

HIS 101
Ancient Mesopotamia to Early Modern Europe

Satisfies: GLO, SBS

LEC: Tu/Th 3:30-4:25pm

R01: F 11:00-11:55am

R02: Tu, 9:30 - 10:25am

R03: Th, 9:30 - 10:25am

In this course we shall explore the politics, society, art, and culture of “the West” from the ancient world to 1789. This course is intended to 1) survey the historical and cultural influences that have shaped European (and, by extension, our own) society; 2) provide practice and training in critical reading of both primary and secondary historical sources; and 3) improve your understanding of the basic elements of historical inquiry: formulating questions, gathering, selecting, and interpreting evidence, organizing the results into a coherent idea, and effectively communicating the results to others. Tuesday and Thursday lectures will introduce the basic historical narrative and historians’ interpretations of it: weekly mandatory recitations (discussion sections) will be devoted to reading, interpreting, and arguing about the primary sources themselves. Requirements consist of about 40 pages of reading per week, participation in recitations, short writing assignments, a midterm exam, and a cumulative final exam.