

**Division of Liberal Arts, Humanities, and Education**

**History Department**

<https://www.hccs.edu/programs/areas-of-study/liberal-arts-humanities--education/history/>

**HIST 2311: Western Civilization I | Lecture |14374**

Fall 2019 | 16 Weeks (26 Aug 2019 to 16 Dec 2019)

In-Person | West Loop Center Room 002 | TR 11:00 to 12:30 pm

3 Credit Hours | 48 hours per semester

**Instructor Contact Information** Instructor: Rogan Ellen Ann Brunet, Ph.D.

Office Phone: 713-7182084

Office: Room 256, Cubicle D5

Office Hours: By Appointment

HCC Email: rogan.brunet@hccs.edu

Office Location: West Loop Campus

**Instructor’s Preferred Method of Contact**

[rogan.brunet@hccs.edu](mailto:rogan.brunet@hccs.edu)

I will respond to emails within 24 hours Monday through Thursday; I will reply to weekend messages on Monday mornings.

**What’s Exciting About This Course**

Classes in History may not seem to prepare you for jobs in the real world. This could not be further from the truth. First, good history courses hone your critical thinking skills. In this class, questions, discussion and feedback are encouraged. History is more than just memorizing names and dates. It is giving your educated opinion about the woven threads of our human past. Learning history will make you a well-rounded person.

**My Personal Welcome**

Hello and welcome to History 2311. My name is Dr. Rogan Brunet and I am a full-time history professor at Houston Community College. I have been a history instructor for over twenty years. In this class, we are old-school; I lecture and you take notes. We do not do group projects or discussions. Every so often, we might watch a video. What I need from you, the students, is a commitment to participate in class, ask questions if you feel the need, stop me if you need clarification, and do not hesitate or wait until the last minute (i.e. the end of the semester) if you feel you are in trouble.

**Prerequisites and/or Co-Requisites**

Students enrolled in HIST 2311 must have passed ENGL 1301 (Composition I) or co-enrolled in ENGL 1301 as a co-requisite. (Exception: Dual credit students only need to be placed into college level reading and writing.)

**Eagle Online Canvas Learning Management System**

This section of HIST 2311 will use Eagle Online Canvas (https://eagleonline.hccs.edu) in order to access your grades.

**HCC Online Information and Policies**

Here is the link to information about HCC Online classes including the required Online Orientation for all fully online classes: http://www.hccs.edu/online/

**Eagle Online Canvas Gradebook Notice**

The gradebook tool in Canvas may not accurately reflect your current or final course grade. Consult your syllabus and your assignment grades to calculate your course grade and speak with the professor if you have questions.

**Instructional Materials**

Purchasing a textbook for this class is not required. This course is lecture intensive however and reading a textbook will not replace lecture notes. Any textbook should be used as a supplement to the information presented each day in class.

There will be two monographs (books) that will be given in addition to your regular exams. These readings will not be available for purchase in the book store but you can find them online (see the links on my Learning Web site) or at bookstores in town. The exams for these readings will be essay in content. On the day of the exam, please bring the books with you as this is an open book exam.

**Textbook Information**

Required: ***Creation Stories***, various, provided for you

Required: ***The Great Mortality***, John Kelly

**Tutoring**

HCC provides free, confidential, and convenient academic support, including writing critiques, to HCC students in an online environment and on campus. Tutoring is provided by HCC personnel in order to ensure that it is contextual and appropriate. Visit the HCC Tutoring Services website for services provided.

**Libraries**

The HCC Library System consists of 9 libraries and 6 Electronic Resource Centers (ERCs) that are inviting places to study and collaborate on projects. Librarians are available both at the libraries and online to show you how to locate and use the resources you need. The libraries maintain a large selection of electronic resources as well as collections of books, magazines, newspapers, and audiovisual materials. The portal to all libraries’ resources and services is the HCCS library web page at <http://library.hccs.edu>

**Supplemental Instruction**

Supplemental Instruction is an academic enrichment and support program that uses peer-assisted study sessions to improve student retention and success in historically difficult courses. Peer Support is provided by students who have already succeeded in completion of the specified course, and who earned a grade of A or B. Find details at <http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/supplemental-instruction/>

**Course Overview**

HIST 2311 is a survey of the social, political, economic, cultural, religious, and intellectual history of Europe and the Mediterranean world from human origins to the 17th century. Themes that should be addressed in Western Civilization I include the cultural legacies of Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece, Rome, Byzantium, Islamic civilizations, and Europe through the Middle Ages, Renaissance, and Reformations.

