

J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary

Course Prefix and Number: HIS 101

Credits: 3

Course Title: History of Western Civilization I

Course Description: Examines the development of western civilization from ancient times to the mid-seventeenth century. Prerequisites: Placement in English 111 or placement in Co-requisites ENG 111 and EDE 11. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose: (Who will benefit from taking this course?)

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:

Prerequisites: Placement in English 111 or placement in Co-requisites ENG 111 and EDE 11.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to

- a. Demonstrate an ability to select from the materials offered in this course, the relevant information needed to explain their own interpretation of a particular historical question;
- b. Develop an appreciation of the fact that their values are not necessarily the values of other peoples, and that their values are not necessarily better or worse than those held by other peoples in other places and times;
- c. Cultivate a sense of chronology; that is, students will know what followed what;
- d. Understand that the history in their textbook is not an infallible or comprehensive account of the past, but merely the selected arguments and interpretations of certain authors;
- e. Present an historical argument in good written or oral form;
- f. Demonstrate knowledge of the significant political, economic, social, military, religious, cultural, and intellectual changes experienced by western man from his beginning to the seventeenth century;
- g. Determine whether certain conclusions or consequences are supported by the information provided;
- h. Reason by deduction, induction, and analogy; and
- i. Understand the impact that social institutions have on individuals and culture-past, present, and future.

Major Topics to Be Included:

- a. The Ancient World: Development of Early Western Civilizations in the Middle East and Egypt
- b. The Greek World and the Roman World
- c. Islamic, Byzantine, and Medieval Societies in Western Civilization
- d. The Renaissance
- e. The Protestant and Catholic Reformations
- f. The Rise of Modern Nation States to the mid-seventeenth century

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