Department:

History

Course Description:

This course provides an introduction to the political, social, and economic development of the ancient world from 5000 BCE to the collapse of the Roman Empire (roughly 500 CE). The course will examine the similarities and differences between various cultures and civilizations and how the past has influenced the modern world.

Course Competencies:

Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Critically analyze and explain the ancient world as a series of historiographical discussions.
2. Describe the overall political, social, diplomatic, and cultural perspectives of the ancient world.
3. Describe the basic tools of historical research and distinguish between primary and secondary sources.
4. Explain the impact of ancient history on the modern world view.
5. List and describe historical movements in the ancient world and explain how they influenced our modern world view.
6. Trace the development of Mesopotamian civilizations.
7. Describe and contrast the Old, Middle and New Kingdoms of ancient Egypt.
8. Explain the significance of Greek culture and its impact on the modern world view.
9. Explain the significance of Roman culture and its impact on the modern world view.
10. Describe the causes for the collapse of the Roman Empire.
11. Trace the rise of the Christian religion.
12. Explain the impact pagan religions had on Christianity.
13. Describe the changes in society in the post Roman Empire.
15. Trace the development of the Byzantine Empire.
16. Explain the significance of the Byzantine Empire.

Course Content:

A. The Civilizations of the Ancient Near East, 5000 BCE
B. Egypt, 3200-1000 BCE
C. The Ancient Near East, 1200-500 BCE
D. Greece,2000-600 BCE
E. The Emergence of the City State
F. The Persian Wars
G. Athens: Democracy and Empire
Introduction to Ancient History

Prerequisites: None

3 Credit Hours (Lecture)

H. From Aeschylus to Aristotle
I. The Struggle for Power, 431-338 BCE
J. Alexander of Macedon and the Expansion of the Greek World
K. The Hellenistic World
L. The Etruscans and Early Rome
M. Rome Becomes a Mediterranean Power
N. From Gracchi to Caesar, 133-55 BCE
O. The Fall of the Roman Republic, 55-31 BCE
P. Augustus and the Founding Empire
Q. Consolidating the Empire, 14-138 CE
R. Administering and Defending the Empire
S. Social and Economic Life in the Empire
T. Transformations: The Roman Empire, 138-313 CE
U. The Foundations of Christianity
V. The Empire in the Fourth Century
W. The Emergence of the Byzantine Empire

Learning Assessments:

Course competencies will be assessed by regular written examinations and book reviews. A research paper may also be assigned, and other assessment material may be used as the instructor deems appropriate.

Instructional Materials:


Guidelines for Requesting Accommodations Based on Documented Disability or Medical Condition

It is the intention of Highland Community College to work toward full compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, to make instructional programs accessible to all people, and to provide reasonable accommodations according to the law.

Students should understand that it is their responsibility to self-identify their need(s) for accommodation and that they must provide current, comprehensive diagnosis of a specific disability or medical condition from a qualified professional in order to receive services. Documentation must include specific recommendations for accommodation(s). Documentation should be provided in a timely manner prior to or early in the semester so that the requested accommodation can be considered and, if warranted, arranged.

In order to begin the process all students must complete the “Disabilities Self-Identification Form” at this link: https://highlandcc.edu/pages/disability-services.

This form can also be accessed at the Highland Community College homepage under Students Services/Student Resources/Disability Service or by contacting the Disabilities Coordinator.