COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR: Professor William Flinter  DEPARTMENT: Social Sciences
CATALOG NO.: HS 101  EASTERN CAMPUS
SEMESTER: Fall 2010  COURSE: Western Civilization I

READING:


Perry, Peden et al, Sources of the Western Tradition Vol. I, Boston: Houghton Mifflin and Company

OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE:

The student will be able to:

1. describe the roots of Western Civilization and indicate how an understanding of past events and historic processes helps to better comprehend present society.

2. demonstrate a “historical awareness” by citing specific examples of how human behavior changes through time, such as attitudes toward:
   -family
   -government
   -environment
   -cultures

3. identify the basic links and interactions between Western and non-Western civilizations, such as:
   -ancient Mesopotamian and European cultures
   -Islamic and Byzantine civilizations

4. evaluate the importance of key issues in history such as:
   -the role of women and men
   -the significance of technology
   -the importance of role models
   -the diffusion and impact of religion
   -the power of reason

5. show the value of historical research by becoming acquainted with primary and secondary materials

6. practice his/her writing, thinking and comprehension skills in tests and reading and writing assignments.
PROCEDURES TO BE EMPLOYED:

Class discussions and dialogue, lecture, readings in texts, video, internet and writing.

STUDENT REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPLETION OF THE COURSE:

1. Class attendance and participation  MANDATORY
2. Three quizzes  50%
3. Completed assigned readings  MANDATORY
4. Five critical reaction papers  5 Papers 10% each. 50 %
5. Un-announced quizzes  ------

_________________  100 %. Total

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is a general survey of the major forces and events that have helped to shape the foundations of Western Civilization. An attempt will be made to analyze the primary political, economic and social forces that have contributed to Western Heritage.

A chronological approach will be pursued as much as possible considering the broad nature of the subject. Concepts and themes will also be emphasized.

The study will begin in the pre-historical period and conclude with the Enlightenment. The student will become aware of the universal nature of historical events.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

The college defines excessive absence or lateness as more than the equivalent of one week of class during the course. If you have four absences in this class you are over-cut. **Excessive absence or lateness may lead to failure in a course or removal from the class roster.** If you have four absences you are in danger of failure. If you are absent, whatever the reason, consult with me as soon as possible. It is your responsibility to keep me informed as to your status in this class. You are responsible for all assignments which may be given or are due regardless of your absence.

Please be prompt. If you arrive late or leave early you must see me or you will be marked absent. If you arrive late you receive ½ an absence. Two latenesses equals a complete absence. If you must leave early please consult with me. If you are asleep in a class you are absent. No cell phones. No text messaging. No electronic devices.

HOMEWORK ESSAYS:

Homework will consist of five essays. The student will be required to evaluate and explain a required reading. Explain the historic context, the content and the importance and significance of the essay. A thorough answer based on class notes, the text, and outside readings will be submitted.

Homework will be coordinated with the text and class discussions.

Essays are critical reaction papers: 750 word essays on topics based on primary sources, to be coordinated with text and homework. Topics and deadlines to be announced in class. Please consult the assignment page for details.
LATE PAPERS:
Late papers will be accepted. The penalty for all late papers is one letter grade. After one week
late papers will not be accepted. A paper is late if it is not handed in the class period it is due.

All tests will be in an essay form to be completed in class. Throughout the semester in class
writing assignments will be employed to improve writing skills and comprehension.

GOOD LUCK...WORK HARD  AND YOU WILL BW SUCCESSFUL.
**TOPICS TO BE COVERED:**

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<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Chapters</th>
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<td>Capitalism, Expansion and Conflict</td>
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<td>Newton</td>
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<td>12/6</td>
<td>Enlightenment</td>
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<td>Quiz III FINAL</td>
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Assignments

Format of Reaction Papers
Due Dates TBA
Three typed pages…750 words
Double Space
No cover pages
Indicate name, time of class meeting and room

Grading Criteria:

Reaction and response based upon readings. Identify the historical setting. Discuss the author’s basic ideas and their significance and impact. Give a brief summary. Support your ideas with historical evidence and readings from the text. Quotes and another person’s ideas must be cited. Plagiarism: “to take the ideas and writings from another and pass them off as one’s own”. (Webster p.1031)

Any work that is plagiarized will receive a grade of 0.
The essay must be between 500 to 750 words.
The direction and purpose of the essay are clear.
The reasoning and thinking are sound.
The essay demonstrates a knowledge of the historical content.
The ideas are fully developed and supported.
The organization and structure of the essay contributes to the development of the ideas.
Spelling, grammar and syntax are appropriate.

Essay Topics
Readings: All readings are found in the source book Readings are primary sources.
Theme: Conflict of rationalism and spirituality in the development of Western Civilization.

1. “Gilgamesh”, “Genesis”….Compare and contrast
2. “The Republic”
3. St. Augustine
4. Abelard…Acquinas
5. Petrarch, Mirandola, Machiavelli

Final:

You must attend class to be aware of assignments, readings, homework and tests. Maintain academic integrity and respect the ideas of your colleagues.

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