

**Common Course Outline**  
**HIST 101**  
**Western Civilization I: Ancient and Medieval History**  
**3 Credits**

**Community College of Baltimore County**

**Description**

**HIST 101 – 3 credits – Western Civilization I: Ancient and Medieval History** highlights significant periods in Mediterranean and European history from the earliest civilizations through the Reformation; surveys the major literary, religious, artistic, scientific, political, social, and economic developments that constitute Western civilization up to about C.E. 1550.

**3 credits**

**Prerequisites:** ACLT 052 or ACLT 053

**Course Objectives**

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

1. analyze the role of institutions, individuals, ideas and inventions in shaping the economic, social and political structure of the regions and times covered by the course;
2. identify the various stages of Western civilization according to what is distinctive about each era;
3. compare and contrast the characteristics of various historical cultures with those of preceding and succeeding eras;
4. identify past events that have shaped the present;
5. explain the relationship between ideas and the social institutions and forces that they shape and are shaped by;
6. interpret the way individual and cultural values infuse inquiry;
7. explain the evolution of human ideas about nature, man, the state, and the role of religion in society;
8. describe the cultural diversity that exists within the traditions that constitute Western civilization;
9. describe the place and significance of Western art, thought, and technology in their contemporary social, political, and economic contexts;
10. discuss the role and condition of marginalized peoples (women, the under-classes, and ethnic and religious minorities) within pre-modern Europe and the Mediterranean;
11. examine historical concepts through identification of objective facts;
12. assess the role and value of various academic resources in historical research and analysis;
13. distinguish between both primary and secondary informational sources;

14. locate, evaluate, use and cite both primary and secondary informational sources related to historical topics, and
15. construct historical arguments based on ethical and local presentation of specific historical evidence.

### **Major Topics**

Course topics are arranged chronologically and geographically with certain themes being emphasized within each section.

- I. Methods of historical analysis
- II. Ancient Mesopotamia
- III. Ancient Egypt, the Hebrews
- IV. Homeric and Classical Greece
- V. Hellenistic Greece, Etruscans
- VI. Roman Republic, early Empire
- VII. Late Imperial/Early Christian West
- VIII. Byzantium, Islam
- IX. The Early Middle Ages
- X. The High Middle Ages
- XI. The Late Middle Ages/Black Death
- XII. The Renaissance
- XIII. The Reformation

### **Course Requirements**

Grading/exams: Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member, but will include the following:

- Attendance is a critical part of this course and active participation is expected of all students.
- A minimum of 3 reading assignments, normally consisting of 450 pages or more.
- Exams (minimum of 3) and quizzes (minimum of 3) consisting of a combination of objective and critical thinking/analysis components.
- At least one individual or group oral presentation of relevant materials.
- Written Assignments: Multiple assignments (a minimum of 600 words written in class and 1500 words, out of class) will infuse CCBC General Education Program objectives; at least one assignment worth a minimum of 10% of the total course grade will allow students to demonstrate at least 5 of the 7 General Education Program outcomes.

Students are required to utilize appropriate academic resources.

### **Other Course Information**

This course is an approved General Education course in the Social and Behavioral Sciences category.