

History 100.26—History of Western Civilization

MWF 10:30-11:20

Lecture Hall 2

William Burns

Rob B 373 B

9:30-10:30 MW

What is “the West”? And what is its absolutely essential counterpart, the “East”? This course examines the development of the west in relation to its counterparts from the Greeks to the Cold War. We’ll examine how the “West” has defined itself by, fought with, traded with, hated and loved the “East,” remembering always that there are both multiple “West”s and multiple “East”s.” The course also sharpens critical and analytic skills through discussion of primary sources and writing. Attendance 20%, two 5 page papers 20% each, midterm 15%, final 25%.

August 27 Introduction to class

August 29 The Eastern Origins of Western Civilization

August 31 Greeks and Barbarians

Read Pavlac, 1-3

September 3 NO CLASS

September 5 The Persian Wars

September 7 Alexander

Read Pavlac, 4

September 10 The Greek-Jewish encounter

September 12 Enter the Romans

September 14 Discussion: Plutarch

Read Pavlac, 5

September 17 The West becomes Roman

September 19 Christianity: The Eastern origins of a Western Religion

September 21 Discussion: <http://ancienthistory.about.com/od/horace/ig/The-Odes-of-Horace-/Horace-Ode-I-37.htm>

Read Pavlac, 6

September 24 The making of the “Christian West”

September 26 The Barbarian West

September 28 Discussion: <http://www.fordham.edu/Halsall/source/496clovis.asp>

Read Pavlac, 7

October 1 The Papal West **First Paper Due**

October 3 Islam

October 5 Discussion: <http://www.fordham.edu/Halsall/source/pauldeacon-gregla.asp>
<http://www.fordham.edu/Halsall/source/gelasius1.asp>

October 8 NO CLASS
October 10 Charlemagne
October 12 Filioque

October 15 **Midterm**
October 17 Crusades
October 19 Discussion: Joinville
Read Pavlac, 8

October 22 Mongols
October 24 The Renaissance West
October 26 Discussion: Villehardouin
Read Pavlac, 9

October 29 Turks
October 31 Expansion
November 2 Discussion: <http://www.fordham.edu/Halsall/mod/1550sultanavisit.asp>
<http://www.fordham.edu/Halsall/mod/1555busbecq.asp>

November 5 Missionaries
November 7 Science
November 9 Discussion: <http://www.fordham.edu/Halsall/mod/1543xavier1.asp>
Read Pavlac, 10

November 12 Russia between East and West **Second Paper Due**
November 14 Enlightenment
November 16 Discussion: <http://history.hanover.edu/texts/voltaire/volmoham.html>
<http://history.hanover.edu/texts/voltaire/volbrahm.html>
<http://history.hanover.edu/texts/voltaire/volezour.html>
Read Pavlac, 11

November 19 Empire
Read Pavlac, 12

November 26 The East is Red
November 28 The East isn't Red
November 30 Discussion: Fleming
Read Pavlac, 13-14

December 3 9/11
December 5 The (Far) East is rising
December 7 Conclusion of class
Read Pavlac, 15

Books:

Pavlac, *A Concise Survey of Western Civilization* (Rowman and Littlefield)
Plutarch, *Alexander* (Modern Library)

Joinville and Villehardouin, *Chronicles of the Crusades* (Penguin)
Fleming, *From Russia with Love*