA (1993) will be made for course participants whose personal characteristics require specific instructional and testing conditions. Persons with such requirements must identify themselves to the instructor at the beginning of the course.

Content/Schedule Change: The instructional schedule reflects expected class progress in course subject matter and is considered tentative. The schedule is subject to change in content and scope at the instructor's discretion.

Honesty/Integrity: The academic misconduct policies of the University of West Alabama as stated in the student handbook, The Tiger Paw, will be followed in this course.

Cell phones, pagers, etc.: Students must turn off all cell phones, pagers, and all other similar devices. Students risk losing a portion of their class participation grade. Any student who looks at a cell phone, pager, pda, or similar device will fail the exam.

eCampus: "InfoTrac," is a website to aid students in the study of history. This is accessible through the UWA Library's homepage. Students are encouraged to use this source as they prepare for their exams. In addition, students are free to email the instructor with questions that arise outside of our time together in the classroom.