



## King's Foundations Synchronized Syllabus for 2021-2022 History 1901E - English 1901E - Philosophy 1901E

**King's Foundations in Western Thought and Civilization** consists of three fully integrated disciplines – History, English, and Philosophy. Students will investigate the influential texts, ideas, events, and personages from ancient to modern times through an interdisciplinary perspective, with special focus on innovations in form and cultural contexts. The program's timeline highlights both the evolution of Western thought and culture throughout history, as well as the global influences and exchanges that contributed to significant ideas, events, and innovations. The study of art and music and other aspects of culture supports classroom instruction, especially in the many experiential learning events throughout the year. Students will directly engage with the most influential ideas that have shaped the 21<sup>st</sup> century. More importantly, they will learn to evaluate the origins and value of the ideologies and beliefs that continue to influence and challenge contemporary life.

The curriculum is organized around **six** major historical eras. The synchronized syllabus illustrates the careful integration of the program's units. It is designed to help you keep track of readings, assignments, due dates, lectures, and extracurricular activities. Although we will follow a Syllabus, we will be open to being flexible when necessary or desirable.

Unit 1: The Ancient World  
Unit 2: The Medieval World  
Unit 3: Renaissance and Reformations

Unit 4: The Age of Exploration and Encounters  
Unit 5: The Age of Reason, Revolutions and Reaction  
Unit 6: The 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Centuries

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**Class Times: ENGLISH:**  
Tues. & Thurs. 10:00 - 11:20am  
Foundations Seminar: Mon. 2:30-3:20pm

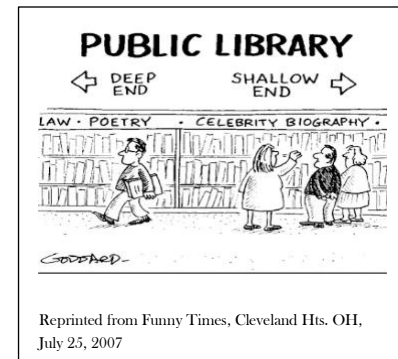
**Class Times: HISTORY**  
Mon. & Wed. 8:30am - 10am

**Class Times: PHILOSOPHY**  
Mon. & Wed. 11:30am - 1pm

**Office Hours:** These will be held exclusively on Zoom unless other arrangements are possible. At the start of term, we will go over the steps to login to a Zoom meeting. Once a time has been scheduled for your meeting, your instructor will send you a Zoom link, which you use to access your meeting.

**Textbooks:**

- *Landmarks in Humanities*, 5<sup>th</sup> edition.
- *The Norton Anthology of World Literature* (NAWL), Volumes A – F.
- Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein* (this will come packaged with your NAWL)
- Additional material will be posted on OWL



**ELECTRONIC STUDY SPACES:**

The Synchronized Syllabus (SS) lists a number of excellent websites that support and enrich your learning in the Foundations program. These are sites from world-class museums and public institutions where the material is written by legitimate scholars and experts in the field. Take some time to familiarize yourself with these sites. They are worth the time and energy spent to explore the hyperlinks to art objects, articles on the history of the period, specific events and people involved, etc. The NAWL text is accompanied by a student site StudySpace. Instructions to access this are at the front of all the volumes. This is a wonderful site full of helpful items such as an alphabetical list of Literary Terms, an Audio Guide to assist with the pronunciation of foreign terms, panorama street views of significant cities, and even a YouTube link to view productions of the dramas. Aside from these, you will find chapter overviews, interactive maps, reading comprehension aids, and self-correcting practice quizzes for all the texts.

**\*\*\*\* Students are asked to turn off their cell phones and other devices and store them in their backpacks or bags during class in order to ensure a pleasant, engaged, and focused learning environment for everyone. \*\*\*\***

Requirements	Value	Due Date
Participation	10% for EACH course (30% across 3 courses)	You will be evaluated throughout the year during class and seminars, and on the experiential assignments.
1 <sup>st</sup> Assignment	5% for EACH course (15% across 3 courses)	Oct. 22, 2021
2 <sup>nd</sup> Assignment	5% for EACH course (15% across 3 courses)	Nov. 19, 2021
3 <sup>rd</sup> Assignment	10% for EACH course (30% across 3 courses)	Dec. 3, 2021
Tests	10% (30% across 3 courses)	Test 1: Oct. 4, 2021 Test 2: Nov. 8, 2021 Test 3: Feb. 7, 2022 Test 4: March 7, 2022
IRP Proposal (together with IRP Presentation)	10% for EACH course (30% across 3 courses)	Jan. 21, 2022
IRP Presentation		Feb. 14 - 17, 2022 (order by ballot)
IRP Final Essay	20% for EACH course (60% across 3 courses)	March 18, 2022
Final Exam	30% for EACH course (90% across 3 courses)	TBA (See April Exam Schedule)

History M & W: 8:30 - 10am	English T & R: 10am - 11:30am	Philosophy M & W: 11:30am - 1pm	Foundations Seminar M: 2:30 - 3:20	Core Text Readings <i>Landmarks in Humanities (LH)</i>	Due Dates:
<b>FIRST TERM</b>					
<b>WEEK 1: Sept. 8 - 10 → Origins and the Idea of the West</b>					
Sept. 8: <b>Introduction</b>	Sept. 9: <b>Introductory Overview</b> of the course. <b>Why study the humanities?</b>  Diagnostic Assignment NOT for marks.	Sept. 9: <b>Introduction: What is Philosophy?</b>  ALSO  <b>The concept of the West and its contemporary critical challenges.</b> [Note: All readings for PHL1901E are on the class OWL site.]	To establish an historical context, please read Ch. 1 "Origins: The First Civilizations" ca. 25,000-330BC. We will consider this background reading.	Required readings in <b>LH</b> will be noted in class or on OWL. But in every chapter, be sure to study carefully the <b>A First Look, Making Connections, Ideas and Issues, Key Topics, and Timelines</b> sections.	
<b>WEEK 2: Sept. 13 - 17 → Epic Heroism and the Power of Heuristic Questioning</b>					
Sept. 13 & 15: <b>The World of <i>The Iliad</i> and <i>The Odyssey</i></b> <i>Iliad</i> , NAWL, Bk. 6, pp. 246-56; Bk. 24, pp. 307-24	Sept. 14 & 16: <b>The Greeks and the Archaic Age:</b> Intro. to Homer in NAWL Vol. A & <i>The Odyssey</i> .	Sept. 13 & 15:  <b>The Birth of Ancient Greek Philosophy:</b> Roots in religion and the thought and cultures of Asia Minor and the Ancient world; Philosophy versus religion, poetry (Hesiod and Homer) and history; the <i>arché</i> ; the Pre-Socratics  [Excerpts of fragments from Thales, Parmenides, Heraclitus, Pythagoras, and Theano of Crotona]	Sept. 13: Integrated Writing Seminar.	Ch. 2 "Classicism: The Greek Legacy" ca. 1200-30BC.	
<b>WEEK 3: Sept. 20 - 24 → What is a Life Well Lived?</b>					
<b>Classical Greece I</b> Herodotus, <i>The Histories</i> (excerpts) (on OWL)	<b>Homer</b> continued.	<b>Socrates:</b> heuristic and dialogical thought; crisis and the birth of philosophy  Reading: Plato's <i>Apology</i>	Sept. 20: Effective Writing Tutorial.		