**Core Curriculum Objectives (CCOs)**

History courses

* Critical Thinking Skills—to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
* Communication Skills—to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.
* Personal Responsibility—to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.
* Social Responsibility—to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

**Program Student Learning Outcomes (PSLOs)**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Create an argument through the use of historical evidence.

2. Analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources.

3. Analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on this period of United States history.

**Course Student Learning Outcomes (CSLOs)**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:   
1. Interrogate the meaning and use of the term, “the West.”

2. Discuss the Neolithic Revolution and the importance of river-valley settlements.

3. Identify the first civilizations in the Fertile Crescent and Nile Valley and explain their

contributions to Western Civilization.

4. Trace the rise of monotheism through Hebrew history and its impact on the Western world.

5. Discuss the development of Greek institutions and their influence, especially politics and philosophy.

6. Trace the advance of Roman civilization, from the Republic to the Empire, and explain its influence on Western Civilization.

7. Analyze the rise of Christianity and its impact.

8. Summarize the era of Late Antiquity/Early Middle Ages.

9. Trace the origins of Islam and its influence on the Western world both then and

now.

10. Discuss the High Middle Ages, especially the rise in commerce and trade, and the importance of religious reform.

11. Analyze the late Medieval world, including the catastrophic 14th century.

12. Summarize the Renaissance.

**Student Success**

Expect to spend at least twice as many hours per week outside of class as you do in class studying the course content. Additional time will be required for written assignments. The assignments provided will help you use your study hours wisely. Successful completion of this course requires a combination of the following:

* Reading the textbook
* Attending class in person and/or online
* Completing assignments
* Participating in class activities

There is no short cut for success in this course; it requires reading (and probably re-reading) and studying the material using the course objectives as your guide.

**Instructor and Student Responsibilities**

As your Instructor, it is my responsibility to:

* Provide the grading scale and detailed grading formula explaining how student grades are to be derived
* Facilitate an effective learning environment through learner-centered instructional techniques
* Provide a description of any special projects or assignments
* Inform students of policies such as attendance, withdrawal, tardiness, and make up
* Provide the course outline and class calendar which will include a description of any special projects or assignments
* Arrange to meet with individual students before and after class as required

As a student, it is your responsibility to:

* Attend class in person and/or online
* Participate actively by reviewing course material, interacting with classmates, and responding promptly in your communication with me
* Read and comprehend the textbook
* Complete the required assignments and exams
* Ask for help when there is a question or problem
* Keep copies of all paperwork, including this syllabus, handouts, and all assignments
* Be aware of and comply with academic honesty policies in the HCCS Student Handbook

**Assignments, Exams, and Activities**

**Assignments**

There will be two exams in this course, a midterm and a final. Each exam will consist of an essay question. Each exam is worth 100 pts. **No student will be admitted to the classroom twenty minutes after the exam has begun**. It is assumed that all students will take all exams at the assigned times, unless you make arrangements to the contrary **ahead of the scheduled exam time**. Students will be required to put away all electronic devices, including cell phones, during exams. No blue book is required for your exams.

Please be warned. I do NOT want to see my own lecture notes in ANY of the exams that you hand back to me. One, it counts as plagiarism. Two, this class is designed to develop YOUR critical thinking skills. If you need help, if you feel overwhelmed, if you feel that you cannot do this, come and talk to me. Do not, however, regurgitate the facts that I give you. They are to be used as a springboard for your own thoughts and opinions.

There will be **two** reading exams that will be given in addition to your regular exams. These readings will not be available for purchase in the book store but you can find them online (see the links on my Learning Web site) or at bookstores in town. The exams for these readings will be essay in content. **On the day of the exam, please bring the books with you as this is an open book exam.**

**Grading Formula**

Your grades in this class are a reflection of your critical thinking skills, how well you analyze the data presented to you and how you organize this data into educated opinions. You will do this by writing an essay on each exam. The purpose of an essay is to present your point of view about a given topic. In this class, an essay is the vehicle to demonstrate your mastery of the subject and your organization of these facts into a logical conclusion that states your opinion of the given subject. You will be graded on content and grammar.

