

**Houston Baptist University Fall 2012**  
**HIST 2311-09 Western Civilization I MWF 3- 3:50**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

A survey of Western Civilization from the Ancient World to the end of the Middle Ages.

History 2311 is a survey course, and there are no prerequisites required.

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Mary K. Howell-Brown  
mbrown@hbu.edu  
Cell Phone (emergencies only): 713-206-3240  
Office Hours: 2:00-2:50 MWF by appointment

**LEARNING RESOURCES**

Course Text(s): Lynn Hunt et. al, *Making of the West: A Concise History, Combined Version 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition* (Bedford St Martin Press, 2010): ISBN 0312554583

Reading Packet (Blackboard)

Robert S. Gottfried: *The Black Death* ISBN: 0029126304

Phillip Freeman: *Julius Caesar* ISBN: 9780743289542

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

At the end of this course, students will have:

- gained factual knowledge (terminology, classifications, methods, trends)
- gained a greater understanding of the 'great works' of Western society that have contributed to our understanding of the world and ourselves;
- gained a broader understanding and appreciation of intellectual/cultural activity (music, science, literature, etc)
- strengthened their analytical and critical reading skills, including analyzing both primary and secondary sources; and,
- increased their ability to express historical analyses and syntheses in writing and orally more clearly, concisely, coherently, and elegantly.

**RELATION TO DEPARTMENTAL GOALS AND PURPOSES**

The purpose of this course is to provide students with an opportunity to develop a level of expertise in a particular field; improve critical-thinking skills and the ability to articulate difficult concepts, theories, and arguments; and provide a setting that fosters an appreciation for education and encourages students to learn more about the world in which they live. More importantly, as with all other courses in the College or Arts and Humanities, this course should encourage students to use the knowledge and skills they gain to improve the human condition, strengthen the bonds of society, govern wisely, and live well.

**RELATION TO COLLEGE GOALS AND PURPOSES**

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for education and encourages students to learn more about the world in which they live. More importantly, as with all other courses at the University, this course should encourage students to use the knowledge and skills they gain to improve the human condition, strengthen the bonds of society, govern wisely, and live well.

### **RELATION TO THE PURPOSE STATEMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY**

This course on politics reflects the values of the University Ten Pillar Vision by building on the classics, increasing our cultural impact, renewing our community, and allowing students to see the connection between theory and application. The course, like all courses in the Department of Government, is founded on the belief that Jesus Christ is Lord and our Christian faith shapes our worldview, personal values, and desire to serve others.

### **ATTENDANCE**

Please see the official Attendance Policy in the HBU Classroom Policy on Blackboard. Students missing more than 25% of the class will be given a failing grade.

### **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS**

Students needing learning accommodations should inform the professor immediately and consult the Academic Accommodations section of the HBU Classroom Policy posted on Blackboard.

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS & GRADE SCALE**

Grading: 100-90=A; 89-80=B; 79-70=C; 69-60=D; 59-below=F

Assessment/Grading:

Critical Reviews 40%: two critical reviews the monographs Julius Caesar and The Black Death.

Exams 60%: Four equally weighted exams including the Final Exam.

### **LATE WORK & TEST POLICY**

Late work will be penalized. You should not miss any exams. If you are sick, you need to notify the professor in advance. The professor reserves the right to administer a different exam, deduct points for taking the exam late, and/or schedule the makeup for a later date. Missing an exam without giving prior notice will result in a zero for that test, with no makeup.

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Student Signature – I have read and understand the syllabus for this class. I understand that the content of this syllabus and the topical outline are subject to change at the discretion of the professor. I have read and understand the HBU Classroom Policy posted on Black Board. **I promise to uphold the Code of Academic Integrity at Houston Baptist University and will not tolerate its violation by others.**

### **TOPICAL OUTLINE(schedule may change with or without prior notice)**

**Week One:** Introduction to course *Early Western Civilizations*

Reading: Hunt Chapter one, begin reading Freeman's *Julius Caesar*

**Week Two:** Chapters One-Two *Greek Golden Age*

Reading: Hymn of Aton (WC I Online Reading Packet), Hunt Chapter Two

**Week Three:** Chapters Two-Three *Hellenistic World* (9/3 no classes) (9/5 Last Day to drop w/o W)

Reading: Hunt Chapter Three, Aristotle, The Athenian Constitution sec. 1 pp 6-22

Plutarch, The Life of Alexander the Great (WC I RP)

**Week Four:** Chapter Three con't **Exam #1(Chapters 1-3) 9/14**

Reading: Hunt Chapter 1-3

**Week Five:** Chapter Four *The Rise of Rome*

Reading: Hunt Chapter four, Caesar Augustus The Divine Deeds of Augustus(WC I RP)

**Week Six:** Chapters Five *The Roman Empire* **Critical Review Due- Julius Caesar 9/28**

Reading: Hunt Chapter five

**Week Seven:** Chapter Six *The Transformation of Rome*

Reading: Hunt Chapter six,

**Week Eight:** Chapter Six Cont.

Reading Chapter six

**Week Nine:** Chapters Six and Seven *Islam, Byzantium and the West*

**Exam #2 Chapters 4-6 10/17**

Reading: Hunt Chapter Seven

**Week Ten:** Chapter Seven and Eight *A New Western Europe* **10/26 last day to drop w/ W.**

Reading: Hunt Chapter 8, Begin reading Gottfried's The Black Death

**Week Eleven:** Chapters Eight and Nine *The Middle Ages*

Reading: Hunt Chapter Nine, Raymond d'Aguillers, Account of the siege of Jerusalem

**Week Twelve:** Chapter Nine con't

Reading: Chapters eight and nine

**Week Thirteen:** Chapters Nine and Ten **Exam #3 Chapters 8-9 11/14**

**Week Fourteen:** Chapter Ten and Eleven *Search for Order* **No Class 11/23**

Reading: Magna Carta (WC I RP)

**Week Fifteen:** Chapter Eleven *The Black Death and the Renaissance*

**Black Death Critical Review 11/28**

**End of Lectures 11/30**

Reading: Chapter Eleven

**Final Exams: Chapters Ten and Eleven**

03- 3:50pm----- Friday, December 7 3:00-5:00pm