<b>WEEK 4: Sept. 27 – Oct. 1 → From Eros to Civic Love</b>					
<b>Classical Greece II</b> Thucydides, <i>History of the Peloponnesian War</i> , “Melian Dialogue” and “Pericles Funeral Oration” (on OWL)	<b>Homer</b> concluded. <b>Sappho and the Lyric.</b>	<b>Platonic love</b>  Reading: <i>The Symposium</i>	Sept. 27: Scholarly Citations.		
<b>WEEK 5: Oct. 4 – 8 → The Community and the Individual</b>					
<b>Alexander and the Hellenistic Era</b> Plutarch, <i>Parallel Lives</i> , “Life of Alexander” (on OWL)	<b>Classical Greek Tragedy:</b> Sophocles Intro. and <i>Oedipus the King</i> in NAWL Vol. A & Aristotle <i>Poetics</i> in NAWL Vol. A.	<b>Plato, the good, and politics</b>  Excerpts from the <i>Republic</i> [Books II (justice) and IX (political rule of tyranny and the soul)]	Oct. 4: Test 1	Ch. 2 “The Hellenistic Age” 323-30BC.	Oct. 4: Test 1
<b>WEEK 6: Oct. 12 – 15 → The Role/Rule of Law</b> <b>(Oct.11 is a holiday.)</b>					
<b>The Roman Republic and the Empire</b> Cicero, <i>On the Republic</i> and <i>The Laws</i> (excerpts) (on OWL)	<b>Sophocles/Aristotle</b> continued.	<b>Aristotle</b>  Aristotelian logic and science; ethics, and politics  Reading: <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> , Book V	Holiday: No Seminar.	Ch. 3 “Empire: The Power and Glory of Rome” ca. 500BC-500CE.  Listen to research done at Oxford University on ancient Greek music. <a href="https://www.humanities.ox.ac.uk/article/what-does-ancient-greek-music-sound-like">https://www.humanities.ox.ac.uk/article/what-does-ancient-greek-music-sound-like</a>	
<b>WEEK 7: Oct. 18 – 22 → The Glamour of Evil</b>					
<b>The Heirs of Rome</b> St. Augustine, <i>The Confessions</i> (common text)	<b>Hellenistic Civilization:</b> Autobiography: St. Augustine <i>The Confessions</i> (common text) in NAWL Vol. B.	Later Hellenic thought: Plotinus: Becoming, privation, and the evil of matter:  READINGS: Excerpts from the <i>Enneads</i>  Women in Hellenic philosophy: Hypatia and Hipparchia of Maroneia.	Oct. 18: Integrated Writing Workshop. Bring your questions. Submit your draft to be work-shopped in class (anonymously).	Ch. 4: “Revelation: The Flowering of World Religions” ca. 1300BC-1000CE	Oct. 22: 1 <sup>st</sup> Integrated Writing Assignment.
<b>WEEK 8: Oct. 25 – 29 → Stoicism and Defeat</b>					

<b>Early Christendom and the Early Middle Ages</b> Bede, <i>Ecclesiastical History of the English People</i> (excerpts) (on OWL)	<b>The Early Middle Ages:</b> <i>Beowulf</i> in NAWL Vol. B.	Crisis and Collapse: The fall of Greece and Rome and the birth of Christian medieval philosophy:  Excerpts from Cicero's <i>The Republic</i> , Seneca's <i>Letters</i> , and Marcus Aurelius' <i>Meditations</i>	Oct. 25: Watch Intelligence Squared: "Greece vs Rome." Link on English OWL site. Respond to Poll.	Ch. 5: "Synthesis: The Rise of the West" ca. 500-1000CE	
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**READING WEEK: Oct. 30 – Nov. 7**

**WEEK 9: Nov. 8 – 12 → Memory, Elegy, and Time**

<b>Medieval Islam and Judaism, I</b> Maimonides, <i>The Guide for the Perplexed</i> (excerpts) (on OWL)	Beowulf con't.	Augustine of Hippo and the Christianization of Ancient thought: Greek, Roman, and streams of Asia Minor  Eastern Greek Thought of Byzantium: Gregory of Nyssa and St. Macrina  Readings: Book X of Augustine's <i>Confessions</i> : memory and the soul; Gregory of Nyssa: brief excerpts from <i>On the Soul and Resurrection</i>	Nov. 8: Test 2	Ch. 6: "Christendom" Europe in the Age of Faith" ca. 1000-1300	Nov. 8: Test 2
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**WEEK 10: Nov. 15 – 19 → Faith and Reason Together and Apart**

