

FD99
Pru

Course Syllabus
HIST 151
World Civilizations 1

Course Day/Time/Place Tu,TH 2-3:20, Henry 221
Instructor: Dr.Lilia Castle
Office Hours: Tuesday 12-1p.m
Phone: 955-6640 H.

Course Description:

This course will introduce students to-history-philosophy- religion- literature-politics-fine arts-greatest creation of world civilizations. The course is designed to give students an understanding of meaning of central ideas of the existance of ancient cultures.

Exams and Creative Projects:

1. There will be a quiz, one final exam dialogue, midterm essay, a creative projects
2. Students will write short tests and two analytical essays in class.
3. Attendance: Students are expected to attend all classes, be prepared and participate if they wish to receive full credit for the course.

Course Grading:

All students will take a mid-term and final exam on the dates scheduled. The exams will be given specific letter and number grades, and will count for a percentage of the total grade, as follows:

90-100	A	Mid-Term Essay-20%
80-89	B	Final Dialogue-25%
70-79	C	Creative Project-10%
60-69	D	In class participation-15%
Below 60	F	Quiz-10%
		Pop Quizzes-10%
		Analytical Essays-10%

Course Texts:

McKay-Hill-Buckler, A History of World Societies

Sophocles, Three Theban Plays

Plato, The Last Days of Socrates

Optional Reading and handouts will be provided...

COURSE SCHEDULE

August 31- Introduction to the Course. The sources of history and historiography. Evolution: Circle or spiral? Message of the Gods. Underwater civilization?

September 2,7- Ethnic Sphere. Ethnogenesis.

September 9,14,16,21- Egypt: Land of the Pharaohs

Pyramids

Natural P.-Mummies-mausoleum-Sacred numbers:3,4,5....3.14?-

Ancient Egypt Standart-Priests and Herodotus-Mystery of Geometry-Kristal of Pharaoh Khofru-Mystery of Egyptian Triangle- Molecule of Water-Pyphagoris-Moses-Lozohodets-Water,tears, information-P. and organic life.- P. and North Pole- P. and Planets.-Legends of Galaxy: Sirius, Orion, Flying P.-Heart and skin of P.-Singing Sands-Pyphagorus and his 10 steps of creation- Apokalips-Energy of P.-P. and Man.

September 23- Backround lecture. The Greek Values, Greek Theatre. Greek Gods.- Dionisus and Christianity:religion of Dionisus as a New Testament of Hellens. Orphic mysteries: original sin in the outlook of the Orphics. Passions of Gods and Heroes. Orgiastic sacraments. Sacred sense of tragedy as an expression of Dionisian ideal. Esthetic ambivalence of tragedy:Dionisus and Apollo -two poles in art. Catharsis in the theyry of Aristotel.. Dionisus and Nietzsche.

Reading: Handouts + Sophocles, The Three Theban Plays Handouts: Dorothy Sayers, Oedipus Simplex. At home: Prepare answer to questions on "Oedipus the King.

September 28- Discussion of "Oedipus the King"

Questions:

1. Oedipus is under curse; he must kill his father and marry his mother. Does this leave him no choice or does he still have choices within the framework of the prophecy?
2. Does Oedipus's pride and his anger make the situation worse for him?
3. Who is the tragic hero?
4. What idea do you have of the Gods from this play? Are they benevolent, evil or beyond good and evil?

Home reading: "Oedipus in Colonus"

September 30 - Discussion of Oedipus at Colonus.

Questions:

1. In what ways does love play a part in this play? As love of Ismene and Antigone for their father/. Messenger speaks to the audience. How does Oedipus show his love for his children in this play? How do they show love for him?
2. Do events of this play cast a different light on the Gods and their purpose in cursing Oedipus? Could you argue that Oedipus learned wisdom from his experiences?
3. How do the characters of Creon and Polynices foreshadow their roles in Antigone? How do their choices show that they have misused their freedom? How does the character of Theseus show his wisdom and compassion?

At home: reading "Antigone"

:

October, 5 Discussion.

