

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA  
Department of History

HIST 2301 #82-583  
Maymester, Summer 2007  
9:30-12:15 Daily  
Room 323 LeConte Hall

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Office Hours:

## Western Society to 1500

In this course we will survey Western history from Antiquity to the early Renaissance. Principal topics will include the legacy of the ancient Mediterranean world, the origins and development of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, the growth of ideas of law and philosophy, the emergence and expansion of Western Europe, and cultural transformation.

### **Evaluation:**

Participation	10%
Reading quizzes	20%
Mid-term exam	20%
Short essay paper	20%
Final exam	30%

### **Required Texts:**

- T. Noble et al., *Western Civilization: Beyond Boundaries* vol. A to 1500, 5<sup>th</sup> edn. 2008
- M. Perry, *Sources of the Western Tradition* vol. 1, 6<sup>th</sup> edn. 2006

### **Course comportment and structure:**

Attendance is mandatory and will be recorded. Conflict with work schedule is not an acceptable excuse for missing class. If you more than two classes over the course of the Maymester term you will be dropped (with a WF after May 24). Be on time to all class meetings. Late-comers disrupt the class and will receive nasty looks from the instructor. The consumption of food during class is not permitted, nor is the use of cell phones. Individuals whose phones ring in class may be asked to leave without further warning.

Be forewarned! Since this is a Maymester course, it will be intensive. If you are not prepared to commit the time and effort this class demands every day, you should rethink your enrollment. The class will be a combination of lecture and seminar: part of each day will be spent discussing primary source documents from the Perry text. Accordingly, it is absolutely imperative that you *complete all the relevant reading assignments before class* and come prepared to contribute intelligently to the discussion and to answer questions relating to content. There will be near-daily, short multiple-choice quizzes on your reading assignments. Quizzes cannot be made up, but depending on how many are given, the lowest one or two may be discounted. *Always bring the Perry text with you to class*; you will not be able to participate effectively in the discussion without it. Evaluation of your participation grade will be determined by the following criteria:

- Students who receive an “A” for this portion of their grade have consistently completed their reading assignments, have systematically thought about the material before class, and actively participate in the class discussions on a regular basis as well as attentively listen and respond to other students.
- “B” students also complete their reading assignments. Such students some of the time actively engage in class discussions with ideas, perspectives, and questions developed from their own reading and thinking. The “B” student, however, is more passive, waiting for others to raise issues, or awaiting pointed questions from the instructor. This student does not consistently try to respond to the ideas, perspectives, and questions raised by others.
- Students in the “C” category are largely passive, speaking when spoken to but taking no initiative for the quality of the ideas and discussion generated during the class sessions.
- Students who receive lower than a “C” for participation are those who are frequently absent, or unprepared, or silent—or a combination of these difficulties.

**Written assignment:**

There will be one written assignment for this class, a short essay (at least five full pages, not including title page; a bibliography is not necessary). This is an exercise in the analysis of primary documents and the concise expression of that analysis in correct essay form. It is to be argumentative and based upon the examination of relevant primary sources. Note the following guidelines:

- Your essay must address one of the following topics:
  1. Discuss the development of law among the Mesopotamians, the Hebrews, and the Romans. Did these societies view law differently from one another? Did law become more sophisticated over time or did it remain fairly consistent from one society to another?
  2. Assess the status of women in Classical Greece and Rome. Discuss some of the specific societal values evident from the manner in which women were treated among the Greeks and Romans.
  3. How does the world-view of Renaissance humanists – particularly their opinion of human value and dignity – differ from the early Christian world-view (around the time of the Latin Church Fathers) or from the Medieval world-view? To what degree does Renaissance humanism hearken back to the ideals of the Greeks?
- Do not use any sources, primary or secondary, except those found in Perry, *Sources of the Western Tradition*.
- Your essay will be graded on the quality of argument, textual support, organization, accuracy, and writing ability. It should be free of errors in grammar, syntax, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.