<b>Medieval Islam and Judaism, II</b> Ibn Tufayl, <i>Hayy ibn Yaqdhan</i> (excerpts) (on OWL)	<b>THE Christian Epic</b> Dante, "Inferno," <i>The Divine Comedy</i> (common text) in NAWL Vol. B.	<b>Arab Philosophy and the birth of Scholastic Philosophy:</b> rethinking the limits of philosophy, knowledge, and religion  READING: Excerpt from al-Ghazali's <i>Deliverance from Error</i>	Nov. 15: Open forum class for questions, exercises, draft editing.		Nov. 19: 2 <sup>nd</sup> Integrated Assignment
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**WEEK 11: NOV. 22 – 26 → Being, Choices, and Consequences**

<b>The Late Middle Ages</b> Dante, "Inferno," <i>The Divine Comedy</i> (common text)	<b>Dante, <i>The Divine Comedy</i></b> con't.	<b>Thomas Aquinas:</b> Rethinking the foundations of knowledge and being	TBA		Nov. 30 is the last day to drop a full
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		READING: Excerpt from Thomas Aquinas's <i>On Being and Essence</i> [ <i>De ente et essentia</i> ]			course without academic penalty.
<b>WEEK 12: Nov. 29 – Dec. 3 → The Awakening of Social Consciousness</b>					
<b>The Crisis of the Late Middle Ages; the Early Renaissance</b> Marsilius of Padua, <i>The Defender of the Peace</i> (excerpts) (on OWL)	<b>Geoffrey Chaucer</b> "The General Prologue" to <i>The Canterbury Tales</i> in NAWL Vol. B.	<b>The Rise of Social and Political Consciousness:</b> Christine de Pisan, Pico della Mirandola and the re-conception of the human.  READINGS: Excerpts from Pisan's <i>City of Ladies</i> and Pico's <i>Oration on the Dignity of Man</i>	Nov. 29: Early Music.	Ch. 7 "Rebirth: The Age of the Renaissance" ca. 1300-1600	Dec. 3: 3 <sup>rd</sup> Integrated Assignment.
<b>WEEK 13: Dec. 6 – 8 → Ideals versus Reality</b>					
Dec. 6 & 8: <b>The Renaissance and Reformation</b> Thomas More, <i>Utopia</i> (excerpts) (on OWL)	Dec. 7: <b>Chaucer</b> con't.	Making sense of the idea of the West in light of its ancient, mediaeval and early modern roots; the decline of worlds and the birth of new ones  No additional readings	Dec. 6: TBA. Possible catch up.	<b>NO CHRISTMAS EXAMS</b>	This week book IRP meeting with your supervisor for Jan. 3 -14. <b>These must be booked with your supervisor in advance.</b>
<b>SECOND TERM</b>					
<b>WEEK 1: Jan 3 – 7 → Power, Politics, and the Personal</b>					
<b>Early Modern England</b> <i>Hamlet</i> (common text) Elizabeth I, <i>A Meditation How to Discern the Lord's Body in the Blessed Sacrament</i> (on OWL)	<b>Elizabethan Britain &amp; Renaissance Drama:</b> Renaissance Tragedy: Shakespeare, <i>Hamlet</i> in NAWL Vol. C.	<b>The Birth of Modern Politics: Power</b>  Readings: Excerpts from Machiavelli's <i>Prince</i> and Thomas Hobbes' <i>Leviathan</i>	Jan. 3: IRP Proposal Seminar.	Ch. 8 "Reform: The Northern Renaissance & and the Reformation" ca. 1400-1650	IRP meeting with your Supervisor.
<b>WEEK 2: Jan. 10 – 14 → Destruction and Depravity</b>					
<b>Contact and Conquest; the Columbian Exchange</b>	<i>Hamlet</i> continued.	<b>The Colonisation of the "New World"; the non-human or deficient soul</b>	Jan. 10: TBA	Ch. 9 "Encounter: Contact & the Clash of	IRP meeting with your Supervisor.

