

NORTHWESTERN CONNECTICUT COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Title: Western Civilization I

Course #: HIS 101

Course Description: 3 Credits

The class will be divided into two parts. The first section will encompass the Ancient World. Topics for discussion will include the Greeks and the Romans. The second section of this course will address the rise of the West's major monotheistic religions (Judaism, Christianity, and Islam) and the Middle Ages. In our study of these periods, we will address both courtly and common life. We will also discuss the growth of such powerful nation states as France, England, and the Holy Roman Empire.

Pre-requisite/Co-requisite: Eligible for ENG 101 or ENG 101W

- Goals:**
- To understand and analyze the social, economic and political movements of ancient Western Civilizations.
 - To look at history and historiography from the perspective of different cultural groups with attention to race, gender, ethnic and class issues.
 - To foster a better overall understanding of the early history of Western Civilizations and its relevance to life today.

Outcomes: Upon completion of this course the student should be able to:

- Analyze primary and secondary historical sources.
- Define and interpret the concept of historical agency
- Analyze and assess the Greek civilization
 - o Evaluate the importance of the following:
 - Government
 - Compare Lakedaemonia and Attica
 - Social class
 - Define slavery, helots, and citizens
 - Religion
 - Examine the importance of myths
 - Interpret the role of the polytheistic gods
 - the Military
 - Appraise the phalanx and other Greek innovations
 - Philosophy
 - Describe and assess the work of Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle

- Analyze and assess the Roman Republic
 - Describe the origins of Roman civilization
 - Evaluate the importance of the following:
 - Government
 - Define the various branches of the Republic with special emphasis on the following: consuls, dictators, and the Senatus Consultum,
 - Social class
 - Interpret the roles of the patricians, plebeians, and slaves
 - Religion
 - Demonstrate the importance of myths
 - Interpret the role of the polytheistic gods
 - the Military
 - Appraise the development of the legions with special emphasis placed on the long term effects of the Marius Reforms
 - Assess the importance of the Punic Wars
 - Illustrate the demise of the Republic and the development of the Empire
 - Evaluate the roles of Gaius Julius Caesar and Octavian
- Analyze and assess the Roman Empire
 - Interpret the changing shape of imperial government
 - Examine the importance of the emperors Augustus, Tiberius, Caligula, Diocletian, and Constantine
 - Define and illustrate life during Pax Romana
 - Explain resistance to Roman hegemony
 - Discuss the long term significance of Roman engineering and technology
 - Interpret the decline and fall of the Empire
- Analyze the development of monotheism
 - Explain the development of Judaism and assess its long term significance
 - Assess important figures such as Abraham, Moses, and Judah Maccabee
 - Describe and analyze concepts such as kashrut law and Mosaic Law
 - Examine the role of environment in the development of religion
 - Explain the development of Christianity and assess its long term significance
 - Assess important figures such as Jesus, St. Paul, and St. Augustine
 - Describe basic theological beliefs
 - Examine the changing culture of the Christian religion
 - Explain the growth of the faith
 - Explain the development of Islam and assess its long term significance
 - Assess important figures such as Muhammad, Abu Talib, and Ali
 - Describe basic theological beliefs
 - Define the various sects such as Shia, Sunni, and Wahhabist
 - Illustrate similarities and differences between all three monotheistic faiths
- Analyze and assess the Medieval Period
 - Define and assess the important political and economic systems known as feudalism and manorialism
 - Assess the role of Catholic Church in medieval society