

西方文明史

第一講： 城市與文明

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[「姓名標示—非商業性—相同方式分享」臺灣3.0](#)
版授權釋出】

Course description and requirements

General Education. Humanities. Historical research

- $\frac{3}{4}$ Lecture
- $\frac{1}{4}$ Group presentation (20 + 20 min; 40%) & discussion (10 min; around 10%)
- 2 essays (40%)
- Attendance (around 10%)
- Reading assignments
 - ‘canon’ and historical documents
- Background reading
 - Primary, secondary, tertiary sources
 - The internet (e.g. google.com)/ reference works (EB, OED)/
 - library catalogues + footnotes and bibliography
- Reflect on what you’ve read: what does the document tell you?
 - The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle

Essay writing and oral presentation

- Structure
- One thesis
 - Include relevant facts only
- Objectivity
- Originality
 - Plagiarism
 - On giant's shoulders
 - Footnotes
 - Quotation or paraphrasing
 - Taking notes whilst reading
 - Own work

Cities – the Manifestation of Civilization

- The Early Humans
- The Neolithic Revolution and Village Life
- Civilization in Mesopotamia: the Sumerians, 3200 BCE

‘Western’ Civilization: a timeline

Ancient
3200
BCE-500
CE

Medieval
500-1500
CE

Early
Modern
1500-
1800 CE

Modern
1800-

Classical
500 BCE-200
CE

Late
Antique
200-700
CE

1300-1650
CE

‘Civilization’= a more complex culture

• In common usage = the existence of civilization

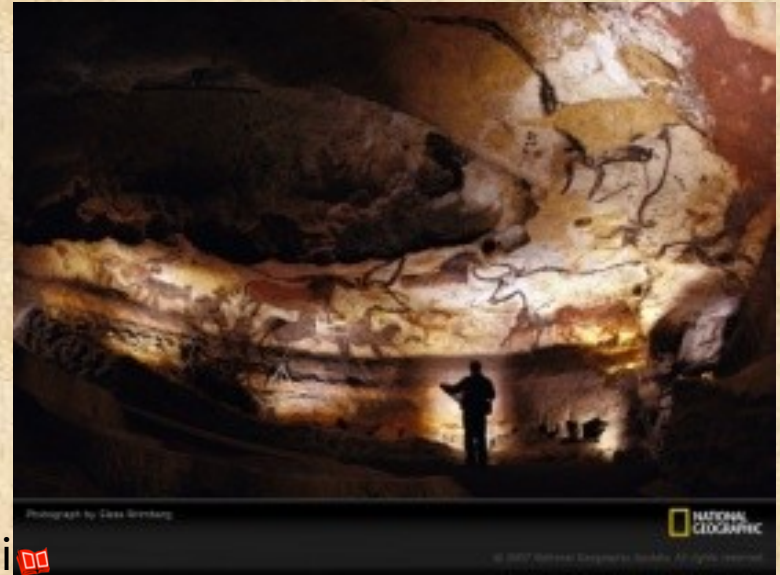
- Civilized behavior;
- Culture and the arts

- Dystopia
- Memento mori



1. The early humans

- Tool making
 - 2,000,000 – 6000 stone
 - 6000-3000 copper
 - 3000-1000 bronze
 - 1000- iron
- The Origins of the Modern Human
 - 4.4 m years ago *Australopithecus ramidus*
 - bipedality
 - 1.9 m years ago *Homo habilis* (man having ability)
 - Brain size, tool-making
 - Gatherers/foragers rather than hunters
 - 1.7 m years ago *Homo erectus*
 - Evolved in different regions of the world: Java man, Peking man
 - Collective hunting; language (cooperation in hunting, distribution of game)
 - Fire



- 150,000 years ago *Homo sapiens*
 - Evolved in Africa, spread across Europe and Asia
- 100,000 years ago
 - Specialized tools, burial
- Complexity
- 40,000 years ago modern human species
 - Cave murals, sympathetic magic – specialization
 - Darts and arrows, harpoons and fishhooks;
big game and community feasts
Nomadic lifestyle
- 12,000 years ago:
end of an Ice Age

2. The Neolithic Revolution

= Agricultural Revolution = origins of food production

- Glaciers receded northwards, bringing big game animals with them
- Humans began to domesticate smaller animals and raise crops, thereby settling down
 - Capture and keep – and breed – sheep and goats
 - Gather grain – help with its grow
- Western Asia first developed fully **sedentary** agriculture 8500-7000 BCE.
 - other independent origins of agriculture in China and the Americas



The Emergence of Villages

- Human organization: wandering band – village – city
 - Sedentary
 - Small percentage of inhabitants not engaged in fieldwork
 - full-time artisans less than 1 % of the population
- Village handicrafts
 - Pottery. Weaving of baskets then of cloth
 - Natural copper (6500-4500), smelted copper (4500-3500), bronze (3500-3000) for making containers, tools and weapons
- Surplus led to trade and warfare
 - Representations of warfare (on pottery) appeared with settled village life; earliest villages were fortified
- Impact of the new sedentary lifestyle:
 - Population growth, occupational specialization, surplus and differentiation in wealth and status

Çatalhöyük, Turkey

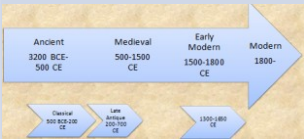




3. Civilization in Mesopotamia: The Emergence of Cities

- Full-time warriors, administrators and priests:
 - leading city dwellers were rulers of the other city dwellers and the inhabitants of **subordinated villages**
- Cities of Mesopotamia
 - 4000 BCE people moved from hilly areas in Iran and Iraq (areas of earliest settled agriculture) into the previously uninhabited Mesopotamia, where artificial **irrigation systems** were necessary for agriculture. Planners, overseers, governors.
 - **Military power** led to governmental power and more military power: a continual spiraling process.
 - Religion could inspire people in large groups to feel **loyal to a common cause**. A full-time priesthood.

版權聲明

頁碼	作品	版權標示	作者 / 來源
5			國立臺灣大學 歷史學系 劉慧 教授。
6			Wikigallery.org (http://www.wikigallery.org/wiki/painting_301834/Pieter-Claesz./Still-Life-with-a-Skull-and-a-Writing-Quill-1628)
6			WIKIPEDIA (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Terminator_3_Rise_of_the_Machines_movie.jpg)
6			WIKIPEDIA (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:I_am_legend_teaser.jpg) , 2012.03.01 visited. 依據著作權法第 46 、 52 、 65 條合理使用。
7			National Geography (http://photography.nationalgeographic.com/photography/enlarge/lascaux-cave-walls-photography.html) ,

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9			Flickr / Johnny Boy (http://www.flickr.com/photos/jnlsnet/2732685093/) , 2012.02.24 visited.
11			Flickr / Zamito44 (http://www.flickr.com/photos/zamito44/5255013574/) 2012.02.24 visited.
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