Bartolomé de las Casas, <i>A Short Account of the Destruction of the Indies</i> ; Antonio Valeriano, <i>Nican Mopohua</i> (excerpts, OWL)		READINGS: Excerpts from John Locke on property; Bartolomé de las Casas and the unjust suffering of Indigenous peoples; Francisco de Vitoria and the (deficient) human soul		Cultures" ca. 1400-1650	
<b>WEEK 3: JAN. 17 – 21 → The Clash of Absolutism and Science</b>					
<b>The Scientific Revolution</b> Francis Bacon, <i>New Atlantis</i> (selections) (on OWL)	<b>The Age of the Sun King:</b> Neoclassical Theatre: Molière, <i>Tartuffe</i> in NAWL, Vol. D.	<b>Descartes and Galileo</b>  READINGS: Excerpts from Descartes <i>Meditations on First Philosophy</i> and Galileo Galilei's <i>Dialogue Concerning Two Chief World Systems</i>	Jan. 17: TBA	Ch. 10 "Baroque: Piety and Extravagance" ca. 1650-1750	Jan. 21: <b>IRP Proposal due.</b>
<b>WEEK 4: Jan. 24 – 28 → Reason, Its Limits, and Enlightened Freedom</b>					
<b>The Enlightenment and the Age of Revolution</b> Voltaire <i>Candide</i> (core text) <i>The Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights</i> (OWL)	<b>Enlightenment &amp; Satire -</b> The French <i>Philosophes</i> : Voltaire (François-Marie Arouet), <i>Candide</i> in NAWL, Vol. D.	<b>Expanding the Enlightenment and Revolutionary Canon:</b>  Discussion: Voltaire and <i>Candide</i> READINGS: Mary Wollstonecraft's <i>A Vindication of the Rights of Women</i> and excerpt from Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz's letter to Sor Filotea de la Cruz, part II.	IRP Presentation workshop.	Ch. 11 "Enlightenment: Science and the New Learning" ca. 1650-1800	
<b>WEEK 5: Jan. 31 – Feb. 4 → Liberty and Equality?</b>					
<b>Jan. 31: IRP Presentations during History class 8:30-10am.</b>  Feb. 2: <b>The French Revolution</b> <i>Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen</i> ; Olympe de Gouges, <i>Declaration of</i>	<b>Feb. 1: IRP Presentations during English class 10-11:30am.</b>  Feb. 3: <b>Voltaire</b> continued.	<b>Jan. 31:</b> IRP Presentations during Philosophy class 11:30am – 1pm.  Feb. 2: <b>Rousseau</b>  Readings: Excerpts from <i>The Social Contract</i>	<b>Jan. 31:</b> IRP Presentations during Seminar hour.		<b>Jan. 31 – Feb. 1:</b> IRP Presentations (Order by lot.)

