

GENA2112 Characteristics of Western Culture 2017/2018 (1st Term)

Dr. Frederick Hok Ming CHEUNG, Tel.: 6424-8890;

E-mail: fredhmcheung@gmail.com

F8-9 (3:30-5:15pm) at NAH213

This course will introduce students to some of the themes and characteristics of western culture, such as: aspects on religion, philosophy, politics, and society.

- 1. Sep. 8 Introduction/Ancient Greek Mythology**
- 2. Sep. 15 Ancient Greek Philosophy**
- 3. Sep. 22 Ancient Greek *polis* & Democracy**
- 4. Sep. 29 The Rise of Christianity**
- 5. Oct. 6 The Decline & Fall of the Roman Empire**
- 6. Oct. 13 Medieval Islam**
- 7. Oct. 20 Medieval Feudalism**
- 8. Oct. 27 Medieval Papacy versus Empire**
- 9. Nov. 3 *Magna Carta* & the Liberal Tradition of England**
- 10. Nov. 10 Mid-term Quiz (50%)**
- 11. Nov. 17 Renaissance, Reformation, & Scientific Revolution as
Reaction to the Age of Faith**
- 12. Nov. 24 Thesis, Antithesis, & Synthesis: Age of Faith,
Age of Reason, & French Revolution**
- 13. Dec. 1 Modern Europe & "The Political Collapse of Europe"
& Overall Review**

TO BE ARRANGED: FINAL EXAM. (50%)

Assessment Method:

Mid-term Quiz 50%

Final Exam. 50%

References:

Hollister, C. Warren.

Roots of the Western Tradition

-----.

Medieval Europe

Palmer, R.R. & Colton, J.

A History of the Modern World

Holborn, Hajo.

The Political Collapse of Europe

Keywords: western culture, European history

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, students will be able to

- 1. describe characteristics of western culture, in terms of religion, philosophy, politics and society;**
- 2. identify important events in cultural development of the world;**
- 3. evaluate critically current issues in the western world on the basis of cultural development.**