## **Western Civilization**

It may not answer all of life's questions but it addresses all of the important ones.

Why did Henry order the killing of his buddy Becket?

Did the ancient Hebrews invent time?

What holds



up a Gothic Cathedral?

Why don't we allow the government to favor one religion over another?

Why is Beowulf considered an important work of literature?



What famous astronomer might be accused of harming a moose?



How might ten teenagers spend their time at a villa during the height of the Black Death?



Why do you believe that women have equal rights as men?

Why do Greek



temples look alike?



Who is Socrates and why did Bill and Ted kidnap him?

Why is Agincourt a big deal to Shakespeare?

Who is the Tree



Man?



What is "mugness" and why does it matter?



## Social Studies- History of Western Civilization District Code #1332

## Course Description

History of Western Civilization is a two-semester course open to grades 10, 11, and 12. Students will examine the roots of Western civilization, explore the heritage that comprises the Western experience, and trace the development of those basic themes that constitute Western culture. First semester studies focus on the classical and early medieval antecedents to modern Europe and culminate with the emergence of a distinctive, European civilization. Second semester begins with the High Middle Ages and transitions into thematic units that examine the core components of modern, Western culture. Particular attention is placed on art history, the philosophical and theological traditions of the West, and on the various political developments that have, over time, evolved into Western political thought.

This course is strongly recommended for all AP-bound and college-bound sophomores (the course is open to juniors and seniors as well) and satisfies the world history requirement for entry into California's and Oregon's universities. In Western Civilization, students will hone those academic skill sets and habits that will prepare them for a seamless integration into Advanced Placement American History, AP European History, AP World History, AP American and Comparative Government and a variety of other junior and senior level course offerings in the Department of History and Social Studies.

Interested students are encouraged to discuss this course with their parents and their school counselor to facilitate placement.

Teacher

Mr. Scott Arnold

**Text** 

J. Spielvogel, A History of Western Civilization, 6th ed.