



## **HST 102: Western Civilization: Ancient and Medieval Europe**

### **I. COURSE OVERVIEW**

In this introductory 7.5 week, three credit course, we will explore European civilization from its beginnings in ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia to the voyages of Christopher Columbus. We will study politics, warfare, trade, religion, art, culture, and daily life, as well as the legacy of ancient and medieval civilizations to the modern world.

#### **Learning Objectives**

By the end of this course you will be able to:

- Describe the civilizations of Egypt, Greece, Rome, and the Middle Ages.
- Describe the historical relations between Europe and the larger world.
- Analyze the transformation of human institutions and beliefs over time.
- Evaluate the legacy of ancient and medieval cultures in our world today.

### **II. WEEKLY ACTIVITIES AND TIME COMMITMENT**

Class preparation means completing the assigned readings and reviewing all information required for that week. Attendance in an online course means logging into edX on a regular basis and participating in all of the activities that are posted.

This 7.5week, three credit course requires 135 hours of student work. Therefore, expect to spend approximately 18 hours per week preparing for and actively participating in this course.

#### **Course Content and Assignments**

## Videos

- **Lectures** from your instructional team on specific topics, designed to help you learn key concepts
- **Guest lectures** by experts in the field
- **Slide presentations** covering various topics, geographic locations, and moments in history

## Readings

Our course makes use of open educational resources (OERs), no purchase necessary. You will find required readings on the subject matter each week.

## Graded Assignments

Graded assignments are required and count toward the final grade for ID Verified students planning to earn credit or a verified certificate. Students will submit *all* assignments via the edX platform.

**Quizzes:** There are **seven** quizzes, one each week. Each quiz is open book, but must be completed by you (see the Academic Integrity section). The quizzes are multiple choice and based on the week's readings, lectures, and video materials. The seven quizzes count 30% toward your final grade. You may take a quiz at any time during the week.

**Midterm and Final Exams:** There are **two** required proctored exams, a midterm exam covering content from weeks one through three (15%), and a final exam covering content from weeks four through seven (20%). ID verified students will be prompted to take the midterm and final exams in a proctored environment.

**Content Mastery:** There are **seven** interactive content mastery exercises for the course, one per week. They will count as 30% of your grade. You must achieve level 1 on each Content Mastery activity.

Whereas quizzes measure student knowledge of detail, Content Mastery exercises ensure that students have mastered basic core knowledge for each week. A quiz on ancient Egypt might ask you why Ramses II was a significant Pharaoh, the Content Mastery exercise would make sure you knew where to find the Egypt on a map.

**Design Project:** There is a design project that will count as 5% of your total grade. Weekly readings, videos, and lectures will help you determine a topic for your

design. You will pick some element related to one of the course learning objectives as your focus for the project:

Course Learning Objectives:

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How you design and develop the project will be your choice. There are ***no word count or format restrictions***. Some suggestions include: paintings, illustrations, sculptures, magazine article, blog post, written report, music, podcast, a video, a book report. The project is due the final week of the course. You will submit the project (by link if it is an external audio, video, or large image file), as a self-assessment. In addition, if you would like to share your project, you can include it on the discussion board for peer feedback. Additional information will be provided in the course.

The grade is given for completing the project, not for content. If you submit a completed design project, you earn the 5%. If you do not, you do not.

### **Ungraded Assignments**

These assignments are optional but strongly encouraged in order to maximize your learning, as well as interaction with your peers and course team.

**Topical Discussion Questions:** Discussion questions are open-ended and exploratory, allowing students to articulate viewpoints in situations where there is more than one correct answer. Each week there will be two questions posted, which are related to that week's content. These discussions will not be graded, but you are encouraged to engage with these questions by posting responses, responding to your classmates, or asking further questions.

**Introductions:** Please visit the "Introduce Yourself" subsection located in "Before the Course Begins," to tell the course team and class a little bit about yourself and where you are from.

### III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND COMMUNICATION

#### Course Requirements

**Recommended Prior Knowledge:** To be successful in this course, we recommend English language fluency and computer literacy.

#### Course Communication

All communication will take place in discussion boards, course updates, and on the course home page.

**General Questions and Answers Discussion Forum:** There will be a dedicated discussion forum for each week where you can post general questions and comments about the subject matter, as well as direct inquiries for the instructor and course team. Please use this forum to ensure timely response.

### IV. STUDENT EVALUATION

Here is the breakdown of your grade:

| Item (number)            | Weight | Proctored                             | Graded  |
|--------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Quizzes (7)              | 30%    | No                                    | Yes   |
| Content Mastery (7)      | 30%    | No                                    | Yes   |
| Midterm Exam (Weeks 1-3) | 15%    | Yes (ID Verified)<br>No (Audit Track) | Yes   |
| Design Project           | 5%     | No                                    | No (5% grade given if completed project is submitted) |
| Final Exam (Weeks 4-7)   | 20%    | Yes (ID Verified)<br>No (Audit Track) | Yes   |

Final grades are based on the number of points you earn on the course activities listed above. There is no extra credit available. You can see your percentage of the total points to date on your edX progress page. Final scores will be absolute as follows: 90% or better will receive an A, 80% or better a B, 70% or better a C, below 70% is a failing grade. There will be no + or - added to grades.

You must pass the course with a grade of C (70%) or higher, and be on the ID verified track, in order to be eligible for credit from Arizona State University. Please note that exams that fail the proctoring review will result in an assignment grade of 0. A student earning an overall grade of a C or higher who fails proctoring is not eligible for a certificate. If your proctored exam is marked suspicious, you have up to 75 days from when you completed the exam to appeal the decision. After that time, appeals will not be accepted or reviewed.

