Course Description

Examines the development of western civilization from ancient times to the present. Part I of II. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose

Surveys the general history of the Western world from about 3000 BCE to 1600 CE and allows students to reach a basic understanding of the characteristic features of the Western world's early historical development in that span of time. Students will learn about some of the important political, economic, social, intellectual, cultural and religious changes that shaped the development of the West from earliest times.

Course Prerequisite/Corequisite

None

Course Objectives

Upon completion the course, the student will be able to:

- Establish a chronology of historical events in the Western world before 1600 CE. (Addresses general education objectives C and D under information literacy.)
- Explain the changing geopolitical structures of the Western world up until 1600 CE. (Addresses general education objective A and E under culture and social understanding.)
- Define the importance of key individuals and developments in Western civilization before 1600 CE. (Addresses general education objective C and D under information literacy.)
- Identify the social, economic and political forces at work in the evolution of early and medieval Western history. (Addresses general education objective A and E under cultural and social understanding.)
- Recognize and describe the significance of some of the cultural achievements of ancient and medieval Western civilization. (Addresses general education objective C under culture and social understanding.)
- Analyze complex historical sources and materials and reach conclusions based on interpretations of those materials. (Addresses general education objectives A and B under communication and objective d under critical thinking.)

Major Topics to be Included

- 1. The origins of human societies and bronze-age civilization in the West
- 2. The Ancient Near East
- 3. Classical Greece
- 4. Roman Republic and Roman Empire
- 5. The rise and spread of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
- 6. Byzantine Empire and Eastern Europe
- 7. Medieval Europe
- 8. Reformation
- 9. Renaissance
- 10. Explorations