

**SYLLABUS:
INTRODUCTION TO THE
HISTORY OF
EUROPEAN CIVILIZATION**

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Syllabus: Introduction to the History of European Civilization by Albion W. Small

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INTRODUCTION TO THE HISTORY

OF

EUROPEAN CIVILIZATION.

BY

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H. J. HUSTON

NOTE.—Students are advised to use Andrew's "*Institutes*," for Bibliography. References are made throughout to Fisher's "*Outlines of Universal History*." Besides mention of the pages the paragraphs are designated alphabetically.

PREFATORY LECTURE.

I.—OBJECTS OF THE COURSE:

- (a) Outlook over modern civilization.
- (b) Perception of the *continuity* of history.
- (c) Discovery of laws of historical development.
- (d) Practice of historical processes.
- (e) Cultivation of the "historical sense."

II.—IMPORTANCE OF THE STUDY OF HISTORY.

Since "history is past politics" and more, the study of history is the best preparation for citizenship.

III.—SPURIOUS VS. GENUINE HISTORY.

Genuine history is the science of men's endeavors to find out how to work this life for all it is worth.

IV.—PROCESSES INVOLVED IN HISTORICAL STUDY.

- (a) discovery; (b) criticism; (c) interpretation, or
- "(a) Anatomy; (b) Physiology; (c) Physiognomy."

V.—DEFINITIONS. Title of the course; *Introduction to the History of European Civilization.*

- (a) "*Civilization*" is the peculiar social order of a given society.
- (b) Ancient or oriental, vs. modern or occidental, civilizations;
China; Persia; India; Egypt.
- (c) Justification of the term "*Introduction.*"

Modern European society is the resultant of two distinct racial factors: viz. the Romanic and the Germanic; separately and conjointly modified by a third moment, a spiritual force,—Christianity. The currents were permanently mingled by 476 A.D., hence first division into periods, viz.:

1. Origin and conjunction of social forces, 753 B. C.—476 A. D.
2. Europe one community, 476—1500.
3. National differentiations; the transition period, 1300—1500.
4. The epoch of nationalities; after discovery, physical, intellectual, moral; inventions: emergence of democracies, 1500—

Italy, Germany, France, England. In an "Introduction" to the history of European civilization, there should appear an outline of the ideas which formed the basis and framework of society at these different epochs.

VI.—THE GOAL OF HISTORICAL INVESTIGATION.

Theories of the "Philosophy of History" are:—

1. The Chaotic; viz., history is the reign of Riot.
2. The Pessimistic. " " " " Satan.
3. The Theistic, " " " " God.
4. The Positivistic, " " " " Force.
5. The "Scientific," " " " " Law.
6. ? to be derived from our study.

VII.—CAUTIONS.

1. The course is simply a preliminary survey.
2. Spirit of study must be sympathetic.
 - (a) Most men in the past, as in the present, supposed their acts to be justifiable.
 - (b) The incompleteness of past achievements was not failure.
 - (c) Conclusion: the study of history is not so much a study of the past as of the present: not the study of physical, but of moral, force.

DIVISION I.

IMPERIALISM, FEUDALISM, ECCLESIASTICISM.

PART I.

THE ROMAN ATTEMPT AT CIVILIZATION.

Fisher, 152-188.

LECTURE I.

The Differentiation of the Empire.

I.—GENERAL CHARACTER OF ROMAN HISTORY.

II.—PERIODS: 1. National development, 753—264 B. C.

2. Foreign conquest, 264—133 B. C.

3. International administration, 133 B. C.—476 A. D.

III.—WITH FOREIGN CONQUEST CAME DOMESTIC REVOLUTION:—

General view. Fisher: 153 a.

1. Extent of Roman dominions. Map opp. p. 174, and 168 b.

2. Relation of the City of Rome to this territory. 151 a.

3. Prevalent ideas of human relations.

4. The Roman constitution.

5. The means of governing the dependencies.

IV.—GOVERNMENTAL MACHINERY CANNOT INSURE GOOD GOVERNMENT.

1. Disturbances under the Gracchi. 153 b. 154 a.

2. Marius and Sulla. 155-7-8.

3. Party struggles between Optimates and Democrats. 162 a, b.
164, 165, 158 c, 159 b, 161 a.

4. War between Octavius and Antony. 166 c, 167.

V.—THE DISTURBING FACTIONS IN THE STATE.

In the last century before Augustus there were four classes which endangered the permanence of the State, viz: