

History 100: Western Civilization Part I (Origins of the West)

Fall Semester, 2018

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Office Hours: M & W, 10:00-10:50am (or by appointment)

Course Description: a broad historical survey of human events prior to 1648, History 100 stresses the diversity & interaction of peoples and cultures in the making of Western Civilization. As we work our way across the lands of Mesopotamia, the Mediterranean world and northern Europe, we will devote particular attention to the evolving relations between government and religion, and the conflicting claims of reason and faith, in our story. In charting this journey, we will rely on our textbook (Noble) for the overall storyline and context, while the heart of this course lies in our critical engagement with the documentary record provided by your sourcebook (Perry).

Course Readings

Thomas Noble et al, *Western Civilization: Beyond Boundaries, Vol. I* (Cengage Advantage Books, Seventh Edition, 2013; isbn 9781133610137)

Marvin Perry, *Sources of the Western Tradition: From Ancient Times to the Enlightenment, Vol. I* (Tenth edition, 2018; isbn 978 1 337 397 605)

*Note: both books are **required** reading; while you are free to pursue the most cost-effective options available in procuring them, you must have them in hand **no later** than the end of week one.*

Course Requirements

- a) Three examinations, each covering the materials covered during the preceding five weeks. Each exam will typically consist of one longer essay question (40 points), five paragraph-length identifications (10 points each), and ten multiple choice questions (one point each).
- b) Weekly response papers (ten in all), based upon readings from your Perry sourcebook. Guidelines for these will be provided every week at Blackboard
- c) Classroom participation. Discussion is vitally important to this course, most of all when addressing the primary materials in Perry's *Sources*. We expect you to be prepared to discuss and raise questions about the assigned readings, especially in your weekly discussion sections.

Your final grade will be determined on the following basis:

Three exams	60%
Response papers	20%
Classroom participation	20%

Course Ethics

This course has been designed to encourage classroom discussion and the free exchange of views. The sometimes contentious nature of course materials requires that we show one another the utmost courtesy, respect and consideration so as to ensure a consistently high level of discussion, instruction and interaction.

Course Policies

- a) *No phones* out during class (not negotiable). In those cases where students use laptops for purposes unrelated to class, they will be asked (once only) to put these away.
- b) *Attendance* is required (and will be kept). More than two unexcused absences over the semester could cut into your final grade.
- c) *Make-up exams* will be allowed only when you can produce a valid (written) excuse.
- d) *Incompletes* will only be considered in cases where the student has completed all the work up to the final exam, but cannot take the final for a valid reason.
- e) *Plagiarism* in any form will be dealt with harshly. Recycling papers from the internet or elsewhere, copying other students' work, or cutting-and-pasting from other sources will be punished to the fullest extent of university policy. Count on this.
- f) *Classroom citizenship*. Classroom behavior is one of many factors determining your final participation grade. Showing up prepared, answering or asking questions, taking notes and paying attention – these will be appreciated and duly noted. On the other side of the ledger: consistently showing up late, talking during class, using laptops for purposes other than note-taking and other disruptive behavior will also be duly noted. A special category in hell is reserved for those students who come to class, sign the attendance sheet, and then walk out. You really don't want to call that kind of attention to yourself.
- g) *Religious holidays*. In those instances when classroom schedules conflict with religious holidays, students should provide us advance notification of their absence. We will in turn make every reasonable effort to honor these requests and make necessary accommodations.
- h) *Disability accommodations*. We are committed to working with the Disability Resource Center in ensuring a barrier-free environment to all students at UIC. Please let us know as early as possible in the semester as to anticipated accommodations.
- i) *Know your rights*. UIC is devoted to the principles of academic freedom, equality of opportunity and human dignity. Freedom from discrimination for both students and employees is central to our academic mission. Students are encouraged to study UIC's policies and procedures pertaining to these issues, accessible at the web pages of the Office of Access and Equity (go to <http://oae.uic.edu/>).

Course Schedule

(note: * denotes Perry readings that will be discussed in class that day)

Week 1 Getting Started

- M Class Introductory: Where and What is Western Civilization?
- W On the Edge of History: Migrations & Innovations. Reading: Noble, 1-10
- F Discussion Sections: Geography, Climate, and the Agricultural Revolution

Week 2 Cradles of Civilization

- M **No Class** (Labor Day)
- W Ancient Mesopotamia. Noble, pp. 10-16
- F Gods, Dreams and Law. Perry, pp. 4-11 (*Gilgamesh, *Hammurabi). *Response papers due*

Week 3 Early Empires

- M The Nile and Egypt. Noble, 16-26; Perry, 12-14 (*Hymns, *Guidelines)
- W An Age of Empires: Hittites, Assyrians, Persians. Noble, 27-39
- F Empire building: Terror, Coercion and Inclusion. Perry, 17-19 (*Tiglathpileser, *Cyrus & Darius) Also Perry, pp. 7-8 (*Forsaken), pp. 15-16 (*Hymn to Aton), and pp. 20-21 (Lament for Ur). *Response papers due*

