

HIST 100: **HISTORY of WESTERN CIVILIZATION**

Professor: Susan Schulze, Ph.D. ssschulze@gmu.edu

OFFICE Hours: 1.30-2.45pm and 4.30-5.30pm. Outside the Starbucks in the basement of the JC.

The Honor Code at George Mason University: *To promote a stronger sense of mutual responsibility, respect, trust, and fairness among all members of the George Mason University community and with the desire for greater academic and personal achievement, we, the student members of the University Community have set forth this:* Student members of the George Mason University community pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal, and/or lie in matters related to academic work.

OBJECTIVES

- The study of History to gain a deeper understanding of the present. To gain an historical perspective.
- To equip the student with tools necessary to read critically and to recognize valid analysis.
- To understand how change occurred and occurs in the evolution of Human society.
- To learn and apply the rules of valid analysis and by extension think independently with clarity and precision.
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MATERIALS & COURSEWORK

Lecture The information in the lectures is the standard historical narrative in **ANY** Western Civilization textbook. If you want a textbook it is not difficult to find one. For example, there are copies of various standard textbooks in Fenwick Library. I suggest the authors Jackson Spielvogel or Linda Hunt. Make sure that the publication date is after 1995-2000.

Articles Articles are incorporated into the lecture and are assigned in Take Home Exercises. All of the articles are drawn from the JSTOR database. Our work with the articles is geared to the cultivation of critical reading skills and developing your ability to recognize valid analysis.

Course-work

Take-Home Exercises

A cluster of 7-10 articles will be made available through Blackboard every Friday.

The completed exercises will be due the following Tuesday.

The exercises are geared to practice the skills necessary for accurate critical reading and use of the analytical forms.

Rules for submission of completed work

A print-out of the article pages with completed work must be submitted at the beginning of class. The first 5-10 minutes of class will be used to collect student work.

Work submitted after the first 10 minutes of class will have 10 points deducted.

Work submitted after the end of class will have 15 points deducted.

The hardcopy must be submitted by you. **Or a friend or family member** who is nice enough to turn it in for you. Electronic submission is not accepted. I do not accept student work in my mailbox in the Department.

You will be printing out 1-2 pages from each article (approximately 7-10 sheets in a completed packet of work.). You will have to learn how to print a single page from an article otherwise you run the risk of costing yourself a lot of money. Some questions in the THXs will require hand-written answers. These answers will be written on the print-out from the articles.

All written answers are to be in sentence form. Answers not written in sentence form will get an automatic zero.

There will be a total of 10 Take-home Exercises at 15-20 points each.

Pop-quizzes and random additional opportunities for points will occur in class. If you miss the day of a pop-quiz or a pop-exercise then you forfeit the opportunity to try for the points attached to the pop. No "make-up" opportunities will be provided.

Quizzes

The quizzes are worth 50 points each. Content will be drawn from lecture and the articles assigned in the Take-home Exercises.

The quizzes are cumulative, closed note, and copies of the articles are not allowed during testing.

TESTING SCHEDULE: quiz 1 1 March

quiz 2 5 April

quiz 3 final exam session as scheduled by the university

The Grade

Your goal is to accumulate by the end of the semester as many points as possible up to a total of 225.

Your final grade is based upon your total points earned divided by 225.

You are responsible for knowing your own point totals during the semester.

GRADING RUBRIC

- **All answers must be written in sentence form.** Incomplete sentences, bullet-point and/or slashed constructions = 0.
- Hypothetical constructs, solecisms in logic, and hyperbolic assertions = 0
- The page number and author's name are required in citation. No page number in the citation = 0
No name in the citation = 0
- Citation is required.

ABSENCES

Absence from class.

The student is responsible for acquiring missed notes from a class-mate. I do not provide lecture notes.

Absences on a scheduled quiz day.

To schedule a "make-up" session, some form of official documentation must be submitted to confirm the validity of the absence.

The documentation reestablishes your option on the quiz.

An email announcing an absence does not qualify as valid documentation nor does a note from a parent.

The student is responsible for initiating the discussion with the instructor to arrange for a make-up session.

RULES FOR COMPOSITION: generally and specifically

At the university level - Only scholarly sources are to be used. On-line or hardcopy reference materials (such as encyclopedias, biographical dictionaries, web-site quick references, textbooks, enthusiast sites, course materials from other universities, exam-prep summaries, etc.) are **not** acceptable as sources for research compositions.

At the university level - the citation of sources is expected. It is the case that a large proportion of what you write down is pulled from the work of other writers. You are borrowing something from somebody, it is polite to give credit where credit is due. To not acknowledge the source is to plagiarize. (See below at *)

Generally speaking, in your academic and professional career **to avoid plagiarism:**

Direct quotation is a verbatim transcription (a copy) of two or more words the author wrote. A direct quote **always** requires quotation marks and citation (check with your instructor about their preferred citation form). To alter one word of a quote transforms the quotation into a paraphrase (a lame paraphrase but a paraphrase nonetheless). Paraphrased material always requires citation. To paraphrase something is to restate the ideas expressed in a set of sentences written by the author of a source. In other words, to paraphrase is to quote indirectly. Therefore paraphrased material always requires citation, however does not require quotation marks.

*** PLAGIARISM:** To plagiarize is to copy and attempt to present as one's own the ideas, phrasing, and/or order of the work of someone other than one's self. It is in the act of not presenting citation that you make the "attempt to present" the words as yours.

FALSE CITATION is to present a citation to a source that is in fact not the actual source of the content in the essay. False citation is a particularly egregious form of plagiarism.

Attention: If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, contact the office of Disability Resources at 703.993.2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office. With the proper documentation arrangements will be made to accommodate your needs.

The instructor reserves the right to exercise her professional judgment to change any and all terms defined herein.