Suffolk Community College  

Course Outline  

Instructor: Mr. Brian Hilly  
Department: Social Sciences  

Catalog No: HIS 101  
Eastern Campus  

Semester: Fall 2010  
Course: Western Civilization I  

Reading:  

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.

Methods of instruction: lecture, videos, informal class discussion, analysis of primary and secondary sources, and Socratic seminars.

Grading Policy:

1. Attendance and class participation 10%
2. Three Tests 60%
3. Two critical reaction papers 30%

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. In a normal semester two class absences. This class meets once a week for three hours. Therefore, if you miss one class you have already met the criteria for excessive absence. If you have two absences in this class you are over-cut. Excessive absence or lateness may lead to failure in a class 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. If you are late twice that 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.** You must attend class to be aware of assignments, readings, homework and tests.

**Home work:**

You are responsible for all the assigned readings. Quiz dates are listed below. You will have three homework essays known as critical reaction papers. You are required to evaluate the readings and then write a critical essay. I urge you to not just explain the readings, but cull information from the readings to buttress your point. Essentially I’m looking to see if you understand the historical significance of the assigned readings. You’ve got to put the historical piece in context as well. An interesting question regarding history is, “Can we judge the actions of others through our 21st century eyes? If so to what degree? If not why?” Context of a historical situation helps answer that question.

**So when are the critical reaction essays due?** TBA – that’s why you have to be here!

**How many words?** 750 (three typed pages) Cover page does not count. Make sure you have a proper heading. Name, date, class, time. 12 point font.

**Do I accept late papers?** Yes, up to one week late (penalty is one letter grade). No papers will be accepted after one week late.

**Does spelling and grammar count?** Yes

A brief word on plagiarism. Simply put, when you take another person’s ideas and pass them off as your own. Clearly, this is unacceptable and any papers of this manner will receive a zero.

**Readings for the course:** All readings are found in the source book. Additional readings will be assigned for HW.
## Schedule

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Chapters</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/7</td>
<td>Introduction, Prehistory, Early Civilizations</td>
<td>1,2</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/14</td>
<td>Ancient Greece</td>
<td>3,4</td>
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<td>9/21</td>
<td>No day or evening classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/28</td>
<td>finish Greece starting Rome</td>
<td>5,6</td>
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<td>10/5</td>
<td>Rome continued</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/12</td>
<td>Test ch1-7; Early Christianity</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/29</td>
<td>Early Medieval and Middle Ages</td>
<td>9,10</td>
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<td>10/26</td>
<td>Middle Ages continued</td>
<td>11,12</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/2</td>
<td>Test ch8-12; start Renaissance</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/9</td>
<td>Renaissance continued</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>11/16</td>
<td>the Reformation</td>
<td>14</td>
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<td>11/23</td>
<td>Nation States and European Expansion</td>
<td>15,16</td>
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<td>11/30</td>
<td>Scientific Revolution</td>
<td>17</td>
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<td>12/7</td>
<td>The Enlightenment</td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/14</td>
<td>Last Class/Final Exam</td>
<td>13-18</td>
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How to reach me?

Well since I’m only here intermittently, I urge you to contact me via email.

Bch27ny@yahoo.com

Hillyb@sunysuffolk.edu

Phone number: I’ll tell you when I find out!