Week 4 Faith and Reason

- M One God or Many? Hebrew Ethical Monotheism. Noble, 39-51; Perry, 24-27 (*Genesis)
- W Coming of the Greeks. Noble, 52-61; Perry, 47-51 (*Hippocrates, *Thucydides, *Critias)
- F What God Will: Hebrew Law and Justice. Perry, 28-37 (*Exodus, *Leviticus, Deuteronomy, *Amos, *Isaiah). *Response papers due*

Week 5 City-States and Civilization: the Greeks

- M Age of the Polis. Noble, 61-73; 84-88; Perry, 55-56 (*Thucydides/Pericles)
- W Athenian imperialism in crisis. Noble, 73-80; Perry, 63-67 (*Thucydides/Melian Dialogue/Corcyra)
- F Some philosophers you should know. Noble, 80-84; Perry, 67-79 (*Socrates, *Plato, *Aristotle). *Response papers due*

Week 6 Philosophers and Kings: the Hellenistic World

- M *First Exam*
- W Alexander the Great and the world he made. Noble, 90-104
- F Hellenistic culture. Noble, 104-16; Perry, 80-85 (*Plutarch, *Philo, *Epicurus). *No response papers this week*

Week 7 Patricians and Plebeians: the Roman Republic

- M Republican Rome. Noble, 118-32; Perry, 88-93 (*Polybius, *Livy)
- W Hannibal's Revenge. Noble, 132-48; Perry, 100-04 (*Diodorus, *Appian)
- F "All eyes watched for imperial commands": the Imperial system. Noble, 150-56; Perry, 112-14; 119; 126-27 (*Sallust, *Tacitus; *Seneca); Additional Blackboard reading: "Achievements of the Divine Augustus." *Response papers due*

Week 8 Emperors and Empire

- M The *Pax Romana*. Noble, 156-64; Perry, 131-36 (*Justinian, *Aristides, *Tacitus)
- W The Historical Jesus and His Followers. Noble, 166-75; Perry, 148-50 (*Mark, *Matthew)

F Early Christianity. Perry, 154-59; 166-8 (*Tertullian, *Clement, *Augustine, *Persecutions, *Paul on Women, *Bishop's Sermon). **Response papers due**

Week 9 Rome's Decline, Christianity's Rise

M Imperial Crises. Noble, 165-66; 177-84; Perry, 138-39 (*Dio Cassius, *Petition)
W Fragmentation, East and West. Noble, 191-207; Perry, 140-44 (*Marcellinus, *Salvian)
F Sex, Sin and Salvation: Christianity's triumph in a fallen world. Noble, 184-91; Perry, 144-46; 161-65; 174-76 (*Jerome, *Gregory, *Lactantius, *Justin Martyr, *Benedict, *Augustine). Additional Blackboard reading: Clement of Alexandria's *Christ the Educator*. **Response papers due**

Week 10 New Worlds Stirring

M Muhammad and the Origins of Islam. Noble, 209-16
W Charlemagne and the Origins of Europe. Noble, 222-33
F Muhammad & Charlemagne. Perry, 180-83 (*Qu'ran selection); 190-98 (*Bede, *Einhard, *Cassiodorus, *Einhard again). **Response papers due**

Week 11 Warriors, Emperors & Popes

M **Second Exam** (covering weeks six through ten)
W Sorting Out Church and State, Noble, 245-52; Perry, 218-20 (*Gregory VII, *Innocent III)
F The Crusades. Noble, 264-70; Perry, 214-15; 221-24 (*Geoffroi de Chancy, *Robert the Monk, *William of Tyre, *James of Vitry). **No response papers this week**

Week 12 High Middle Ages

M A Society of Orders. Noble, 233-38; 240-45; 273-80; Perry, 201-05 (*Bishop Adalbero, *Manorial Justice, *William)
W Town and Gown: Rise of the Universities. Noble, 286-301
F Medieval Scholasticism. Perry, 230-37 (*Adelard, *Abelard, *Aquinas, *Chaucer, *Wandering Scholar, *Vitry). **Short quiz in lieu of response papers**

Week 13 Crisis and Conflict

M Population, Plague and Rebellion. Noble, 303-08; 316-27; Perry, 258-64 (*Boccaccio, *Venette, *Froissart, *Bromyard)
W Jews and Christians. Noble, 280-82; Perry, 238-43 (*Albert of Aix-la-Chapelle, *Innocent III, *Ritual Murder Libel, *Philip II Augustus)
F **Thanksgiving Holiday** (*no class*)

Week 14 Recovery and Renewal

M Rise of the Territorial State. Noble, 252-64; 308-16; Perry, 256-57 (*Magna Carta)
W Italy and its Renaissance. Noble, 340-59; Perry, 266-67 (*Innocent III)
F What was new about the Renaissance? Perry, 275-80; 290-92 (*Petrarch, *Bruni, *de Medici, *Mirandola, *Vasari, *Fonte). **Response papers due**

Week 15 New Horizons

M Age of Exploration. Noble, 374-402; Perry, 330-33 (*Palacios Rubios, *Las Casas)
W Protestant Reformation. Noble, 404-24. Perry, 304-09 (*Luther, *von Hutten)
F Review and Discussion: So What is Western Civilization, Anyway? **Final response papers due**

Final Exam (covers weeks eleven through fifteen)