*Note: You have **up to one year to purchase credit** after you become eligible. Please see Section IX, below, "Taking this Course for ASU Credit or edX Verified Certificate," for specifics on fees and deadlines.*

## V. GFA POLICIES

**Assignment Deadlines:** This is an online course. Your instructional team will provide all content and learning activities on our edX platform. All course interactions will use Internet technologies; it is your responsibility to review all content, fulfill all assignments on time, and ask any questions you have in our designated discussion area.

Late assignments will not be accepted at any point during the course. We recommend that you establish your time management schedule for this course during the first two days that the course is open to meet all course obligations. For time management tips, sign up for the [GFA Orientation course](#) and review the [Time Management](#) section.

**Subject to Change Notice:** All material, assignments, and deadlines are subject to change. It is your responsibility to read the course announcements regularly to be aware of any changes or updates in the course.

**Academic Integrity:** Academic honesty is expected of all students in all coursework and exams. The possible sanctions include, but are not limited to,

appropriate grade penalties, course failure (indicated on the transcript as a grade of E), course failure due to academic dishonesty (indicated on the transcript as a grade of XE), loss of registration privileges, disqualification, and dismissal. For more information, review ASU's [Academic Integrity Policy](#) and [edX's Terms of Service](#).

## VI. UTC TIME ZONE

To accommodate students from across the globe, all deadlines are posted in UTC time, the global standard. Please see the “Course Information and Support” or “Important Deadlines” subsections in “Before the Course Begins” for a detailed explanation.

Remember, it is your responsibility to understand UTC and determine the due dates and times for your timezone. Make sure you address this, ideally before the first set of assignments is due, and definitely before the midterm, to avoid any unnecessary stress. **Deadline extensions will NOT be granted for misunderstanding UTC time.**

## VII. GENERAL AND TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

This course is best accessed by a reasonably modern browser on a laptop or desktop computer. Course videos can be accessed using the edX app for iPhone and Android. For more information about mobile, review [edX on the Go](#).

Students who are interested in taking the course for credit will need additional computer requirements and skills to access the remote proctor service. Please see the [Software Secure](#) site, which details Proctor Now's requirements.

If you are not certain about your system, it is highly recommended that you complete the practice proctored exam to confirm system compatibility.

## VIII. GENERAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

**Student Support and General Technical Issues:** Please access the [edX Help Center](#) for solutions to common problems. Please also be sure to review our “Before the Course Begins” section for further information. If you are still experiencing issues, you can reach out to [gfa@edx.org](mailto:gfa@edx.org).

**Accessibility:** If you are a student with a disability, and you would like to request an accommodation, please send an email to [accessibility@edx.org](mailto:accessibility@edx.org).

**Proctoring:** For students taking the midterm and final exams proctored, please do the following to address any technical issues:

1. Contact our proctoring partner, Software Secure, at 1-855-436-2039 for US and Canada and 1-617-658-2879 for International (Outside US and Canada).
2. Send an email to edX at [gfa@edx.org](mailto:gfa@edx.org).

*Both Software Secure and edX must be informed of the issue to ensure resolution.*

Please put “Problem with proctored exam” in the subject line. Also, provide as much information as possible, including screenshots, error messages, and urgency due to upcoming deadlines.

## **IX. TAKING THIS COURSE FOR ASU CREDIT OR edX VERIFIED CERTIFICATE**

**ASU Credit:** Students wishing to take this course for ASU credit are required to do the following:

- ID verify by October 20, 07:00 UTC
- Opt in to proctoring for ***both the midterm and final exams***
- Pass the course with a C or better (70% or higher)

**Verified Certificate:** Students wishing to take this course for a verified certificate are required to do the following:

- ID Verify by October 20, 07:00 UTC
- Pass the course with a C or better (70% or higher)

**Cost:** The course is 3 credits.

- ID verification: \$49 USD/course
- Credit: \$600 USD/course.

*Students who have ID Verified must opt in for proctoring if they wish to be eligible for ASU credit. **Please note that exams that fail the proctoring review will result in an assignment grade of 0. A student earning an overall grade of a C or higher who fails proctoring is not eligible for a certificate. If your proctored exam is marked suspicious, you have up to 75 days from when you completed the exam to appeal the decision. After that time, appeals will not be accepted or reviewed.***

### **ID Verification Status**

When you verify your identity for an edX course, that verification is effective for one year. Your dashboard provides the status of your ID verification.

You must be ID verified in order to complete proctored exams. Please check your verification status regularly.

It will take a few days for the ID verification process to be completed, so please plan accordingly. Deadlines will not be extended due to re-verification issues.

### **Purchasing Credit**

**Important:** Provided you have met all requirements for this course, you can purchase credit (\$600 USD) from ASU for **up to one year** after you become credit eligible.

Your date of eligibility **may differ** from the course end date or the date certificates are issued. Please visit your course progress page, specifically the “Requirements for Course Credit” section, to see the status of your credit eligibility.

Please review “Important Information on Credit Eligibility and Proctoring” in your “Before the Course Begins” section for additional details.

**Note:** Potential limitations of internet connectivity by some countries are beyond the control of Arizona State University and may limit the ability of an ID Verified student residing in those countries to complete all the assessments, and therefore potentially impede the eligibility to earn college credit. Students impacted by such limitations should contact [gfa@edx.org](mailto:gfa@edx.org).