1. Is Antigone free to stay alive or is she fated to die? Under what conditions could she live? What would she betray by staying alive?
2. Polynices is not a very sympathetic in Oedipus at Colonus. Is it love for her brother or sense of moral obligation which makes Antigone sacrifice her life to bury her brother? What would Oedipus have said about her choice?
3. Creon shows pride that is offensive to the Gods in this play. Compare Creon's pride with Oedipus' in the first play of this cycle. How is Creon punished? Is his punishment worse than Oedipus'?

October ,7 Concluding lecture:ideas of freedom,responsibilitylove and Gods in Greec plays.Connection of this with mystery religion and philosophy. The district of Colonus mentioned in the two plays is very close to the site of Plato's Academy. Is this only a coincidence?

Greek music, slides

October 12, 14, Socrates. Discussion of his life and teaching.

Questions:

- 1.Many philosophers think,that the central problem of the Euthyphro is following: Do the Gods love justice because it is just,or is justice just because the Gods love it? How would you solve this problem?
- 2 Is the contrast between Socrates and Euthiphro a contrast between faith and reason?
3. What does Socrates love? What does Euthiphro love?

Reading: "The last Days of Socrates. Euthyphro"

Video:Barefoot in Athens"

Oct.19,21 Discussions of 'Apology" and "Crito"

Questions:

- 1.Why was Socrates condemned? Could he have avoided this condemnations?How?
- 2.What must be convinced of before he is willing to escape from prison? Does Crito convince him?
3. How does Apollo's statement that 'No one wiser that Socrates" cast light on the Greek Ideas of the Gods? What effect did this statement have on Socrates life?

"Barefoot in Athens"

Oct.21 Reading "Faedo" .Discussion

There are a number of arguments for immortality in this dialogue.

- 1.Which seem to you to be bad argument?Why?Which seem to you to be good argument? Why?
- 2.What do we know about life after death?

Themes of creative projects due.

Oct26 Sceptical and mystical philosophy.

4

Reading: Dialogue: "Is via egativa a kind of skepticism?" by R.Purtell and L.Castle

Theemes for midterm dialogue:

#1. Write a dialogue between two Thebans, one taking the position that Oedipus and Antigone were responsible for there own sufferings, and the other arguing, that they were innicent. Make sure ,each side has some good arguments.

#2. Write a dialogue between two Athenians, one ,arguing that Socrates should have been condemned, the other arguing that he was innocent.,-make sure each side has some good arguments.

#3 Free choice.

November 4, 9, The Old and New Testament, The Koran, Religion and symbol. To read " The fall of Man",700 B.C., Sermon on the Mount". Why is there suffering? What sort of goals and actions give meaning to our lives? Can we live by bread /science,logic..etc/ alone? What is the role of religious in guiding our lives?

Essay #2

Nov. 16,18, EASTERN VALUES. Truth through reason or intuition?

What shall we look to for guidance,nature or man's actions?

Reading from the Confician "Analects", 500 B.C. and 'Tao The Ching, 300 B.C., and from Japanese poets. Our relationship with man and nature? How do the Eastern and Western approaches to virtue compare?

From beauty of the world toward the freedom from the world...

Video: "Nicholas Roerich".

RUSSIAN CIVILIZATION: Geography.-East Slavs.-Kievan and Moscovite Russia X-XV111. 'Norman theory'.Russian Princes.- Religion and culture X-XV11 : Doctrine of the Third Rome.- Religious Holidays on Holy Russia.-Russian Orthodox Church .-Ecclesiastical reforms of Nicon;-Schizm.-Culture:Architecture,icons,pictorial art, folk art, church music and secular music, literature, education

Video: ' Andrei Rublev", 'Ivan the Terrible"
Handouts; Prince Trubetskoy:"Theology in color"

Nov. 23, Queez /Questions will be provided/

Nov.30 , Sex and marriage in Ancient World
Reading; will be provided

Dec.2, 7 EUROPE IN THE MIDDLE AGES.
Reading: Ch.13.

Dec.9,14 RENAISSANCE and REFORMATION.
Reading Ch.15

Dec.16 RELIGIOUS WARS;
Reading: Ch.16

Dec.21 Final Exam