

## Master Syllabus

### HIS 1111 - Western Civilization I

**Division:** Liberal Arts, Communication and Social Sciences

**Department:** History

**Credit Hour Total:** 3.0

**Lecture Hrs:** 3.0

**Date Revised:** June 2014

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#### Course Description:

Major trends in the development of Western culture, emphasizing political, economic, social and cultural achievements, from prehistory to the seventeenth century.

#### General Education Outcomes:

- ▣ Oral Communication Competency
- ▣ Written Communication Competency
- ▣ Critical Thinking/Problem Solving Competency
- ▣ Values/Citizenship/Community Competency
- ▣ Computer Literacy Competency
- ▣ Information Literacy Competency

#### Course Outcomes:

##### Historical facts and arguments

Articulate historical arguments in a variety of forms of communication. Communicate the significance of historical facts, concepts and ideas in spoken and written English that is clear, precise, and logical.

**Assessment Method:** Locally developed exams

**Performance Criteria:** Meets 70% of rubric.

**Assessment Method:** Performance appraisals

**Performance Criteria:** Meets 70% of rubric.

**Assessment Method:** Portfolios

**Performance Criteria:** Meets 70% of rubric.

##### Analysis of texts

Apply critical thinking to analyze primary and secondary sources (i.e. historical analysis of text), scholarly historical monographs, biographies, and syntheses, -and use them to construct well-organized, well-argued historical accounts.

**Assessment Method:** Locally developed exams

**Performance Criteria:** Express in written examinations an analysis of primary and secondary historical texts concerning Western civilization. Meets 70% of rubric.

**Assessment Method:** Portfolios

**Performance Criteria:** Demonstrate ability to research in primary and secondary texts and write an original analysis of an historical problem concerning Western civilization. Meets 70% of rubric.

##### Historical events

Explain the causes, effects and relevance of specific historical events and/or periods within the broader historical context. Describe specified Western political, social, cultural, and economic institutions from pre-history to the seventeenth century.

**Assessment Method:** Locally developed exams

**Performance Criteria:** Analyze and explain in writing the changes in Western social, political, religious, and cultural institutions throughout this period. Meets 70% of rubric.

**Assessment Method:** Portfolios

**Performance Criteria:** Analyze and explain selected topics concerning Western social, political, religious, and cultural institutions in oral presentations. Meets 70% of rubric.

##### Historical interpretations

Articulate diverse historical interpretations. Evaluate specified historical interpretations of these institutions and developments.

**Assessment Method:** Locally developed exams

**Performance Criteria:** Meets 70% of rubric.

**Assessment Method:** Portfolios

**Performance Criteria:** Meets 70% of rubric.

##### Historical concepts and approaches

Clearly demonstrate understanding and application of basic historical concepts, methodologies, and approaches.

**Assessment Method:** Locally developed exams

**Performance Criteria:** Meets 70% of rubric.

**Assessment Method:** Performance appraisals

**Performance Criteria:** Meets 70% of rubric.

**Assessment Method:** Portfolios

**Performance Criteria:** Meets 70% of rubric.

**Outline:**

Pre-history: Mesopotamia, Egyptians, Hebrews, Persians  
Hellenic Greeks and the Greek Polis  
Classical Age and Greek Culture  
Alexander and Hellenistic Diffusion  
Romans, early Roman Republic: growth and conflict  
Roman Empire  
Decline of Rome  
The Spread of Christianity in the west  
The Making of Europe  
Serf, Knight, Monk and Priest: the cultural life of Europe  
Europe in the High Middle Ages  
Renaissance Political and Economic Change  
Renaissance Art and Society  
Reformation  
Counter Reformation  
The Evolution of Centralized Monarchies  
Thirty Years' War and the Transition to Modernity