- It must be printed, double-spaced in twelve-point font, paginated with standard margins, and have a cover page with a title that reflects the paper's content. It should be footnoted and must conform to Turabian style format (see Kate Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* 6<sup>th</sup> edn., 1996). If you are unfamiliar with the Turabian style, it is your responsibility to learn it. As you will only be using the Perry text, no bibliography is necessary for this assignment.

Sample footnote:

<sup>1</sup> Plato, *The Republic*, ed. M. Perry *et al.*, *Sources of the Western Tradition* vol. 1, sixth ed. (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 2006), 78.

- Duplicate copies of submitted assignments must be retained by all students (in case of loss or the need for review of an assigned grade).
- Essay assignments are **due at the beginning of class on Monday June 4**. Absolutely no later papers will be accepted under any circumstance, so plan accordingly. If you fail to submit your essay when it is due, you will receive a WF for the course. Essays may be turned in early. All essays are to be submitted directly to me. Do not leave it in my campus mailbox, do not slip it under my door.

#### **A note on plagiarism:**

Be aware that I have a zero-tolerance policy on plagiarism (quoting an author directly without enclosing the passage in quotation marks and citing the source correctly, paraphrasing or summarizing another author's work without citing the source correctly, presenting an idea that was formulated by someone else as your own, reproducing information compiled by another author without citing the source correctly, buying essays, or copying essays). In your essay you must cite your sources in footnotes every time you refer to them. If I detect plagiarism, university policy obligates me to report the incident to the Office of the Vice President for Instruction and the Academic Honesty Committee for review. Possible sanctions include a course grade of F, suspension from the university, and expulsion. If you have any questions or concerns regarding plagiarism, please do not hesitate to speak with me.

#### **Exams:**

The mid-term and the final examination will be based upon material covered in lectures, assigned readings, and class discussions. They will be given on published dates only. Conflict with work schedule is not an acceptable excuse for missing an exam date. Failure to take both the midterm and final examination will result in a WF for the course.

#### **Instructor Office Hours:**

I will be available for consultation regarding HIST 2301 three days a week, at times posted. No appointment is necessary. Students may also arrange to see me at other mutually convenient times if your schedule does not permit consultation during office hours. As a rule, I do not discuss course content over email.

**HIST 2301 Course schedule and reading assignments:**

**Tues May 15**

Introduction  
The Ancestors of the West  
Noble, 3-29

**Thurs May 17**

Classical Greece  
Noble, 59-80  
Perry, 46-50, 53-8

**Mon May 21**

Republican Rome  
Noble, 121-51  
Perry, 87-99

**Weds May 23**

Late Antiquity  
Noble, 181-211  
Perry, 143-4, 147-8

**Fri May 25**

Carolingian Europe / Early medieval society  
Noble, 228-44  
Perry, 195-8, 203, 206-8

**Tues May 29**

British Isles and New States  
Noble, 267-81  
Perry, 226-30, 257-8

**Thurs May 31**

Late Medieval Europe  
Noble, 315-48  
Perry, 258-63

**Mon June 4 Last day of class**

ESSAY ASSIGNMENT DUE AT  
BEGINNING OF CLASS  
Review

**Weds May 16**

Western Asia and Early Greece  
Noble, 31-56  
Perry, 2-16

**Fri May 18**

Classical and Hellenistic Greece  
Noble, 80-119  
Perry, 66-8, 77-86

**Tues May 22**

Imperial Rome  
Noble, 153-78  
Perry, 107-13, 119-23

**Thurs May 24**

MIDTERM  
Islam and Byzantium  
Noble, 213-28

**Mon May 28**

Expansion of Europe  
Noble, 247-66  
Perry, 212-22

**Weds May 30**

High Medieval Civilization  
Noble, 283-312  
Perry, 234-40, 246-8

**Fri June 1**

Early Renaissance  
Noble, 351-82  
Perry, 276-83

**Tues June 5**

FINAL EXAM 8:00-11:00 AM