

**GENA2112 Characteristics of Western Culture  
2023/2024 (2nd Term)**

Dr. Frederick Hok Ming CHEUNG, Tel.:9639-6721

E-mail: [fredhmcheung@gmail.com](mailto:fredhmcheung@gmail.com)

**\*For late add/drop application to the Registry, please use  
my CUHK email: [fhmcheung@cuhk.edu.hk](mailto:fhmcheung@cuhk.edu.hk)**

F8-9 (3:30-5:15pm) 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.

1Jan. 12, 2024	Introduction/Ancient Greek Mythology
Jan. 19	Ancient Greek Philosophy
Jan. 26	Ancient Greek <i>polis</i> & Democracy
Feb. 2	The Rise of Christianity
Feb. 9	HOLIDAY
Feb. 16	The Decline & Fall of the Roman Empire
Feb. 23	Medieval Islam + Medieval Feudalism
Mar. 1	Medieval Papacy vs Empire + Medieval England
Mar. 8	Reading Week
Mar. 15	Mid-term Quiz (50%)
Mar. 22	Renaissance, Reformation, & Scientific Revolution as Reaction to the Age of Faith
Mar. 29	HOLIDAY
Apr. 5	US History
Apr. 12	Age of Faith, Age of Reason, & French Revolution
Apr. 19	Modern Europe & "The Political Collapse of Europe" & Overall Review

TO BE ARRANGED by RES FINAL EXAM. (50%)

**Assessment Method:**

Mid-term Quiz	50%
Final Exam.	50%

**References:**

Hollister, C. Warren.	<i>Roots of the Western Tradition</i>
-----.	<i>Medieval Europe</i>
Palmer, R.R. & Colton, J.	<i>A History of the Modern World</i>
Holborn, Hajo.	<i>The Political Collapse of Europe</i>

張學明 《字源學英文》香港: 商務 · 2017.

張學明 《成語學英文》香港: 商務 · 2019.

張學明 《人物 西洋小史》香港: 商務, 2021.

張學明 《字源釋醫學》香港: 商務, 2022.

**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.