



History of Western Culture

Extra Evaluation Course

Description

From the first sparks of Ancient Greece's splendour to the wonders of the Renaissance, Western culture is a perfect banquet of ideas to engage the mind. Dreams and empires rise and tumble in the centuries' story of our civilization's development before the modern era. Students engage with some of the greatest champions and villains the world has known by studying the history of the West, and will increase their understanding of their heritage.

Cost: \$270

Course Outline

- The course timeline will cover the period and works from the ancient philosophers, Homer and Socrates, to the renaissance of Michelangelo. A satisfying allotment of historical anthologies will include selected writings of notable and far-reaching academics, philosophers, artists, historians, and theologians such as: Homer, Socrates, Livy, Plutarch, Herodotus, Justin Martyr, Athanasius, Augustine, Bede, and Francis of Assisi.

Primary Learning Objectives

- To introduce the student to varying ideas of what culture is and how it develops over time.
- To provide the student with a survey understanding of the development of societal values, arts, customs, and lynchpin ideas in western society, from the time of Homer to the time of Michelangelo.
- To help the student achieve a familiarity and ease in reading primary historical documents.
- To expose the student to different historiographical approaches, allowing them to have a better critical understanding of how people tell the story of their past and to what purpose.

Assignments	Weight
Week 3: Essay (<i>What is culture?</i>)	17%
Week 6: Essay (<i>What is history?</i>)	17%
Week 9 : Oral Midterm Exam	12%
Week 12: Essay (<i>The monastery and culture</i>)	17%
Week 14: Oral Final Exam	18%
Class Participation	19%

Instructions for essays: Essays should respond substantively to the question posed. They should reflect the student's own thought and not just repeat what is found in the readings. Essays should be no less than 1000 words. The student will be graded on the quality of their thought as well as the clarity of their presentation.

Instructions for oral exams: Oral exams will test both the student's familiarity with the broader course material as well as their critical reasoning ability. In these closed-book exams, the tutor will engage the student with a number of questions, to which the student must thoughtfully respond. Oral exams are 20-30 minutes long and will take place in the classroom at a time determined by the student and his/her tutor.