Houston Community College now charges higher tuition rates for students who repeat a class for the third time (or more).

Your final grade will be derived from the sum of your midterm (25 %), final (25%), and

reading exams (25% each). The grading scale is as follows:

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

**Final Grades will be available to students by Dec 16. Please note that there will be no curving of grades in this class.**

**Course Calendar**

Aug 27 to 29 Topic One: The Origins of Man

Sep 3 to 5 Topic Two: The Neolithic Revolution

Sep 10 to 12 Topic Three: The Earliest Civilizations, Mesopotamia and Egypt

Sep 17 to 19 Topic Four: Bronze Age Civilizations

Sep 24 to 26 Topic Five: The 13th Century Crisis and Aftermath

**Sept 26th Reading Exam: Creation Stories**

Oct 1 to 3 Topic Six: Classical Greece

Oct 8 to 10 Topic Seven: Alexander and the Hellenistic World

Oct 15 to 17 Topic Eight: ROME (enough said, bring extra paper and caffeine)

Oct 22 to 24 continue Topic Eight

**October 24th Midterm: Topics One to Seven**

Oct 29 to 31 Topic Nine: The West in Transition or Vandals, Mongols and Huns, Oh My!

Nov 5 to 7 Topic Ten: Late Antiquity or the Early Middle Ages

Nov 12 to 14 Topic Eleven: The High Middle Ages

Nov 19 to 21 Topic Twelve: The Really Horrible, Terrible, Not-So-Great 14th Century

Nov 26 **November 26th Reading Exam: The Great Mortality**

Dec 3 to 6 Topic Thirteen: The Late Middle Ages/Early Renaissance Europe

**Dec 12**  **FINAL EXAM 11:00 am Tuesday**

**Syllabus Modifications**

The instructor reserves the right to modify the syllabus at any time during the semester and will promptly notify students in writing, typically by e-mail, of any such changes.

**Instructor’s Practices and Procedures**

**Missed Assignments**

Make-up exams are given at the discretion of the instructor, and only if the student has a university approved reason for missing an exam. You must have the approval of the instructor to schedule a make-up exam. Students will take make-ups at a scheduled time at the end of the semester. **Please note that students are limited to one make-up exam.**

**Extra Credit**: I do not give extra credit assignments so do not ask for special consideration. If you have time for extra credit assignments, then you have time to do the work to pass the class.

**Academic Dishonesty, Plagiarism, Cheating**

Plagiarism, cheating, and other forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited by HCCS policy. Plagiarism is the use of the ideas or words of another person (either in whole or in part) without crediting the source. Plagiarism amounts to the theft of another person’s work and its appropriation as one’s own. Students are also prohibiting from self-plagiarism or turning in work for one class in another class. Cheating involves fraud and deception for the purpose of violating legitimate testing rules. Cheating includes but is not limited to: copying from another student’s test paper, using materials not authorized by the instructor during an exam; collaborating with another student during an exam; knowingly using, buying, selling, etc. whole or part of an un-administered test. Any questions about academic dishonesty should be referred to the Student Conduct section of the College System catalogue. Students caught violating standards of academic honesty will be given an F for the assignment and may be given an F for the course.

Here’s the link to the HCC information about academic integrity (Scholastic Dishonesty and Violation of Academic Scholastic Dishonesty and Grievance):

http://www.hccs.edu/about-hcc/procedures/student-rights-policies--procedures/student-procedures/

**Attendance Procedures**

Attendance will be taken at every class meeting. I cannot stress enough the importance of attending classes. Excessive absences will negatively affect your grade. If you wish to drop this class, please inform me that you intend to do so. It is your responsibility to drop this class if you so desire. HCC mandates that students who miss more than six hours of instruction time can be dropped by the professor. You will receive a grade of **FX** if you stop attending class. **The final date for withdrawal is Nov 1.** If you do not feel you will pass the class, you must take the responsibility to withdraw on yourself or you will receive a final grade of **FX**; you will NOT receive a **W** as your final grade. International students, students receiving financial aid and veterans must be enrolled full time (12 hours) in order to maintain their status. Please keep this in mind if you decide to drop this class. **The HCCS History Department has mandated that NO ‘”W” will be changed to an “F”.** Also, make an effort to arrive in class on time. You will not be penalized if you are late, but excessive tardiness will be noted.

