

**HIST 1200 W A03 & A04 An Introduction to the History of Western Civilization
Regular Session 2013-2014**

Prof. J. L. Finlay
449 Fletcher Argue Building
783-3357 or 474-8778

Office Hours: 9:45 - 11:30
Tuesday & Thursday
or by appointment

- I. COURSE AIMS: To have the student
- a) learn some of the basic “facts” of Western Civilization
 - b) become aware of a variety of approaches towards the study of the past
 - c) practise historical analysis via essays

For the average student this course will be extremely demanding, and each week you should expect to spend, in addition to the class hours, some 5 hours of study.

- II. TEXT: Coffin and Stacey, *WESTERN CIVILIZATIONS*; copies are in the bookstore. NOTE: I do not teach to or from the text; it is suggested as a crutch helpful to most students.

- III. TOPICS to be covered: Those in the lectures. Tape recording of the lectures is not allowed. Indeed, no electronic devices including ear pieces are to be seen in the classroom.

- IV. EVALUATION: 60% of the final grade will be based on term work, 40% on a final three hour examination.

- A. Term work will consist of 6 exercises to be written in class on:
- 03 October 2013
 - 31 October 2013
 - 26 November 2013
 - 16 January 2014
 - 11 February 2014
 - 11 March 2014

Each exercise will consist of two parts.

(i) A 20 item fact test, based on material from the lectures. Probably five minutes will suffice for this portion. The questions may come from any lectures given to the date of the test. Collectively these fact tests will be worth 30% of the final grade. That 30% will be based on your 4 highest marks.

(ii) An essay, minimum length 750 words, on the following topics (which will be written in the order given):

- Athenian culture in the fifth century B.C.
- the Roman Empire and Christianity c.300 – c.600 A.D.
- the Vikings c.750 – c.1100 A.D.
- Europe and the Wider World c.1350 -c.1550 A.D.
- the Significance of France c.1780 – c.1820 A.D
- Socialism c.1840 – c.1914 A.D.

You will prepare each essay topic in a general way, and on the appointed day will answer the specific question set. You will provide the paper, and write on every other line. Notes will not be allowed. To prepare for the essay, you may benefit from

- the lectures
- the text
- encyclopedias
- “further readings”
- other monographs

It will not be enough to rely on the lectures/text alone. Indeed, the topic may not have been covered in the lectures. The essays must demonstrate a familiarity with several types of historical/historiographical source. Any essay that draws on one type of source alone will be penalized.

I will speak about these resources at the first meeting of the class. You should begin work on the topics as soon as possible, since the pressure on library resources may be intense. Collectively, the essays will be worth 30% of the final grade. That 30% will be based on your four highest marks. Since this is a course that meets the University Senate’s W requirement, students must pass the requirement for written English in order to pass the course. Please note that to satisfy the written English requirement AND TO GET CREDIT FOR THE COURSE you must receive a passing mark on each of the four essays.

It is hoped to have term work returned within a week of submission. Term work grades may be appealed; such appeals must be submitted within 10 working days after the grade for the term work has been made available. Uncollected term work will become the property of the Faculty of Arts and will be subject to confidential destruction.

- B. The final examination will consist of “Identifications” (worth 20% of the final grade) and two essays, from a choice of 5-6 (each essay worth 10% of the final grade). The nature of the “Identifications” and the kind of essay questions will be explained at the first class meeting.
- V. A student who misses a term test, but who has a medical certificate or excuse acceptable to me, will receive a mark equal to the average of the tests taken by that student or will be allowed to write a make-up test without penalty.
- VI. Your attention is drawn to the statements on “Plagiarism and Cheating” and on “Examination Impersonation” in Section 8.1 of the General Academic Regulations in the online Academic Calendar and Catalog. *The common penalty in Arts for plagiarism on a written assignment is a grade of F on the paper and a final grade of F (DISC) (for Disciplinary Action) for the course. For the most serious acts of plagiarism, such as purchase of an essay and repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five (5) years from registration in courses taught in a particular department/program in Arts or from all courses taught in this Faculty. The Faculty also reserves the right to submit student work that is suspected of being plagiarized to Internet sites designed to detect plagiarism or to other experts for authentication. The common penalty in Arts for academic dishonesty on a test or examination is F for the paper, F (DISC) for the course, and a one-year suspension from courses acceptable for*

credit in the Faculty. For more serious acts of academic dishonesty on a test or examination, such as repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five years from registration in courses taught in a particular department or program in Arts or from all courses taught in or accepted for credit by this Faculty.

VII. Evaluative feedback will be provided prior to the date for voluntary withdrawal, **March 19, 2014**.

VIII. The mark scale is as follows:

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| A+ | = | 85+% | C+ | = | 59-66% |
| A | = | 80-84% | C | = | 50-58% |
| B+ | = | 75-79% | D | = | 45-49% |
| B | = | 67-74% | F | = | 44% |

NOTE: 8 April 2014 will be a review session. The initiative is with the students; you will ask questions about any aspect of the course that puzzles you.