Dear Student,

*Welcome to History 1/Introduction to Western Civilization I.* You have registered for the online section 7110 and I am writing to provide you with important information before we begin the class. The class is entirely online. The class begins April 10 so be sure to have the textbook and log in by April 10.

**Course Overview**

This course covers the main events, actors, and themes of Western Civilization to about 1500. While doing this we hope to develop and improve critical thinking, analysis, and writing skills through the study of Western Civilization’s social, economic and political development.

**IMPORTANT:** The good and bad news is this is an eight week course. Although we will complete the course in only eight weeks, you should be aware that although this is an eight week class we will be covering the same material of a regular semester class. I have condensed some assignments but you will be responsible for about 2 chapters per week. There will be a significant time commitment required and if you are not able or prepared to do this you should reconsider taking the class. Be sure you have the textbook by April 10 as we will have assignments the first week.

**Getting Started**

You will need to log on to our course website no later than April 10. If you do not log on and participate by 11:59 pm, PST, April 10, you may be dropped from the course as a no-show. I will send an email to your LACCD.EDU email address when the class is available. Be sure to read the syllabus and posts in Canvas and the Cyber Café Module to help you get started.

For those new to online classes and for technical questions, tutorials, or other questions related to online education see Valley Virtual:

[http://lavc.edu/virtualvalley/](http://lavc.edu/virtualvalley/)

To access our class website:

[https://ilearn.laccd.edu](https://ilearn.laccd.edu)

Username: Student ID# (no spaces or dashes)
Password: 8888monthday of birth So for a student born Jan 1 88880101 (no spaces or dashes)

**Success:**
In order to succeed, you must have regular access to the Internet. You must log on to our class site to retrieve and submit assignments and to participate in class discussions at least twice in each chapter forum. If you will not be able to participate in this manner, this is not the course for you.

Please note that we will all progress through the course together, at the same pace. This is not a class in which you can complete all the work for the semester in the first week or make it all up in the last week.

The success of this class depends on the willingness of everyone to participate in discussions regularly, and to share ideas in writing. All of our discussions will be asynchronous (not at the same time), not synchronous (e.g., live chat, instant messaging). This will allow you to participate at times suitable for your schedule (with deadlines). Exams will be conducted online and are discussed in the syllabus.

**Technical requirements**

See Valley Virtual above.

**Required Texts**

The following required book is available in the college bookstore:


Older editions will work just be sure not to get a brief edition and get volume I.

If you have any questions always feel free to send me an email at the address below. I look forward to working with you over the fall semester.

Sincerely,

Rick Murray

Email: murrayrf@lavc.edu

Responses to emails will be returned within 24 hours. Be sure to enter a subject (Hist 1 7081) the subject line.