

Rise of European Civilization HIST 101

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Office hours: Mon. and Wed. 2:00-3:00pm; Thur. 8:30-10:30am or by appointment

HIST002 (MWF 08:00-08:50) MYBK 317
HIST009 (MWF 12:00-12:50) MYBK 306

Course Description:

This course is an overview of the birth, formation, and transitions of European Civilization from the flourishing of Greek culture to the eve of European modernity. Through weekly lectures and discussion of primary sources, the class will consider what constitutes and defines Europe, and how the concept of Europe changes over time. Specifically, we will discuss the roles of religious culture and intellectual trends, and examine these aspects against the political, social, and economic developments of pre-modern Europe.

Objectives:

The first goal of this course is for you to appreciate the cultural and intellectual foundations of modern European and Western society as a whole. The reading materials are chosen to introduce you to some of the classics of European civilization. Most importantly, the weekly discussion, oral presentations, and writing assignments cultivate the skills of analyzing source material and formulating coherent arguments based on historical evidence.

Required Readings:

The following texts are ready for purchase at the Bookstore. The course packet is available to view on E-Reserves. Make sure that you purchase ALL the required books by the end of August. Print out the readings on E-Reserves and bring them to class on the pertinent days of discussion.

- ◆ Lynn Hunt et al. *The Making of the West to 1740*, Volume 1, 3rd edition (2009). ISBN: 978-0-312-48231-2. (*Making*)
- ◆ Katherine Lualdi, *Sources of The Making of the West*, Volume 1, 3rd edition (2009). (*Sources*)
- ◆ Margery Kempe, *Book of Margery Kempe*. Trans. and intro. Barry Windeatt. Penguin Classics (2005). ISBN: 9780140432510
- ◆ Niccolo Machiavelli, *The Prince*. Trans. George Bull; intro. Anthony Grafton. Penguin Classics (2003). ISBN: 9780140449150
- ◆ Course packet on E-Reserve. Password: eurohistorywang (the password is case sensitive)
- ◆ Two movies: they are on reserve at the library. Schedule movie viewing at a time of your convenience.

Evaluation:

- ◆ 10% Attendance and participation: The weekly discussion is heavily focused on analyzing documents and primary texts. It is your responsibility to read the assigned materials, bring them to class on the day of discussion, and contribute to class discussion.
- ◆ 10% 15-20 min. Group Presentation (5%) and Response Paper (5%) #1

- ◆ 20% Term Paper #1: a choice out of 2 assigned essay questions (TBA)
- ◆ 10% 15-20 min. Group Presentation (5%) and Response Paper (5%) #2
- ◆ 20% Term Paper #2: a choice out of 2 assigned essay questions (TBA)
- * Writing guidelines:
 - Response papers should be 1-2 pages (double-spaced, font 12). Hand in a hard copy in class on the day of your oral presentation.
 - Term papers should be 3-5 pages (double-spaced, font 12). Hand in a hard copy at the beginning of class on the day the paper is due. No electronic papers will be accepted.
- ◆ 30% Final Exam

Grade Scale:

A = 94-100 A- = 90-93 B+ = 87-89 B = 83-86 B- = 80-82 C+ = 77-79 C = 73-76 C- = 70-72
 D+ = 67-69 D = 63-66 D- = 60-62 F = 59

Policies:

- ◆ Attendance: Attendance is mandatory, and I will take attendance. You are allowed 3 unexcused absences. Excessive absence will affect your final grades. In the case of illness or an emergency, you need to obtain a doctor's note and let me know as soon as possible. If you have to miss a class for severe illness, athletic events, and other school-sponsored trips, you have to provide documentation from the Absence Memo Office.
- ◆ Late paper policy: No late papers will be accepted. For everyday a paper is late, 1/3 of a letter grade will be dropped (for example, A to A-, A- to B+).
- ◆ Honor Code: The Honor Code of the CofC will be enforced. Cheating, attempted cheating, and plagiarism are serious violations of academic integrity and will result in serious disciplinary actions. Plagiarism is the use of someone else's work, words, or ideas as if they were your own. You can avoid plagiarism by indicating the sources of your quotes and statements and by properly citing them. You plagiarize when you copy or paraphrase passages closely from any published works (books and articles) without using quotation marks or without giving credit to their authors. Later in the semester I will talk more about citing sources, especially those on the Internet.
- ◆ Classroom conduct: The Student Code of Conduct forbids disruption or obstruction of teaching and classroom activities. Turn off your cell phones and other electronic devices. Do not cut class, come in late or leave early. Never leave the classroom unless you absolutely have to, and when you do you need the professor's permission. It is unacceptable to talk with classmates or create noise or disturbance while the professor is talking.

