

SYLLABUS

AREA	: CENTER FOR AMERICAN EDUCATION	
COURSE	: WESTERN CIVILIZATION	
COURSE NUMBER	: EUH 1000	
PRE – REQUISITES	: ---	
CREDITS	: 3	THEORY HRS: 3
PERIOD	: 2009-01	
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I Course description

This course is a historical survey of Western culture from its roots in the ancient Near East to the beginning of the Middle Ages. We will examine the socio-economic, intellectual, political and other cultural forces which have shaped Western civilization. Topics include the first civilizations in Mesopotamia and Egypt, the Greek civilization and the foundations of western civilization, the rise of the Roman world from republic to Empire, the legacy of the Roman Empire and the Expansion of Christianity in the Middle Ages. Upon satisfactory completion of this course, students should be able to describe the general development of Western Civilization, and the roots that shaped its dominant intellectual, socio-economic, political, religious and artistic trends.

II Methodology

The interactive student-centered sessions will include lecturing, debating and analysis of the topics with the use of maps and other visual aids. Individual, cooperative and collaborative work will take place. Teacher lecturing has a motivational and orientating function. The student is an active agent of his/her own learning.

Students will be required to participate at all times. They are asked to prepare assigned readings for each week and be ready to talk. They are also required to lead discussion sessions and prepare presentations.

III Contents and Learning Strategies

- **Contents / Objectives / Activities**

Week	Hours	Contents	Objectives	Activities
1	3	The foundations of Western Civilization	Identify main characteristics of Paleolithic and Neolithic life, and the birth of cities and empires in Mesopotamia and Egypt	<p>Lecture: The Neolithic Revolution and the emergence of civilizations (Mesopotamia, Egypt)</p> <p>Visual activity: images of Paleolithic and Neolithic Era and brainstorm</p> <p>Individual work: students examine excerpts on <i>The Code of Hammurabi</i></p>

				and discuss about Mesopotamian society.
Reading week 2: HUNT, Lynn, ed. 2007, "Minoan and Mycenaean Civilization, c.2200-1000 B.C.E." in <i>The Making of the West</i> , pp.33-36; "Greek story of the Minotaur "The Labirinth."				
2	3	The origins of Greek Civilization, 2200- 1,000 B.C.E	Analyze the foundations of Greek civilization through insights into Minoan and Mycenaean civilization, including mythology and early forms of writing.	<p>Lecture: Greece and the Aegean Sea, 1500 B.C.E.; Minoans and Mycenaean Civilization; Linear B.</p> <p>Map Activity: Geography and location of early Greek civilization.</p> <p>Discussion session: students discuss about early Greek mythology according to readings.</p>
Reading week 3: HUNT, Lynn, ed. 2007, "Minoan and Mycenaean Civilization, c.2200-1000 B.C.E." in <i>The Making of the West</i> , pp. 36-49				
3	3	From the Greek Dark Age to the Classical period c. 1000–500 B.C.E.	Examine social and political aspects of early Greek civilization, emphasizing the practice of citizenship and freedom in the City-State.	<p>Quiz 1: reading due</p> <p>Lecture: The Dark Age and Homer; the Archaic Age, the raising of City-states (Polis), and the Olympics.</p> <p>Audiovisual Activity: "The Ancient Olympic Games"</p> <p>Discussion session. how did Greek City-State differ from the political and social organizations or earlier civilization?</p>
Reading week 4: HUNT, Lynn, ed. 2007, "The Greek Golden Age, 500-400 B.C.E." in <i>The Making of the West</i> , pp. 51-61				
4	3	The Greek Golden Age, 500-400 B.C.E.	Distinguish political and economic aspects of Greek Golden Age, emphasizing differences between Greek Polis of Athens and Sparta	<p>Quiz 2 : reading due</p> <p>Plenary: Reasons and consequences of Persian Wars (499-479) and Athenian Confidence in the Golden Age, 479.431 B.C.E.</p> <p>Lecture: the evolution of democracy in Athens. Pericles´ leadership and the <i>Funeral Oration of Pericles</i> (429 B.C.E.)</p> <p>Group working: students examine excerpts of <i>Tyrtaeus of Sparta and Solon of Athens poems</i> and discuss differences between Sparta and Athens.</p>
Reading week 5: HUNT, Lynn, ed. 2007, "The Greek Golden Age, 500-400 B.C.E." in <i>The Making of the West</i> , pp.65-78				
				Quiz 3: reading due

