



Lisa Hawkins, highly experienced online college and high school history instructor; MA History, Temple University. The picture you see is not actually Mrs. Hawkins, but someone she fancies herself to be like, Queen Elizabeth I.

World History/Western Civilization I: Ancient to Early Modern: Course Meeting Time, Tuesdays, 12:00 to 1:00PM, Eastern Standard Time

Instructor: Lisa Hawkins lisa@questcourses.com

Course Length: 32 weeks

Recommended for: 9-12 grade (Parents of interested 8th graders should contact me before registering.)

Cost: \$595

Test Readiness: The course is aligned with skills and content covered in a pre- AP World History, the SAT Subject Test in World History or the CLEP Western Civilization I test. Students do not need, however, need to be preparing for a standardized test to take this class.

Prerequisites: None. Application not necessary for high school students.

Required Texts:

- Jackson Spielvogel: Western Civilization, volume 1. Any edition is acceptable, although I recommend you get the full version instead of the brief. Used, cheap copies are widely available on www.amazon.com, www.ebay.com, or similar websites. I describe this textbook, and also explain my reasons for choosing it, on my website, www.questcourses.com.
- Marvin Perry, et. al., The Humanities in the Western Tradition, volume 1. Any edition is acceptable.
- Students will also need to acquire a copy of the movie, Henry V, directed by Kenneth Branagh (1989). Most interlibrary systems will have this available, but it is also available for purchase online.

Live Sessions: Weekly class meetings will be conducted on **Tuesdays 12-1PM, EST** almost every week the course is in session for discussion and reviewing of material. When we do not have a live class scheduled, students will be directed to view a related presentation or video. All live sessions will be recorded and available for students to playback at their convenience. Attendance at the live sessions is not required, but highly recommended! We really enjoy our live sessions together.

Description: *This course will trace the social, economic, and political development of world civilizations and the growth of important ideas from ancient times, beginning with Mesopotamia and Egypt, progressing through Greece and Rome, and then focusing on European developments from the end of the Roman Empire through the mid seventeenth century. It addresses the needs of students who are looking for either a World History course or a Western Civilization course.* Not only will students be mastering much historical content, they will also be learning how to ask questions, seek answers, and make arguments like historians. Students will engage in a variety of learning methods, including textbook study, primary document exploration, creative writing, group discussions, and other projects. Dozens of additional, optional practice quizzes will be uploaded for students who want extra preparation towards a standardized exam. My choices for assignments are well-considered and my classes are very lively. I do everything I can to overcome the limitations of the ‘virtual divide.’

This course will be run on the learning platform called Canvas. Canvas is a user-friendly, powerful platform where parents can be linked to their students and access student material, see grades, and contact the instructor at any time. In addition, families can visit my website, www.questcourses.com, for more information about me, my educational philosophy, and this course in particular.

Time Commitment: The qualified student will spend 5-8 hours per week on this class. This includes time for reading the assigned texts, completing weekly homework, participating in weekly class sessions (via live session or archived recording), and working on on-going projects.

About the Instructor: Lisa Hawkins was born and raised in New York, although she also lived for some time in Miami, Puerto Rico, and on a commune in San Diego. She went to Swarthmore College in the Philadelphia area, where she thought she was going to be research biology major. After almost setting fire to her chemistry lab and mistaking a fake plastic owl for a real one, Lisa realized that a career in lab science was not for her, and probably dangerous for everyone else. Grudgingly, she took a history course her junior year and was immediately hooked for life. She went on to Temple University to earn her Masters in History and Widener University to do graduate work in Education and Literature. In 1993, she married her college sweetheart, and together they have 4 children. Lisa has been an adjunct college professor since 1998, creating courses and teaching in history departments for six universities both live and online. In 2012, she received an "Outstanding Adjunct Faculty" award by one of her universities. Lisa had also been a high school literature and history teacher at an inner-city classically-based academy. When she's not teaching, homeschooling, or reading nerdy history books, she will be watching soccer games, listening to Van Morrison, or enjoying a good movie. Well, her husband questions whether *all* the movies she enjoys are good, since she continues to find *Napoleon Dynamite* funny after several viewings, but that's another story.

Some recommendations from former students (more available at my website):

I just wanted to let you know about the wonderful experiences I have been having in Mrs. Hawkins' World History/Western Civilization I course. Each week, Mrs. Hawkins comes into class with an interesting lecture, colorful power-point slide, and a positive attitude towards learning. I never once became bored during one of her live classes! Though the course work was tough at times, I truly believe I benefitted from it. All of the assignments that I completed, whether they were reading primary sources, watching a history related video, or doing our weekly reading, sparked a love of history within me. Her feedback, too, has assisted me greatly throughout all my assignments. Coming into this class, I had a lot of history-related questions. Mrs. Hawkins was able to thoroughly answer each and every one, leaving me confident and sure about the answer. She has been one of the best teachers I have ever had, and I hope to take several history classes from her in the future. I highly recommend Mrs. Hawkins and her World History/Western Civilization I course!

Sincerely,

Nicholas S. (Aim Academy student)

My daughter came into this world loving history. However, I could not share this passion with her having been scarred from my boring high school classes forcing rote memorization of dry facts and dates that had not meaning to my life at the time. When it came time for my daughter to further her history studies we thought Mrs. Hawkins class would be perfect. We have not been disappointed. My daughter comes away each week with interesting history to share with our family. She loves the interaction of the live classes and having an expert to talk to about history. In addition, she loves interacting with other students who seem to enjoy the subject as much as she does. Western Civilization I has been a challenging class for my daughter who is in the 8th grade. She works hard to keep up with the amount of work and reading, but has been very successful under Mrs. Hawkins direction. We find Mrs. Hawkins to be fair and accessible anytime we need her with problems or questions. Mrs. Hawkins' sense of humor paired with her passion for history makes the class perfect for our needs. We highly recommend Western Civilization I to others. My daughter is looking forward to taking US History and Western Civilization II with Mrs. Hawkins in the future. Thank you, Mrs. Hawkins, for all the thought and care you put into your courses and the passion you share with your students.

Shannon R. (parent of Aim Academy student)