

**J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College  
Course Content Summary**

**Course Prefix and Number:** HIS 101    **Credits:** 3

**Course Title:** Western Civilizations Pre-1600 CE

**Course Description:**

Examines the development of western civilization from ancient times to 1600 CE. Lecture 3 hours. This is a Passport and UCGS transfer course. Total 3 hours. Total 3 hours per week. 3 credits

**General Course Purpose:**

HIS 101 surveys the general history of Western civilization from about 3000 BCE to 1600 CE and allows students to reach a basic understanding of the characteristic features of Western civilization's early historical development in that span of time. Students will learn about some of the important political, economic, social, intellectual, cultural and religious changes that shaped the development of the West.

**Course Prerequisites/Corequisites:**

None

**Course Objectives:**

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:

Communication

- Explain using written and oral communication the changing structures and development of Western civilization up until 1600 CE.
- Describe key people, periods, and events of Western civilization through 1600 CE using written and oral communication.

Critical Thinking

- Identify and evaluate the social, economic and political forces at work in the evolution of Western civilization from approximately 3000 BCE to 1600CE.
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Neolithic Revolution, Ancient Mesopotamia,  
Ancient Persia and Iran, Ancient Levant (i.e., the Hebrews)  
Complex Near Eastern societies.

Societies and civilizations

of culture, economics, politics, society, technology,

primary sources and materials and reach conclusions

from secondary resources.

Ancient Greece: Suggested Context Minoans, Mycenaeans, The Archaic Age (Age of Homer), Creation of the Polis, Persian Wars, Classical Philosophy, Classical Art and Architecture, Democracy, Athens vs. Sparta, Peloponnesian War, Alexander the Great and Hellenization, Hellenistic Philosophy, Hellenistic Art and Architecture

- Identify and/or explain the origins of complex Greek societies.
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**Major Topics to be Included:**