

Dakota College Course Syllabus

Course Prefix/Number/Title:

HIST 101 – Western Civilization I

Course Description:

This is a study of the major political, economic, social and cultural developments of the Western World from prehistory to the 1500's.

Course Objectives:

First, the student will have an accurate understanding of the forces leading up to and results from these historical eras. Secondly, the student will be able to identify the key figures and influential actions made. Finally, the student will also have a greater knowledge of not only this time period, but how the study of history is directly related to almost every other discipline within a college course catalog. History is truly a cornerstone of learning, and this course is essential to any college student, no matter the major.

Pre/Co-requisite: none

Instructor:

Steven J. Sathre

Office:

Thatcher Hall 2206

Office Hours:

T-Th 1:00-2:30

Phone:

701-228-5456

Email:

steve.sathre@dakotacollege.edu

Lecture/Lab Schedule:

MWF 8:00-8:50
1107 Thatcher Hall

Textbook(s):

Western Civilization: A Brief History, 7th Edition, Spielvogel, Jackson, J., Wadsworth Publishing, 2011.
Various Handouts

Course Requirements:

The formula for grades is as follows.

3 exams (non-cumulative), 40 pts. each = 120 pts.

10 quizzes, 3 pts. each = 30 pts.

2 essays (details to follow), 25 pts. each = 50 pts.

Total pts. available = 200 pts.

90-100% - 180-200pts. = A

80-90% - 160-179pts. = B

70-80% - 140-159pts. = C

60-70% - 120-139pts. = D

<59% - <119pts. = F

No Incompletes will be given.

Exams will be multiple choice and essay format. They are not cumulative. Closed book and notes.
Assume you will take the final exam on Friday, December 14 - taking the exam early is not an option.

Quizzes will be 3 questions and given randomly. They cannot be made up under any circumstances.
They cover material in that week's reading and are short answer in form.

The 2 essays are thesis-based, 1800 words at minimum and written in *Chicago Style* format.

Tentative Course Outline:

Week 1

An Introduction to Studying History

Week 2

The First Civilizations

Week 3

People and Empires of the Ancient Near East

Labor Day – Sept 3 – No Class

Week 4

The Greeks

Week 5
The Hellenistic World

Week 6
The Roman Republic
Exam #1 – Sept. 26

Week 7
The Roman Empire

Week 8
The Fall into the Medieval World

Week 9
The Early Middle Ages

Week 10
Recovery and Growth of Society in the High Middle Ages

Week 11
The Rise of Kingdoms and Church Power
Essay #1 Due Nov. 2

Week 12
Disintegration in the Fourteenth Century
Exam #2 – Nov. 7

Week 13
The Renaissance

Week 14
Reformation and Religious Warfare
Thanksgiving Break – No Class Nov. 23

Week 15
Europe meets the New World

Week 16
State Building and the search for order in the Seventeenth Century
Essay #2 Due Dec. 5

Week 17
Finals
Date and time to be determined

General Education Goals/Objectives

Goal 4: Demonstrates effective communication

Objective 1: Expresses ideas through effective writing

Skill 1: Uses the stages of the writing process to develop, organize, and present ideas in writing

Skill 2: Analyzes the demands and possible strategies of a writing task, based on topic, purpose, context, and audience, and then accomplish that task with clarity

Skill 3: Demonstrates competent writing that includes a clear, original thesis or claim, appropriate evidence and support, a logical structure, and a style of language that serves the writer's purpose and audience

Skill 4: Uses Edited Standard Written English in spelling, grammar, punctuation, and syntax, and presents written work in a style and format consistent with the demands of an academic setting

Relationship to Campus Theme:

A focus on the interaction between natural resources and the development of the United States. Discovering how technological developments have affected the history of the American population. Reviewing the political process of the United States and reflecting on how future events hinge on current decisions.

Classroom Policies:

Reading the assigned text is the student's responsibility, and is essential to success in this course. It should be noted though that it is in your best academic interest to read material *before* the week of lecture/discussion as to aid in your understanding. Any deadlines are final and your work is due on the day specified (11:59:59 PM). Any late work will not be accepted for full credit.

Please refrain from doing anything that might be disruptive and disturb other students or the instructor, such as chronically arriving late, leaving early, talking with neighbors, or texting. Turn all electronic junk off. This class does not require the use of a laptop computer, therefore they are not allowed to be operated in lecture periods.

This academic environment is an open and harassment free one. Participation within the classroom is highly encouraged and is an integral part of the higher education experience. Ask questions – comment on discussions.

Academic Integrity:

Webster's Encyclopedic Unabridged Dictionary defines plagiarism as: "The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one's original work." There will be *zero tolerance* of any form of academic dishonesty. If any evidence appears of students not doing their own work, plagiarism, or outright cheating on quizzes/exams, the matter will be investigated. If it is concluded that such dishonesty occurred, the student in question will receive an automatic "F" for the course. Furthermore, the matter will be reported to the appropriate university office and the instructor will participate in any proceedings against the guilty party.

Disabilities and Special Needs:

Please inform the instructor within the first week of classes if any assistance is required due to disabilities or special needs.