

SYLLABUS HISTORY 133

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Course Title: Foundations of Western Civilization Hist. 133

Credit Hours: 3

Course Description

Survey of Western Civilization through the classical civilizations of Greece and Rome, the Middle Ages to the Renaissance. Brief comparative summaries of Near Eastern and Oriental civilizations. This course will satisfy either Humanities or Social Science AA degree requirements.

Prerequisite: None

Textbook Information

Required Textbook:

Dennis Sherman, Joyce Salisbury, The West in the World Vol 1
Custom ISBN# 9781259889189

You can purchase this from any MCC bookstore or can purchase from the publisher.
(The Custom ISBN is not different than the regular textbook)

Course Objectives

Upon Completion of this course, you will be able to:

1. Identify the main themes of Western Civilization from pre-history to the late Middle Ages.
2. Identify and define key western concepts, names, places, and events included in ancient and medieval civilizations.
3. Classify how economics, social, cultural, and intellectual events influenced ancient and medieval political history.
4. Analyze historical trends and events by identifying patterns, constructing parallels, and making associations.
5. Appraise how history is continuous, but neither logical nor orderly in the manner of the natural sciences.
6. Employ reflection, skepticism, and imagination in historical thinking.
7. Identify the challenges faced by historians as they attempt to reconstruct the past from often contradictory and incomplete evidence.

Communication and Turnaround Time

1. Communication Types:

- Announcements will be posted by the instructor in the Announcement Page.
- Course Messages:
 - If you have specific, personal questions for the instructor, please send a message through Blackboard using the Course Messages link on the left.
- Discussion Boards: Questions and answers will be posted in the discussion board forums that you will want to read. Weekly discussion questions are posted for class interaction.

2. Communication Turnaround Time:

You can expect all correspondence via discussion board or messaging to be responded to within 24 hours Monday through Friday. The instructor will notify the class if there will be longer periods of time where responses may be delayed.

Grades and Feedback Turnaround time

It is imperative in an online class that you are aware of your grade status in the class.

Please refer to the link below to see how to check your grades and feedback:

- [How to check my grades written tutorial](#)
[How to check my grades video tutorial](#)
- [How to check assignment grades written tutorial](#)
[How to check assignment grades video tutorial](#)

Here are the expected turnaround times for each assignment type.

1. Discussion forums will be graded within 3 days after the due date.
2. Multiple-choice, True/False, Match and other non-essay type questions in Quizzes and Exams are auto-graded immediately after you take them.
3. Papers, journals, essays, short-answer questions and other manually graded written assignments will be graded within one week after the due date.

Grades

Point totals for the course may vary with Instructor changes to assessment.

Instructor may edit or include additional assignments during the semester.

All course work is graded on a percentage basis.

- 90-100% = A or (1044-1160 Total Points)
- 80-89% = B or (928-1043 Total Points)
- 70-79% = C or (812-927 Total Points)
- 60-69% = D or (696-811 Total Points)
- Below 59% = F or (less than 696 Total Points)

Each assignment has a point value, indicated below.

Grades reflect the percentages.

For example, on a Discussion worth 50 points:

- 45-50 = A
- 40-44 = B
- 35-40 = C
- 30-34 = D
- below 30 = F

Value of Assignments

- **Scavenger Hunt 1** (10 points) = 10 points
- **Chapter Review Quizzes 15** (Usually 10 points each) = 150 points
- **Discussions: 5** (50 points each) = 250 points (Plus 5 points for introductions)
- **Assignments: 3** (50 points each) = 150 points
- **Exams: 3**

Three tests, all have two parts,

- Multiple Choice – 50 Questions = 100 Points
- 2 Essays = 100 Points
- (200 Total per test)

Assignment Types and Explanations

Reading

Most of the reading for the course will be in the text, *The West in the World*. There are other readings as well. These are provided in the Blackboard folder for the week. We will also view several videos. The links to them are also found in the appropriate weekly folders.

Discussions

These are literally discussions of five different topics. We will contrast Athenians and Spartans; evaluate the expansion of Christianity in Rome, consider how to survive the Vikings on manors, determine the cause and course of the Crusades, and judge the relative importance of the Reformation and the Renaissance. In each case, you will read sources and review video. Then you will answer a question about the topic and discuss it with each other by making at least two more posts.

Chapter Review Quizzes

These quizzes guide you through the readings and indicate what is significant. These assignments are based upon the latest educational research into learning. In the first week, you will find some guidance about how to study for these quizzes.

