

Western Civilization I  
HST 101  
Fall 2017  
Online Course

Instructor:  
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***This course is 100% online.***

**Course Description:** A survey of the growth of European civilization from ancient times to the end of the Middle Ages, including economic, social, political, and intellectual developments.

**Prerequisite:** none

**Course Credits:** 3 (C, G)

**Required Text:**

McKay, Crowston, Wiesner-Hanks, Perry. *A History of Western Society*. 11th ed. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2014.

**Supplemental Readings:**  
all handouts

**Course Objectives:**

**This course is a University Studies Course fulfilling the requirements for Cluster 4A.**

**University Studies Learning Outcomes:**

*After completing this course, students will be able to:*

1. Explain different perspectives on: a) what it means to be human and how the significance of human existence has been understood; b) the nature of human relationships and how these relationships are evidenced in regard to the broader world; or c) how knowledge is obtained, maintained and changed, as well as how individuals come to understand and think about the world around them.

2. Recognize ethical issues in complex contexts and evaluate the ethical positions taken by themselves and others.
3. Locate, analyze, summarize, paraphrase and synthesize material from a variety of sources.
4. Evaluate arguments made in support of different perspectives on human questions and contexts.

Here are my expectations for electronic communication:

- *Please use email \*ONLY\* when the subject is of a personal and confidential matter. If the question you ask is of a nature that even one other person in the course could benefit from the answer, post the question in the appropriate discussion board forum.*
- *I check my email daily Monday through Friday during normal business hours only. You can expect a reply from me via email within 24 hours during the work week. You \*may\* get an email reply during the weekend, but that would be an exception not the rule.*
- *I will also check the discussion forums daily during the work week. I hope these will be lively, collegial discussions.*
- *I am not an instructor who sends email to my students when they submit an assignment. If you do not hear from me after submitting work, consider it a good thing.*

## **Time Considerations**

Students should be prepared to spend a minimum of 6 hours on reading and on course assignments. While you may feel that I'm displaying a lot of information to you on a weekly basis, this is exactly the same amount of information that I present in my face-to-face course. Consider, then, that you would be coming to class for 3 hours per week and then spending an additional 3-6 hours (at least) outside of class on assignments and reading.

In our online course environment my expectation is that you will be spending those 3 "class hours" on your own, working on the concepts that you would usually get in a live lecture.

Please be sure to budget your time accordingly!

## **The Online Weekly Schedule**

Electronic weeks begin on Wednesday and ends on Sunday.

- Day 1 – Monday
- Day 2 – Tuesday
- Day 3 - Wednesday
- Day 4 - Thursday
- Day 5 - Friday
- Day 6 - Saturday
- Day 7 - Sunday

## **Evaluation and Grading Breakdown:**

- Class participation/attendance (Discussion Board) 30%
- Quizzes 30%
- Final Exam #1 40%

## **Grading Scale:**

-	97 - 100	A+
-	95 - 96	A
-	90 - 94	A-
-	87 - 89	B+
-	85 - 86	B
-	80 - 84	B-
-	77 - 79	C+
-	75 - 76	C
-	70 - 74	C-
-	67 - 69	D+
-	65 - 66	D
-	60 - 64	D-
-	00 - 59	F

## **Policy on Late Assignments and Missing Assignments:**

*Assignments that are handed in late will be downgraded one full grade (e.g. A+ to B+) per day.*

**Attendance:** This is an online course. As such attendance is measured by participation in the discussion boards.

**Discussion Boards:** Directions will be included with each board and they typically require you to post a response about the assigned readings and respond to at least 2 classmate postings. Directions regarding length will be included with each board. These responses are graded for content, interaction with classmates, and writing. In general I expect you to follow these guidelines:

- First, respond fully to the questions posed.
- Second, respond clearly and directly to the question and all of its parts.
- Next, your response postings should demonstrate your command of the material by referencing the PowerPoint lecture and the outside readings.
- Further, you should strive to have postings that are free from grammatical and typographical errors.
- Finally, your responses to the postings of your classmates will be respectful (which does not mean you must agree!!). You can disagree in a collegial manner. They must also be complete, and thoughtful. Simply agreeing with or answering no to a peer's comment is unacceptable.

Try to add something new to the discussion! Your learning in the course will increase with more interaction among the class. If you do the minimum, your grade will reflect that. Do not fear posting more than the minimum assigned

**Quizzes:** All quizzes must be taken at the appropriate time/day. There are no make-ups. All quizzes are objective and are in the form of multiple-choice questions. The quizzes are based on the chapter reading due that day. The lowest 2 quiz grades will be dropped.

**Exam:** The exam must be taken at the appropriate time/day. Any exam that is missed will result in a zero for that exam. The only acceptable excuse is one that can be verified through documentation--e.g. police report, emergency room admissions etc. Exams are based on the PowerPoint lectures and handouts (extra readings that are provided, not the text). The final exam will be a cumulative multiple-choice exam.

### **Incomplete Policy:**

According to the university catalogue, an incomplete may be given only in exceptional circumstances at the instructor's discretion. The student must be passing at the time of the request or be sufficiently close to passing. If the work is not completed within one year of the recording of the incomplete grade, the grade will become an F(I). The incomplete policy for this course is that at least 70% of the course must be already completed and an exceptional circumstance (i.e. medical issue) must exist. If you feel you require an incomplete for an exceptional reason, you need to email me and state your reasons for the incomplete in writing. We will then decide on a course of action.

<http://www.umassd.edu/nfi/teachingandadvising/coursesyllabus/sampleincompletestatement/>

### **Academic Integrity Policy;**

All UMass Dartmouth students are expected to maintain high standards of academic integrity and scholarly practice. The University does not tolerate academic dishonesty of any variety, whether as a result of a failure to understand required academic and scholarly procedure or as an act of intentional dishonesty.

