

WESTERN  
*Volume II: Since 1648*  
*5th edition*  
**Western  
Heritage**



Donald Kagan • Steven Ozment • Frank M. Turner

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# THE WESTERN HERITAGE

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FIFTH EDITION

Volume II: *Since 1648*

Donald Kagan  
*Yale University*

Steven Ozment  
*Harvard University*

Frank M. Turner  
*Yale University*



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# THE WESTERN HERITAGE

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# Preface

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The heritage of Western civilization has perhaps never been the focus of so much interest and controversy as it is today. Many commentators criticize it, many praise it, but for all it is a subject of intense discussion. *The Western Heritage*, fifth edition, is designed to allow teachers to introduce students to the subject of that discussion. It presents an overview of Western civilization, including its strengths, its weaknesses, and the controversies surrounding it.

On campus after campus, every aspect of Western civilization has become an object of scrutiny and debate. Many participants in this debate fail to recognize that such self-criticism is characteristic of Western civilization and an important part of its heritage. We welcome the debate and hope that this book can help raise its quality.

The collapse of Communism has left the people of half of Europe struggling to reorganize their political institutions and their social and economic lives. The choices they are making and the future they are forging will reflect in large measure their understanding of their heritage. To follow and participate in that process we too need to understand that heritage.

## Goals of the Text

Since *The Western Heritage* first appeared, we have sought to provide our readers with a work that does justice to the richness and variety of Western civilization. Events since then have only added urgency to our purpose.

Our primary goal has been to present a strong, clear narrative account of the central developments in Western history. We have also sought to call attention to certain critical themes:

- the development of political freedom, constitutional government, and concern for the rule of law and individual rights

- the shifting relations among religion, society, and the state
- the development of science and technology and their expanding impact on thought, social institutions, and everyday life
- the major religious and intellectual currents that have shaped Western culture

We believe that these themes have been fundamental in Western civilization, shaping the past and exerting a continuing influence on the present.

**BALANCED AND FLEXIBLE PRESENTATION**  
In this edition as in past editions, our goal has been to present Western civilization fairly, accurately, and in a way that does justice to its great variety. History has many facets, no one of which alone can account for the others. Any attempt to tell the story of the West from a single overarching perspective, no matter how timely, is bound to neglect or suppress some important part of that story.

*The Western Heritage*, fifth edition, is designed to accommodate a variety of approaches to a course in Western civilization, allowing teachers to stress what is most important to them. Some teachers will ask students to read all the chapters. Others will select among them to reinforce assigned readings and lectures.

We do not believe that a history of the West should be limited to politics and international relations, but we share the conviction that internal and external political events have shaped the Western experience in fundamental and powerful ways. Recent events in central and eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union have strengthened that belief. We have also been told repeatedly by teachers that no matter what their own historical specialization, they believe that a political narrative gives students an effective tool to begin to organize their understanding of the past.

*The Western Heritage* also provides one of the richest accounts of the social history of the West available today, with strong coverage of family life, the roles of women, and the place of the family in relation to broader economic, political, and social developments. This coverage reflects the explosive growth in social historical research in the past quarter century, which has enriched virtually all areas of historical study.

Finally, no other survey text presents so full an account of the religious and intellectual development of the West. People may be political and social beings, but they are also reasoning and spiritual beings. What they think and believe are among the most important things we can know about them. Their ideas about God, society, law, gender, human nature, and the physical world have changed over the centuries and continue to change. We cannot fully grasp our own approach to the world without understanding the intellectual currents of the past and their influence on our thoughts and conceptual categories.

**CLARITY AND ACCESSIBILITY** Good narrative history requires clear, vigorous prose. We have paid careful attention to the quality of our writing in this edition, subjecting every paragraph to critical scrutiny and making this the most thorough revision of the text we have yet undertaken. Our goal was to make our presentation fully accessible to students without compromising vocabulary or conceptual level. We hope this effort will benefit both teachers and students.