Schedule:

Week 1

08/26 (W) Introduction

08/28 (F) The Rise of Greece

Read *Making* Chs. 2, 3

Week 2 The Classical Period I

08/31 (M) The Golden Age of Greece and the Hellenic World

09/02 (W) The Roman Republic

09/04 (F) Discussion: Plato "Allegory of the Cave" (E-Res); *Sources* Ch.3 #1 (Thucydides) and #2 (Plato), Ch.4 #1 (Alexander the Great), Ch.5 #4 (Cicero)

Read *Making* Chs. 4, 5

Week 3 The Classical Period II

09/07 (M) The Roman Empire

09/09 (W) Decline of Rome and the Rise of Christianity

09/11 (F) Presentation #1-1 and Discussion: *Sources* Ch.5 #6 (Julius Caesar), Ch.6 #1-4, Ch.7 #1-3; “The Passions of Perpetua and Felicity” (E-Res)

Read *Making* Chs. 6, 7

Week 4 Transitions from the Late Antiquity to the Middle Ages

09/14 (M) Byzantium and the Rise of Islam

09/16 (W) Western Christendom: Feudal Society

09/18 (F) Presentation #1-2 and Discussion: *Sources* Ch.7 #5 (Secret History), Ch.8 All, Ch.9 #4-6

Read *Making* Chs. 8, 9

Week 5 The Middle Ages I

09/21 (M) Church and State

09/23 (W) Monasticism and the University

09/25 (F) Presentation #1-3 and Discussion: The Rule of St. Benedict (E-Res); *Sources* Ch.10 #2 (Investiture Controversy), Ch.11 #1, 2, 4

Read *Making* Chs. 10 and 11 to p. 346

Week 6 The Middle Ages II

09/28 (M) Twelfth-Century Renaissance * **Paper 1 due**

09/30 (W) The Crusades and Europe's Others

10/02 (F) Discussion: Letters of Abelard and Heloise (E-Res); *Sources* Ch.10 #3 and #4 (the first Crusade), Ch.11 #5 (Sack of Constantinople), Ch.12 #2 (Anti-Semitism)

Read *Making* Chs. 11, 12

Week 7 Crises and Turning Points

10/05 (M) Towns and Commerce

10/07 (W) Impact of the Black Death

10/09 (F) Presentation #1-4 and Discussion: Boccaccio, *The Decameron* (Day Six, Tenth Story; E-Res); Plague in Florence (E-Res); *Sources* Ch.10 #1 (medieval cities), Ch.13 #1 (The Black Death), #3 (Catherine of Siena), #4 (Chaucer)

Week 8

10/12 (M) No Class

10/14 (W) Late Medieval Church and Piety

10/16 (F) Presentation #1-5 and Discussion: *Book of Margery Kempe* (Bookstore)

Movie: The Messenger – The Story of Joan of Arc

Read *Making* Ch. 13 to p. 401

Week 9 Renaissance I

10/19 (M) Italian City-States and Republicanism

10/21 (W) Faces of Humanism in Italy

10/23 (F) The Fall of Constantinople and Discussion: *Sources* Ch.13 #5 (extolling humanism); Bruni on Republican Legacy (E-Res); Bruni's Panegyric of Florence (E-Res); Dati (E-Res)

Read *Making* Ch. 13

Week 10 Renaissance II

10/26 (M) Arts and Sciences

10/28 (W) The Renaissance State and Overseas Expansion

10/30 (F) **Presentation #2-1** and Discussion: *The Prince* (Bookstore)

Read *Making* Ch. 14 to p. 426

Week 11 Reformation I

11/02 (M) Erasmus and Printing Press

11/04 (W) Martin Luther's Challenge to the Church; the Spread of Protestant Belief

11/06 (F) **Presentation #2-2** and Discussion: Erasmus, "The Shipwreck" (E-Res); "The Machinery of Indulgences" and "Ninety-Five Thesis" (E-Res); *Sources* Ch.14 #4 (Freedom of a Christian); TBA

Read *Making* Ch. 14

Week 12 Reformation II

11/09 (M) Calvinism and the Wars of Religion

11/11 (W) The English Case

11/13 (F) **Presentation #2-3** and Discussion: Henry VIII's "Supremacy Act" and Elizabethan "Act of Uniformity" (E-Res); *Sources* Ch.14 #5 (John Calvin), Ch.15 #1 (Edict of Nantes); TBA

Movie: A Man for All Seasons

Read *Making* Ch. 15 to p. 465

Week 13 Reformation III

11/16 (M) The Catholic Reformation

11/18 (W) The Inquisition and Popular Piety

11/20 (F) **Presentation #2-4** and Discussion: Ignatius of Loyola, "Rules for Thinking with the Church" (E-Res); *Sources* Ch.14 #6 (Loyola) and Ch.15 #4 (persecution of witches); Inquisition trial records (E-Res); TBA

Read *Making* Ch. 15

Week 14 Legacy of the Reformation

11/23 (M) Social Discipline and Witch-hunt * **Paper 2 due**

Week 15 Transitions to Modernity I

11/30 (M) State Formation and Absolutism

12/02 (W) The Scientific Revolution

12/04 (F) **Presentation #2-5** and Discussion: *Sources* Ch.15 #3 (Galileo), Ch.17 #2-4; Absolutism (E-Res)

Read *Making* Ch. 16

Week 16 Transitions to Modernity II

12/07 (M) Capitalism and Global Connections

Read *Making* Ch. 17