5	3	The Greek Golden Age, 500-400 B.C.E.	Search on social and cultural aspects of Greek Golden Age, including topics of daily life, intellectual innovation, and the philosophy of Socrates.	<p>Lecture: education and intellectual innovation; the philosophical school of Socrates</p> <p>Plenary: tradition and innovation in Athen's Golden Age; aspects of religion and everyday life.</p> <p>Individual work: students read Sappho of Lesbos's "To Aphrodite" poem, and brainstorm</p>
6	3	From the Classical to the Hellenistic World	Identify main aspects of the fracturing of Greece and new ways of thought, emphasizing new currents of Philosophy.	<p>READING TEST N° 1: readings weeks 2 to 5.</p> <p>Lecture: the end of Golden Age: the outcome of the Peloponnesian war (431-404 B.C.E.) and the trial of Socrates.</p> <p>Group working: students read excerpts on <i>The Apology of Socrates</i> and Epicurus, <i>Letter to a Friend</i>.</p>
<p>Reading week 7: HUNT, Lynn, ed. 2007, "The Greek Golden Age, 500-400 B.C.E." in <i>The Making of the West</i>, pp.65-78</p>				
7	3	Alexander the Great and the Hellenistic World	Grasp the meaning of Hellenism, and the cultural legacy of Alexander rule and his Hellenistic kingdoms.	<p>Plenary: the Rise of Macedonia and the exploits of Alexander the Great</p> <p>Individual work: analyze <i>Map of Ancient Alexandria</i>, and brainstorm</p> <p>Movie: "Alexander the Great", and group work</p>
MIDTERM EXAMINATION				
8	3	The rise of Rome and the Monarchy, to 509 B.C.E.	Analyze main aspects of social and religious tradition in Rome during monarchical time.	<p>Lecture: rule by kings, 753-509 B.C.E.; roman values, family, and religion.</p> <p>Group working: students prepare mini presentations analyzing key term definitions (mos maiorum, patron-client system, patria potestas, and the like)</p>
<p>Reading week 10: HUNT, Lynn, ed. 2007, "The Greek Golden Age, 500-400 B.C.E." in <i>The Making of the West</i>, pp. 129-146</p>				
9	3	The Republican Experience, to 287 B.C. E.	Describe main political and social aspects of Rome during the Republic.	<p>Quiz 4: reading due</p> <p>Lecture: the "Struggle of the orders" and the end of the Republic.</p> <p>Discussion session based on assigned reading and on the excerpt <i>Roman</i></p>

				<p><i>Women Demonstrate against the Oppian Law</i></p> <p>Movie: "Rome" (HBO)</p>
<p>Reading week 11: HUNT, Lynn, ed. 2007, "The Greek Golden Age, 500-400 B.C.E." in <i>The Making of the West</i>, pp.171-188</p>				
10	3	The Roman Empire, c.44 B.C.E.-180 C.E.	Examine main political and cultural aspects of Augustus' "Restoration," and the beginning of Roman empire.	<p>Quiz 5: reading due</p> <p>Discussion session leading discussion by a student based on reading.</p> <p>Lecture: Augustus' restoration and the beginning of Roman Empire.</p> <p>Individual work: students read passages of <i>The Accomplishment of Augustus</i> and brainstorm</p>
<p>Reading week 12: HUNT, Lynn, ed. 2007, "The Greek Golden Age, 500-400 B.C.E." in <i>The Making of the West</i>, pp.189-196 205-211</p>				
11	3	The Roman Empire, 180-284 C.E.	Evaluate the raising and fall of Roman Empire, paying attention to the Golden Age (the "Five Good Emperors") and the Crisis of the Third Century.	<p>Lecture: Life under the Five Good Emperors and the crisis of the third century.</p> <p>Visual Activity: the meaning of Imperial monuments and architecture (Forums, Archs of Triumph, Coliseum, Pantheon, etc,)</p> <p>Group work: students examine designs on <i>Plan of Stabian Baths and Seneca, Letters</i>, and brainstorm</p>
<p>Reading week 13: HUNT, Lynn, ed. 2007, "The Greek Golden Age, 500-400 B.C.E." in <i>The Making of the West</i>, pp.213-221</p>				
12	3	The Transformation of the Roman Empire, c.284-c.600 C.E.	Examine reasons of Imperial Reform and Fragmentation.	<p>Plenary: Imperial Reform and Fragmentation / readings review</p> <p>Reading Test N° 2: readings weeks 10 to13</p>
<p>Reading week 14: HUNT, Lynn, ed. 2007, "The Greek Golden Age, 500-400 B.C.E." in <i>The Making of the West</i>, pp.222-245</p>				
13	3	The Transformation of the Roman Empire, c.284-	Describe the migrations and invasions of the fourth and fifth centuries, and the resulting mixing traditions.	<p>Plenary: "Non-Roman kingdoms in the West and the Byzantine Empire in the East."</p>

		c.600 C.E.		Students presentations:
Reading week 15: HUNT, Lynn, ed. 2007, "The Greek Golden Age, 500-400 B.C.E." in <i>The Making of the West</i> , pp.245-257				
14	6	The Heirs of the Roman Empire, 600-750 C.E.	Examine the resulting map of Western Civilization following the spread of Christianity and the formation of Western Kingdoms in the Middle Ages.	Plenary: "A time of religious effervescence" Student presentations Movie: "The Crusades"
	3			Final Examination

V. Evaluation Criteria

Continuous Assessment	30%
Reading Tests	20%
Mid Term examination	25%
Final examination	25%

Continuous Assessment:

Attendance and participation is very important in this course and will be graded as part of your continuous assessment grade. Students will have the opportunity to lead discussion sessions, give short presentations and participate actively in the discussion of various topics. Quizzes will also be taken and become a part of your continuous assessment grade.

VI. Bibliography

- Hunt, Lynn, et. al. *The Making of the West: People and Cultures: A Concise History*. Volume I, to 1710. New York: Bedford/ St. Martin's 2^o Edition, 2007.
- Lualdi, Katharine J. *Sources of The Making of the West. Peoples and Cultures. A Concise History*. Volume I, to 1740. New York: Bedford/ St. Martin's 2^a Edition, 2007.