Assignments

These are examinations of historically significant events in greater detail. This semester we study the development of laws, like Hammurabi's Code in the Ancient World, the end of the Roman republic with Julius Caesar, and the reconstruction of society in the Middle Ages. You will read different sources and review videos about the topics and have to draw conclusions about them

Tests

There are three exams covering the course material, which include separate multiple choice and essay portions.

Discussions Grading Explanations

Under COMMUNICATION, select "Discussion Board," click on the one with the appropriate name or the name of the discussion given on the assignment. You will see the postings to the discussion. To start your own thread of discussion, click on Create Thread. To comment on the work of your peers, click on the titles listed in the discussion. You will need to accomplish the following within each discussion:

1. Read and review the assigned material.
2. Respond to the question – this is your first of three postings.
3. Engage the other students in the discussion – these will be your second and third postings
4. Make your postings on two different days.

First Contribution - Answer the question by doing the following.

YOU MUST MAKE THE FIRST POSTING OR CONTRIBUTION TO THE DISCUSSION BEFORE YOU CAN SEE WHAT OTHERS HAVE WRITTEN.

Makes a clear argument

- This means that you make your position about the issues in the question clear. Start with a statement that gives your answer to the question. The rest of the work should support and illustrate that answer.
- Responds to the question
- Your first contribution should focus on the question itself. It should answer all things asked by the question.

The argument is supported by evidence

- This means that you draw upon the information in the readings that is relevant to the question and supports your line of reasoning. There is a lot of evidence in the readings. You cannot bring all of it in to your comments. However, be sure to draw upon a representative sample of what is found in the readings. As a rule, review the text and two other sources.

Second and Third Contributions

Engage the other students: make a significant comment on the historical reasoning of your peer's post.

- A significant contribution means a comment that shows an understanding of the historical
- issue being discussed and is usually accompanied by offering supporting historical evidence
- from the readings. A significant comment may start with a compliment like, "good point" or taking a position like, "I agree with you." It does not end there though. Now explain why it is a good point or why you agree.

Finally, support your comments with evidence from the readings for the discussion.

- Just as when you answered the question, be sure to support your comments with information from the readings. That can involve anything from a historical example, to a quote from one of the authors, to statistical information

Rubric for Evaluating Discussions

- On a Discussion Assignment, worth 50 total points, The Blackboard Rubrics Tool, (*Scoring Chart*) is used to grade and view results.
- To view the rubric associated with each Discussion, select the "View Rubric" button on the submission page.
- Rubrics can also be viewed by clicking the grade you receive.

Tests Explanation

Each of the three tests has a multiple choice section and a separate essay section. Both worth one hundred points each. Two per multiple choice, and fifty per essay.

(200 points each) One opportunity Only

Once a test or quiz has begun, the timer will not stop if you leave the exam, once time has run out, the exam will be over, no late answer submissions are accepted excluding special needs.

Chapter Review Quiz Explanation

These quizzes guide you through the readings and indicate what is significant. These assignments are based upon the latest educational research into learning. In the first week, you will find some guidance about how to study for these quizzes.

- **16 Chapter Review Quizzes:** 16 separate graded total **(200 total points)**
- You can take all quizzes up to **THREE times** and the grade book will register the best of the scores. All three attempts must be in by the due date

Assignment Explanation

These are examinations of historically significant events in greater detail. This semester we study the development of laws, like Hammurabi's Code in the Ancient World, the end of the Roman republic with Julius Caesar, and the reconstruction of society in the Middle Ages. You will read different sources and review videos about the topics and must draw conclusions about them.

- 3 Assignments (150 points)
- Grades will be recorded in the grade book.
- To see specific scores and comments click on the grade book scores.

Course Policies

1. Expectations

It is expected that you will access this blackboard site at least three times per week. Daily access is encouraged.

This course has been designed to be delivered in as flexible a manner as possible, but to be successful you should plan to log in and participate multiple times a week. This is a three-credit hour class so you should plan on spending about 8-10 hours a week on this course with the online requirements (discussions, videos), reading materials, and study time.

2. Attendance Policy

Since this course is online, your "attendance" in class is based on meeting assignment deadlines. You must submit work for the class to be considered attending the class. Federal Guidelines require you to login, participate, and submit assignments to be considered attending.

MCC regulations state that an instructor may withdraw a student from class after a consecutive absence equating to 15% of the total class time, or after total absences equating to 33% of the total class time. If you fail to submit any work for one week of an 8-week course or two weeks of a 16-week course, you may be withdrawn. If you fail to turn in 33% of your work in the course, you may be withdrawn from the course. An instructor may choose to enforce a stricter attendance policy.

