

**NEOSHO COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
MASTER COURSE SYLLABUS**

**COURSE IDENTIFICATION**

Course Code/Number: HUM 204

Course Title: Western Civilization I

Division:  Applied Science (AS)  Liberal Arts (LA)  Workforce Development (WD)  
 Health Care (HC)  Lifetime Learning (LL)  Nursing  Developmental

Credit Hour(s): Three (3)

Effective Date: SU 2017

Assessment Goal Per Outcome: 75%

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This is an interdisciplinary course of study that critically examines the ideas and values of Western culture from ancient beginnings in Africa, the Near East, Mesopotamia, Israel, Greece, and Rome through the Middle Ages, Reformation, Renaissance and to the beginning of the Early Modern period. It emphasizes the reading and discussion of some of the most influential writings and ideas that have shaped the intellectual and cultural heritage of the Western world. The presentation of the material is both historical and thematic. It is a study of the past organized to help us better understand the present and to direct attention to the enduring questions about how to lead a satisfying and worthwhile life. Themes are selected to focus thought and discussion upon such issues as: 1) the good life; 2) work and economic life; 3) the citizen and the state; 4) knowledge and education; 5) intimacy and social life; 6) nature and the supernatural; and, 7) morality and self-realization.

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS/PREREQUISITES AND/OR COREQUISITES**

None.

**TEXTS**

The official list of textbooks and materials for this course is found on Inside NC.

<http://www.neosho.edu/ProspectiveStudents/Registration/CourseSyllabi.aspx>

## **GENERAL EDUCATION OUTCOMES**

1. Practice Responsible Citizenship through:
  - identifying rights and responsibilities of citizenship,
  - identifying how human values and perceptions affect and are affected by social diversity,
  - identifying and interpreting artistic expression.
2. Live a healthy lifestyle (physical, intellectual, social) through:
  - listing factors associated with a healthy lifestyle and lifetime fitness,
  - identifying the importance of lifetime learning,
  - demonstrating self-discipline, respect for others, and the ability to work collaboratively as a team.
3. Communicate effectively through:
  - developing effective written communication skills,
  - developing effective oral communication and listening skills.
4. Think analytically through:
  - utilizing quantitative information in problem solving,
  - utilizing the principles of systematic inquiry,
  - utilizing various information resources including technology for research and data collection.

## **COURSE OUTCOMES/COMPETENCIES (as Required)**

Upon completion of this course a student should be able to:

1. Critically discuss the ideals and values that shaped the beginnings of Western culture.
2. Explain some of the important writings and ideas that influenced the early intellectual development and cultural heritage of the Western World.
3. Explain what some influential early writers said about a satisfying and worthwhile life.
4. Compare and contrast ideas from early influential writers about what constitutes a good life.
5. Express and support with opinions from early influential writers ideas about work and economic life.
6. Compare and contrast ideas from early influential writers about the relationship between a citizen and the state.
7. Compare and contrast ideas from early influential writers about knowledge and education.
8. Express and support with opinions from early influential writers ideas about personal intimacy and social life.
9. Compare and contrast ideas from early influential writers about nature and the supernatural.

10. Express and support with opinions from early influential writers ideas about morality and self-realization.

## **MINIMUM COURSE CONTENT**

The following topics must be included in this course. Additional topics may also be included.

- I. **Introduction**
- II. **The River Valley Civilizations**
  - A. Mesopotamian Civilization
  - B. Egyptian Civilization
- III. **Ancient Israel**
  - A. Civilization of Ancient Israel
  - B. The Hebrew Bible
- IV. **Greek Civilization**
  - A. Greek Forerunners (Minoans and Myceneans)
  - B. Greek Civilization
  - C. Greek Tragedy
  - D. Pre-Socratic Philosophy and Science
  - E. Greek Philosophy and Politics
- V. **Roman Civilization and Early Christianity**
  - A. Roman Origins
  - B. Roman Civilization and Literature
  - C. The Worldview of Stoicism
  - D. Early Christianity and Its Texts
- VI. **Medieval Civilization**
  - A. The Decline of the Roman Empire
  - B. The Emergence of Western Christendom
  - C. Byzantine Civilization
  - D. The Birth and Growth of Islamic Civilization
  - E. Medieval European Christian Civilization
    - 1. Education, philosophy, and theology
    - 2. Society and Literature
    - 3. The Church
- VII. **The Renaissance and the Reformation**
  - A. The Renaissance
    - 1. The Rebirth of Classical Thought
    - 2. The Italian Renaissance
    - 3. The Northern Renaissance
    - 4. The Renaissance and Politics
  - B. The Reformation
    - 1. Martin Luther and the Fragmentation of Western Christianity
    - 2. The Spread of the Protestantism
    - 3. The Religious Wars
    - 4. The Counter Reformation

## **VIII. The Scientific Revolution**

- A. The Origins of Modern Science
- B. Deduction and Induction
- C. Galileo: Pioneer of Physics, Astronomy and the Scientific Method

## **STUDENT REQUIREMENTS AND METHOD OF EVALUATION**

### INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

For specific instructional methods see the syllabus supplement on the syllabus page for this class on Inside NC.

### STUDENT REQUIREMENTS AND METHOD OF EVALUATION

A = 90–100% B = 80–89% C = 70–79% D = 60–69% F = 0–59%

For specific instructional methods see the syllabus supplement on the syllabus page for this class on Inside NC.

## **ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT GAIN**

The purpose of assessing student learning at Neosho County Community College is to ensure the educational purposes of the institution are met and appropriate changes are made in program development and classroom instruction to allow for student success. The instructor(s) of this course will determine the methods of assessment most appropriate and complete an assessment report at the end of the course.

### Attendance Policy

1. NCCC values interactive learning which promotes student engagement in the learning process. To be actively engaged, the student must be present in the learning environment.
2. Unless students are participating in a school activity or are excused by the instructor, they are expected to attend class. If a student's absences exceed one-eighth of the total course duration, (which equates to one hundred (100) minutes per credit hour in a face-to-face class) the instructor has the right, but is not required, to withdraw a student from the course. Once the student has been dropped for excessive absences, the registrar's office will send a letter to the student, stating that he or she has been dropped. A student may petition the chief academic officer for reinstatement by submitting a letter stating valid reasons for the absences within one week of the registrar's notification. If the student is reinstated into the class, the instructor and the registrar will be notified. Please refer to the Student Handbook/Academic Policies for more information
3. Absences that occur due to students participating in official college activities are excused except in those cases where outside bodies, such as the State Board of Nursing, have requirements for

minimum class minutes for each student. Students who are excused will be given reasonable opportunity to make up any missed work or receive substitute assignments from the instructor and should not be penalized for the absence. Proper procedure should be followed in notifying faculty in advance of the student's planned participation in the event. Ultimately it is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor in advance of the planned absence.

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

NCCC expects every student to demonstrate ethical behavior with regard to academic pursuits. Academic integrity in coursework is a specific requirement. Definitions, examples, and possible consequences for violations of Academic Integrity, as well as the appeals process, can be found in the College Catalog, Student Handbook, and/or Code of Student Conduct and Discipline.

## **ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY**

Student cell phones and other personal electronic devices not being used for class activities must not be accessed during class times unless the instructor chooses to waive this policy.

### **NOTE:**

Information and statements in this document are subject to change at the discretion of NCCC. Students will be notified of changes and where to find the most current approved documents.

## **NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY**

The following link provides information related to the non-discrimination policy of NCCC, including persons with disabilities. Students are urged to review this policy.

<http://www.neosho.edu/Departments/NonDiscrimination.aspx>

## **COURSE NOTES**