**RECENT SCHOLARSHIP** As in previous editions, changes in this edition reflect our determination to incorporate the most recent developments in historical scholarship and the expanding concerns of professional historians.

## Changes in the Fifth Edition

This edition of *The Western Heritage* includes several new pedagogical features, many content revisions, and a new four-color design.

**NEW PEDAGOGICAL FEATURES** Important new pedagogical features in this edition include

part-opening comparative timelines, a list of key topics at the beginning of each chapter, chapter review questions, and questions accompanying the more than 200 source documents in the text. Each of these features is designed to make the text more accessible to students and to reinforce key concepts.

- The *part-opening timelines*, which follow the essays that open each of the six parts of the book, summarize major events in politics and government, society and economy, and religion and culture side by side.
- The *key topics* lists give a succinct overview of each chapter.
- *Questions accompanying the source documents* direct students toward important, thought-provoking issues and help them relate the documents to the material in the text. They can be used to stimulate class discussion or as topics for essays and study groups.
- *Chapter review questions* help students review the material in a chapter and relate it to broader themes. They too can be used for class discussion and essay topics.

In addition, as in the last edition, each chapter includes

- an *outline*
- *introductory and concluding sections*
- several *timelines and chronologies*
- an average of seven *primary source documents*, more than one third new to this edition, that acquaint students with the raw material of history and provide intimate contact with the people of the past and their concerns
- a *suggested readings* list updated with new titles reflecting recent scholarship

**CONTENT CHANGES** Over the years we have been fortunate in both the positive responses and constructive criticism we have received from readers and teachers. The major revisions in this edition reflect what we genuinely regard as the ongoing partnership between our readers and ourselves. Responding to suggestions, we have in this edition made a number of extensive changes in our coverage and organization.

- Chapter 1, "The Birth of Civilization" has been revised to reflect current scholarship on the prehistoric period and the ancient Middle East.
- New material on slavery in ancient Greece and Rome has been added to Chapter 3, "Classical and Hellenistic Greece," Chapter 4, "Rome: From Republic to Empire," and Chapter 5, "The Roman Empire."
- The coverage of Islam and the Byzantine Empire in Chapter 6, "The Early Middle Ages (476–1000)," has been further expanded.
- A new section on medieval Russia has been added to Chapter 7, "The High Middle Ages (1000–1300): The Ascendancy of the Church and the Rise of States."
- The discussion of the Hundred Years' War and the Great Schism in Chapter 9, "The Late Middle Ages (1300–1527)," has been thoroughly revised.
- Chapter 10, "Renaissance and Discovery," contains a new section on Christine de Pisan and revised material on Humanism and on the Spanish Empire in the New World.
- Chapter 11, "The Age of Reformation," has been extensively reorganized.
- Chapter 13, "Paths to Constitutionalism and Absolutism," has been wholly rewritten for clarity and to bring it up to date with current scholarship.
- Chapter 14, "New Directions in Thought and Culture in The Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries," has been reorganized and now includes the section on witchcraft previously in Chapter 12.
- Chapter 16, "Society and Economy Under the Old Regime in The Eighteenth Century," has been substantially reorganized and includes a new section on the emergence of a consumer economy.
- New material on women in the Enlightenment and the emergence of a print culture has been added to Chapter 18, "The Age of Enlightenment."
- New material on women in the French Revolution has been added to Chapter 19, "The French Revolution."
- Chapter 21, "Restoration, Reaction, and Reform (1815–1832)," has been substantially

revised and contains a new section on the character of nationalism.

- New material on late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century women's history has been added to Chapter 24, "The Building of European Supremacy."
- Chapter 25, "The Birth of Modern European Thought," has new sections on modernism and on women and modern thought.
- Chapter 27, "Political Experiments of the 1920s," has been reorganized.
- Chapter 31, "Toward a New Europe and the Twenty-first Century," has been substantially reworked with comprehensive new material on post-World War II social history and the most extensive coverage of recent events in eastern Europe to be found in any western history textbook.

