

THE WESTERN HERITAGE

Brief Edition



VOLUME I: TO 1715

Second Edition

Donald Kagan ■ Steven Ozment ■ Frank M. Turner

SECOND EDITION

The Western Heritage

Brief Edition

Volume I: To 1715



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Preface

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, Second Edition*, helps teachers 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.

This brief second edition of *The Western Heritage* is designed to meet the needs of those who want a succinct overview of Western civilization for quarter and semester courses and those who plan to supplement their courses with extensive outside readings. Although this version of *The Western Heritage* is indeed shorter than the full version, it covers all the same topics with the same overall or-

ganization. Our colleague Dan Frankforter has skillfully reworked and revised the entire text for brevity, ensuring that it retains a consistent voice and a coherent narrative.

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. Our primary goal has been to present a strong, clear, narrative account of the key developments in Western history. We have also chosen 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. History has many facets, no one of which

alone can account for its development. 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. Our goal in this text has been to present Western civilization fairly, accurately, and in a way that does justice to its great variety. We have designed the text to accommodate many approaches to a course in Western civilization, allowing teachers to stress what is most important to them.

We do not believe that a history of the West should be limited to politics and international relations, but we share the conviction that 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 specialties, they believe that a political narrative best equips students to begin building an understanding of the past.

The Western Heritage, brief second edition, also provides a rich account of the social history of the West, 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 last quarter century.

Finally, no other brief 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. A survey text especially must engage students if it hopes to keep them reading. Throughout this brief second edition of *The Western Heritage*, we have sought to make our presentation fully accessible to students without compromising on vocabulary or conceptual level.

Recent Scholarship. This edition of *The Western Heritage*, like all others, reflects our determination to incorporate the most recent developments in historical scholarship and the expanding concerns of professional historians.

Features of the Brief Second Edition

The Western Heritage, brief edition, has several distinctive features designed to make it accessible to students and reinforce key concepts. Each chapter includes:

- An opening *outline*;

- A *key topics* list that gives a succinct overview of the chapter;

- Introductory* and *concluding sections*;

- One or more *timelines* that help students build a chronological framework;

- Chapter review questions* that help students review the material in the chapter and relate it to broader themes. These too can be used for class discussion and essay topics;

- A *suggested readings* list that directs students to more detailed sources on particular topics.

Maps and Illustrations. The abundant *maps* throughout the text are carefully cued to the narrative. *Photographs* and other illustrations enrich the text and help draw students in to it. *Color inserts* provide examples of fine art from the paleolithic age to the twentieth century.

Political Transformations. This new map feature concentrates on six highly significant moments of political transformation in the history of the West. These features provide a brief overview of the transformation illustrated by a map and illustrations. The features will provide opportunities for study not only by individual students, but also for class discussion. The topics for this feature are:

- Greek Colonization from Spain to the Black Sea
- Muslim Conquests and Domination of the Mediterranean to about 750
- Voyages of Discovery and the Colonial Claims of Spain and Portugal
- The Congress of Vienna Redraws the Map of Europe
- The Mandate System: 1919 to World War II
- Decolonization in Asia and Africa

Ancillary Instructional Materials

The Western Heritage, brief second edition, comes with an extensive package of ancillary materials.

An **Instructor's Manual** with Test Items prepared by Perry M. Rogers. This includes chapter summaries, key points and vital concepts, identification questions, multiple-choice questions, essay questions, and suggested films.

Map Transparencies in full color.

These include all the maps in the brief edition as well as many others.

A **Study Guide** prepared by Anthony M. Brescia and updated by James Barbieri that includes commentary, identifications, map exercises, short-answer exercises, and essay questions.

A **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.

A **Computerized Test Bank** consisting of more than 1500 multiple-choice and essay questions from the Instructor's Manual for IBM compatible and Macintosh systems.

The Hammond **Historical Atlas of the World**, available with the text at a special discounted price. Please contact your local Prentice Hall sales representative for details.

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deftly shepherded us through the preparation of the second edition. Sheryl Adams, marketing manager, demonstrated an appreciation for historical scholarship as well as the history textbook market in her creative and informed marketing strategies.

Holly Jo Brown, editorial assistant, took care of a myriad of details. Finally, Barbara DeVries, our production editor, managed the many aspects of guiding the project from manuscript to bound book and lent good-humored advice.

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

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