**The final date to drop this class is Nov 1.**

Please be aware of the fact that you are limited to six withdrawals over your college career when you are considering dropping the class.

If *you stop attending classes after the “Last day to withdraw”:*

* Academic consequence – grade of **“FX”** (same impact on your GPA as an “F”)
* Financial consequence – required to repay all or a portion of your financial aid

\*\*Future financial aid eligibility may be affected no matter when you withdraw.

**Student Conduct**

Houston Community College is a diverse institution. Respect for one another is paramount in my class. I do not except any classroom disruptions during the semester.

Furthermore, I want you to realize that you success in this class depends on your taking responsibility for your college experience. This is not high school. I am not a high school teacher. I am not your parent. I am going to treat you like the adult you are, with adult responsibilities.

**Electronic Devices**

If you wish, you may use tape recorders and computers to facilitate note taking in class. Note that if you use a computer to play games or surf the web in this class, it is a distraction to others and I will have you dropped from the class.

All cell phones must be put away during class. Period. If you are expecting an important phone call during class, please inform me, and I will make an exception. If I see you texting during class, I will ask you to leave my classroom for the remainder of the class.

**HCC Policies**

Here’s the link to the HCC Student Handbook <http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/student-handbook/> In it you will find information about the following:

Academic InformationIncomplete GradesAcademic SupportInternational Student ServicesAttendance, Repeating Courses, and WithdrawalHealth AwarenessCareer Planning and Job SearchLibraries/BookstoreChildcarePolice Services & Campus SafetydisAbility Support Services

Student Life at HCC

Electronic Devices

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Equal Educational Opportunity

Student Services

Financial Aid TV (FATV)

Testing

General Student Complaints

Transfer Planning

Grade of FX

Veteran Services

**EGLS3**

The EGLS3 (Evaluation for Greater Learning Student Survey System) will be available for most courses near the end of the term until finals start. This brief survey will give invaluable information to your faculty about their teaching. Results are anonymous and will be available to faculty and division chairs after the end of the term. EGLS3 surveys are only available for the Fall and Spring semesters. EGLS3 surveys are not offered during the Summer semester due to logistical constraints.

<http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/egls3-evaluate-your-professors/>

**Campus Carry Link**

Here’s the link to the HCC information about Campus Carry: <http://www.hccs.edu/departments/police/campus-carry/>

**HCC Email Policy**

When communicating via email, HCC requires students to communicate only through the HCC email system to protect your privacy. If you have not activated your HCC student email account, you can go to HCC Eagle ID and activate it now. You may also use Canvas Inbox to communicate.

**Housing and Food Assistance for Students**

Any student who faces challenges securing their foods or housing and believes this may affect their performance in the course is urged to contact the Dean of Students at their college for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so.

This will enable HCC to provide any resources that HCC may possess.

**Office of Institutional Equity**

Use the link below to access the HCC Office of Institutional Equity, Inclusion, and Engagement (<http://www.hccs.edu/departments/institutional-equity/>)

**disAbility Services**

HCC strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please meet with a campus Abilities Counselor as soon as possible in order to establish reasonable accommodations. Reasonable accommodations are established through an interactive process between you, your instructor(s) and Ability Services. It is the policy and practice of HCC to create inclusive and accessible learning environments consistent with federal and state law. For more information, please go to <http://www.hccs.edu/support-services/disability-services/>

**Title IX**

Houston Community College is committed to cultivating an environment free from inappropriate conduct of a sexual or gender-based nature including sex discrimination, sexual assault, sexual harassment, and sexual violence.  Sex discrimination includes all forms of sexual and gender-based misconduct and violates an individual’s fundamental rights and personal dignity.  Title IX prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex-including pregnancy and parental status in educational programs and activities.  If you require an accommodation due to pregnancy please contact an Abilities Services Counselor.  The Director of EEO/Compliance is designated as the Title IX Coordinator and Section 504 Coordinator.  All inquiries concerning HCC policies, compliance with applicable laws, statutes, and regulations (such as Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504), and complaints may be directed to:

David Cross

Director EEO/Compliance

Office of Institutional Equity & Diversity

3100 Main

(713) 718-8271

Houston, TX 77266-7517 or [Institutional.Equity@hccs.edu](mailto:Institutional.Equity@hccs.edu)

<http://www.hccs.edu/departments/institutional-equity/title-ix-know-your-rights/>

**History Department Chair Contact Information**

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