**MAPS AND ILLUSTRATIONS** Probably the most striking change for readers familiar with previous editions of *The Western Heritage* is the introduction of color throughout the text. The benefits of this change are most apparent in maps and illustrations. The skillful use of color in the maps greatly improves their clarity and pedagogical usefulness. All 90 maps in the text have been carefully edited for accuracy and redrafted to take advantage of the new four-color design. The text also contains almost 500 color and black and white illustrations.

## Ancillary Instructional Materials

*The Western Heritage*, fifth edition, comes with an extensive package of ancillary materials.

- **Instructor's Manual** with test items prepared by Perry M. Rogers of Ohio State University. This includes chapter summaries, key points and vital concepts, identification questions, multiple-choice questions, essay questions, and suggested films.
- **Map Transparencies** in full color of all maps in the text.
- **Telecourse**, *The Western Tradition*, an Annenberg/CPB project, with *Study Guides*,

Volumes I and II, and *Administrative Handbook* by Jay Boggis.

- **Study Guide** prepared by Anthony M. Brescia of Nassau Community College that includes commentary, definitions, identifications, map exercises, short-answer exercises, and essay questions.
- **Computerized Study Guide** consisting of 15 multiple-choice questions from each chapter with reinforcing feedback on correct answers and clarifying feedback on wrong answers. All answers are cross-referenced to the text.
- **Computerized Test Bank** consisting of more than 1500 multiple-choice and essay questions from the *Instructor's Manual* for IBM compatible and Macintosh systems.

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**D.K.**  
**S.O.**  
**F.M.T.**

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# About the Authors

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**Donald Kagan** is Bass Professor of History and Classics and Western Civilization at Yale University, where he has taught since 1969. He received the A.B. degree in history from Brooklyn College, the M.A. in classics from Brown University, and the Ph.D. in history from Ohio State University. During 1958–1959 he studied at the American School of Classical Studies as a Fulbright Scholar. He has received three awards for undergraduate teaching at Cornell and Yale. He is the author of a history of Greek political thought, *The Great Dialogue* (1965); a four-volume history of the Peloponnesian war, *The Origins of the Peloponnesian War* (1969); *The Archidamian War* (1974); *The Peace of Nicias and the Sicilian Expedition* (1981); *The Fall of the Athenian Empire* (1987); and a biography of Pericles, *Pericles of Athens and the Birth of Democracy* (1991). With Brian Tierney and L. Pearce Williams, he is the editor of *Great Issues in Western Civilization*, a collection of readings.

**Steven Ozment** is McLean Professor of Ancient and Modern History at Harvard University. He has taught Western Civilization at Yale, Stanford, and Harvard. He is the author of eight books. *The Age of Reform, 1250–1550* (1980) won the Schaff Prize and was nominated for the 1981 American Book Award. *Magdalena and Balthasar: An Intimate Portrait of Life in*

*Sixteenth Century Europe* (1986) and *Three Behaim Boys: Growing Up in Early Modern Germany* (1990) were selections of the History Book club, as is also his most recent book, *Protestants: The Birth of a Revolution*, an interpretation of the German Reformation.

**Frank M. Turner** is John Hay Whitney Professor of History at Yale University, where he served as University Provost from 1988 to 1992. He received his B.A. degree at the College of William and Mary and his Ph.D. from Yale. He has received the Yale College Award for Distinguished Undergraduate Teaching. He has directed a National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute. His scholarly research has received the support of fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Guggenheim Foundation. He is the author of *Between Science and Religion: The Reaction to Scientific Naturalism in Late Victorian England* (1974), *The Greek Heritage in Victorian Britain* (1981), which received the British Council Prize of the Conference on British Studies and the Yale Press Governors Award, and *Contesting Cultural Authority: Essays in Victorian Intellectual Life* (1993). He has also contributed numerous articles to journals and has served on the editorial advisory boards of *The Journal of Modern History*, *Isis*, and *Victorian Studies*.

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