<i>the Rights of Woman and the Female Citizen</i> (on OWL)					
<b>WEEK 6: Feb. 7 – 11 → Morality: in the Heart or in the Mind?</b>					
<b>The Napoleonic Wars and the Counter-Enlightenment</b> <i>The Imperial Catechism</i> ; Joseph de Maistre, <i>The Divine Origins of Constitutions</i> (excerpts) (on OWL)	<b>Romanticism &amp; the Social Conscience:</b> Introduction to Romantic Poetry in NAWL, Volume E, as well as a selection from Blake, Heine, Goethe, Wordsworth, etc. Specific list on OWL site.	<b>Kant and Critical Philosophy</b>  READINGS: Excerpt from Groundwork for the Metaphysics of Morals	Feb. 7: Test 3	Ch. 12 “Romanticism: Nature, Passion, and the Sublime” ca. 1780-1880	Feb. 7: Test 3
<b>WEEK 7: Feb. 14 – 18 → Who is Master and Who Slave?</b>					
<b>Liberalism, Nationalism and Socialism</b> Alexis de Tocqueville, <i>Democracy in America</i> (excerpts) (on OWL)	<b>Science Fiction:</b> Mary Shelley <i>Frankenstein</i>	<b>Hegel and the dialectic of reason and freedom:</b> the real is rational and the rational real  READING: Excerpts from the <i>Phenomenology of Spirit</i> (self consciousness and the master-slave dialectic)	TBA		
<b>READING WEEK: Feb. 19 - 27</b>					
<b>WEEK 8: Feb. 28 – March 4 → The Pursuits of Science and Politics</b>					
<b>Darwin and Darwinianism</b> Darwin, <i>On the Origins of Species</i> (excerpt) (on OWL)	<i>Frankenstein</i> continued.	<b>Overcoming Darwin and rethinking the Social: Karl Marx</b>  READING: “Alienated Labour” from the 1844 Manuscripts	TBA		
<b>WEEK 9: March 7 – 11 → The Murder of God and the Idea of Humanity</b>					
<b>Slavery, Race, and the New Imperialism</b> Frederick Douglass, <i>Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave</i> (excerpts) (on OWL)	<b>Colonialism and the Modern Novel:</b>  Joseph Conrad, <i>Heart of Darkness</i> in NAWL, Vol. F.	<b>Nietzsche and nihilism; the decline of the West</b>  Readings: Excerpts from Nietzsche’s <i>Beyond Good and Evil</i> and Oswald Spengler’s <i>The Decline of the West</i>	March 7: Test 4	<b>Ch. 13</b> “Materialism: The Industrial Era and the Urban Scene” ca. 1850-1900	March 7: Test
<b>WEEK 10: March 14 – 18 → The Irrational, the Absurd, and the Unconscious</b>					



<b>The Rise of Mass Politics</b> Leo XIII, <i>Rerum Novarum</i> ; <i>The Erfurt Program of the Social Democratic Party of Germany</i> (on OWL)	<b>Fin de Siècle: The Expressionistic novella.</b>  Kafka, <i>The Metamorphosis</i> in NAWL, Vol. F.	<b>Sigmund Freud and the Unconscious</b>  Excerpt from <i>Civilization and its Discontents</i>	March 14: No Seminar today. Work on your IRP.	Ch. 14 "Modernism: The Assault on Tradition ca. 1890-1950	March 18: IRP due.
<b>WEEK 11: March 21 - 25 → The End of Progress?</b>					
<b>The World Wars and Totalitarianism</b> Hannah Arendt, <i>The Origins of Totalitarianism</i> (excerpts) (on OWL)	<b>Theatre of the Absurd:</b> Samuel Beckett, <i>Endgame</i> in NAWL, Vol. F. Watch it on OWL.	<b>The Critique of the Modern</b>  READINGS: Excerpt from Horkheimer and Adorno; Sylvia Wynter and Frantz Fanon	TBA		
<b>WEEK 12 : March 28 - April 1 → Race, Gender, and Class in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century</b>					
<b>From the Cold War to the Present</b> Martin Luther King, Jr., <i>Letter from Birmingham Jail</i> ; James Baldwin, "Why I Stopped Hating Shakespeare," <i>The Cross of Redemption</i> (on OWL)	<b>Postcolonial Hybridity:</b> Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie "The Headstrong Historian" NAWL, Vol. F.	<b>21<sup>st</sup> century liberation:</b> continuing the post WWI liberation struggles:  Calls for further democratisation, equity, and liberation; intersection of race, class, and gender  Excerpts from the writings of Kimberlé Crenshaw, Cornel West, and Dale Turner	March 28: Roundtable Zoom discussion about IRP.	Ch. 15 "Globalism: Information, Communication, and the Digital Revolution" ca. 1945-the present	
<b>There will be <i>three</i> separate final exams for History, Philosophy, and English 1901E during the exam period: April 4 - 30.</b>					