Simply logging in to Blackboard does not count as attendance.

3. Late Work

Due dates for assignments, exams, discussions and other work are posted on the course schedule or calendar. Late assignments will not be accepted.

4. Drop Policy

It is your responsibility to withdraw from the course if you decide to stop attending. If you choose to drop the course you must complete a drop form and submit it to the campus records office. Check myMCCKC > Student Center for the specific dates, including the last date to drop your course without assessment (or grade posted) for the course

Before withdrawing, please contact an advisor to determine what if any impact this drop will have on your financial aid.

5. Code of Conduct

Students are required to follow the [Metropolitan Community College's Student Code of Conduct](#).

6. Student Support

If you need technical support for Blackboard, MCC student email, tutoring services, Library services, advising or counselling services, please click on the "Student Resources" tab on top of blackboard after you logged in to Blackboard.

Netiquette

Netiquette: Information on appropriate online conduct can be found in [The Core Rules of Netiquette](#). You are expected to follow these rules and any other specific rules your instructor may require for interacting in the class.

Satisfactory Academic Progress

In order to continue your eligibility for financial aid, you must make satisfactory academic progress toward your educational plan by maintaining a minimum grade point average and successfully completing a minimum number of courses throughout your enrollment at MCC, and completing your educational plan within a reasonable time. Your progress will be reviewed at the end of each semester. More information is available at [Satisfactory Academic Progress web site](#).

ADA

Metropolitan Community College (MCC) is committed to ensuring equal access to all qualified students with disabilities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act

(ADA). If you have a disability which may impact your ability to access or participate in any aspect of your online coursework, please contact the campus Disability Support Services (DSS) Coordinator or your choice. Phone numbers are listed at mcckc.edu/disability. The DSS Coordinator will work with you to determine what disability documentation/information is needed in order to provide accommodations. Accommodations are determined on an individualized basis and may take some time to put in place, so early notification to DSS is helpful. Students can identify themselves to DSS as a student with a disability and request accommodations anytime during their education. Please note that accommodations are not retroactive and may vary based on the nature and requirements of the class. More information is available at mcckc.edu/disability.

- [Blackboard Accessibility Information](#)
- [Smart Proctoring Accessibility Information](#)

Academic Integrity

The Metropolitan Community College, as an academic community, expects all administrators, faculty, staff, and students to behave as responsible members of the college community and to be honest and ethical in their academic work. MCC strives to provide students with the knowledge, skills, judgment, and wisdom they need to function in society as educated adults. To falsify or fabricate the results of one's research; to present the words, ideas, data, or work of another as one's own; or to cheat on an examination corrupts the essential process of higher education and the values of the Academy.

The Metropolitan Community College expects all students to act according to the rules of academic honesty as outlined in the [Student Handbook](#). What this really means is that you are expected to turn in only your own work and that you will complete all quizzes and examinations unassisted. If you should violate this trust, then you will be treated the same as any traditional student that cheats.

Academic Dishonesty includes:

1. Plagiarism - the intentional use of the ideas or words of another as one's own in a paper or other academic assignment.
2. Cheating during examinations, whether by copying from a fellow student or by using information in the form of unauthorized aids brought to the examination.
3. The submission of work for any assignment that has been prepared by another student.
4. Submission of a single paper to fulfill requirements in two courses without prior approval of the instructors in both courses.
5. Using a false name or signing the name of another individual without proper authorization in connection with any course work.

Disciplinary action will be taken for those students suspected of academic dishonesty. At no point in this course is it acceptable for students to submit someone else's work as their own, or use the ideas of someone else as their own. It is also unacceptable for students to share their own work with another student.

Unilateral Instructor Action – If objective evidence exists indicating that a student has practiced academic dishonesty, the instructor may assign a grade of "F" on the paper, examination, or assignment or assign a grade of "F" for the course.

If the instructor feels that a more severe action is appropriate, the complaint may be referred to the division chair and the dean of instruction. The dean has the authority to recommend an action to the president, or the student may request a hearing.

Grievance

Questions or concerns about any aspect of this course should be directed to the instructor so the student and the instructor can work together to resolve any problems that may exist. In the unlikely event that the problem cannot be resolved, then the next step is for the student to make contact the MCC Online Enrollment Manager at 816 604 4487.

Metropolitan Community College is strongly committed to providing workplaces and classrooms that are free of sexual harassment. MCC will not tolerate any behavior, whether verbal or physical, which constitutes sexual harassment. Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal or physical conduct or communication of a sexual nature are prohibited. To file a complaint, contact the MCC Online Enrollment Manager at 816 604 4487.