A student found responsible of academic dishonesty is subject to severe disciplinary action which may include dismissal from the University. The procedure for responding to incidents of academic dishonesty may be found in Section III of this document. You may also refer to the Student Handbook for information about the judicial process.

A high standard of academic integrity promotes the pursuit of truth and learning and respect for the intellectual accomplishments of others. These are values that are fundamental to the mission of this University. Such values are undermined by academic dishonesty.

Academic freedom is a fundamental right in any institution of higher learning. Honesty and integrity are necessary preconditions of this freedom. Academic integrity requires that all academic work be wholly the product of an identified individual or individuals. Joint efforts are legitimate only when the assistance of others is explicitly acknowledged and deemed appropriate by the instructor of the course. Ethical conduct is the obligation of every member of the University community, and breaches of academic integrity constitute serious offenses.

Maintenance of the standards of academic integrity and the successful administration of this policy depend on the mutual cooperation of faculty and students.

Faculty cooperation is essential for successful application of the procedures defined by this Academic Integrity Policy. Faculty members promote academic integrity by making clear on their syllabi their expectations concerning homework assignments, collaborative student efforts, research papers, examinations, computer-based infractions, and the like. Efforts should be made to detect and to prevent cheating and plagiarism in all academic assignments. If faculty members have evidence of academic dishonesty, they are expected to report such evidence promptly.

Students must assume responsibility for maintaining honesty in all work submitted for credit and in any other work designated by the instructor of the course. Students are also expected to report incidents of academic dishonesty to the instructor or dean of the instructional unit. The intent of this policy is to make clear the standards of academic integrity at UMass Dartmouth.

***\*For additional information on violations, infractions, and consequences visit the UMass Dartmouth Student Academic Integrity Policy at the link below.***

<http://www.umassd.edu/studentaffairs/studenthandbookintroduction/studentconductpolicies/academicintegritypolicy/>

### **Access and Success:**

In accordance with University policy, if you have a documented disability and require accommodations to obtain equal access in this course, please meet with the instructor at the beginning of the semester and provide the appropriate paperwork from the [Center for Access and Success](#). The necessary paperwork is obtained when you bring proper documentation to the Center, which is located in Liberal Arts, Room 016; phone: 508.999.8711.

<http://www.umassd.edu/dss/>

### **Resources:**

#### **Tutoring**

If you are having difficulty with the class please:

- Post a message on the Discussion Board – be sure to use your classmates for troubleshooting and problem solving.
- Make an appointment to come in and meet with me.
- Contact the Academic Resource Center (ARC) for support:

**Academic Resource Center, Liberal Arts – Room 7**  
**Phone: 508.999.8708, Fax: 508.910.6404**

## Technical Help

If you are in need of technical assistance the IT Service Desk is available to students.

### Claire T. Carney Library, lower level

508.999.8884 (x8884) or [Email](#)

Sunday: 12:00pm-2am  
Monday thru Thursday: 7:30am-2am  
Friday: 7:30am-11pm  
Saturday: 9:30am-11pm

### Students living in the Residence Halls may also contact the Residential Technology (ResTech) Support Center:

Visit [ResTech](#) in Elmwood Hall, lower level  
Call the ResTech Help Line at 508.999.8040 (x8040)

## Schedule:

WEEK 1:	September 6	COURSE INTRODUCTION
WEEK 2:	September 11	LECTURE I: MESOPOTAMIAN CIVILIZATION <b>Text: CHPT 1</b> <b>Handouts: Ziggurats &amp; Code of Hammurabi</b>
WEEK 3:	September 18	LECTURE II: HEBREW CIVILIZATION <b>Text: CHPT 2</b>
WEEK 4:	September 25	LECTURE III: GREEK CIVILIZATION (Part i: Athens & Sparta) <b>Text: CHPT 3</b> <b>Handouts: Plutarch's Life of Lycurgus</b>
WEEK 5:	October 2	LECTURE III: GREEK CIVILIZATION (Part i: Athens & Sparta) <b>Text: CHPT 3</b> <b>Handouts: Thucydides Reports, Pericles' Funeral Oration</b>
WEEK 6:	October 9	LECTURE III: GREEK CIVILIZATION (Part ii: Greek Philosophy) <b>Text: CHPT 4</b> <b>Handouts: Plato's Republic (The Allegory of the Cave)</b>

WEEK 7:	October 16	LECTURE IV: GRECO-ROMAN ART <b>Text: CHPT 5</b>
WEEK 8:	October 23	LECTURE IV: THE PRINCIPATE AND THE DECLINE <b>Text: CHPT 6</b>
WEEK 9:	October 30	LECTURE IV: THE PRINCIPATE AND THE DECLINE <b>Text: CHPT 6</b>
WEEK 10:	November 6	LECTURE V: THE RISE OF CHRISTIANITY <b>Text: CHPT 7</b> <b>Handouts: Gospel accounts of the annunciation (Luke &amp; Matthew)</b>
WEEK 11:	November 13	LECTURE VII: CHRISTIAN PHILOSOPHY <b>Text: CHPT 7</b> <b>Handouts: <i>Nicene Creed</i></b>
WEEK 12:	November 20	Thanksgiving Break
WEEK 13:	November 27	LECTURE VIII: THE RISE OF ISLAM <b>Text: CHPT 8</b>
<b>WEEK 14:</b>	<b>December 4</b>	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>

As the semester progresses, this syllabus will be adjusted to accommodate any unforeseen circumstances, at my discretion when needed.