## History of Western Civilization to 1500 Mr. Kirchberg

**(*UW-Marinette: History 105*)**

**Mesopotamia**

**I. “**Land between Two Rivers”**,** or **“**[Fertile](http://davidderrick.wordpress.com/2007/09/08/the-fertile-crescent) Crescent**”**

**(“**[Iraq](http://priyakate.weebly.com/uploads/5/6/6/7/5667812/9220557_orig.jpg)**”)** or **“**Tigris & EuphratesValley, or

**II.** Civilization built upon city-states

**A.** Successful farmers

**1.** Built irrigation and drainage canals

**2.** Abundant farm produce

**3.** Over-farming killed the land

**B.** City-states established by the Sumerians

**(**[**Ex**](http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_A_FNfqyuLTQ/R9jpMrTrasI/AAAAAAAAAmw/RC5V7FT_-cI/s1600-h/300px-Meso2mil.JPG)**.** Eridu**,** Ur**,** Uruk, Umma**,** & Lagash**)**

**1.** May have been earlier peoples there

**2. Ex.** of Uruk **(**legendary **“**1st city**”)**

**a.** Covered **~**1000 acres

**b. ~**6 mi. long walls up to 50 ft. high

with 30**+**towers

**c.** Heavy reliance on mud brick for buildings

**d.** Developed an early primitive arch

**e.** Each city-state began as a religious center

**i.** Gods**/**goddesses owned all

**(1)** No expense spared on god(s)

**(2)** One god would be dominant

**ii.** Huge solid ziggurats were built

**(1)** Made of brick

**(2)** Early ones up to 150 feet high

**(3)** Later [ziggurat](http://history-world.org/reconstruction_ur.gif) up to [650](http://www.iranian.com/History/2005/March/Gutians/Images/gutians_sumer_ziggurat2a.jpg) feet high(**?**)

**(**Hanging [Gardens](http://pre14.deviantart.net/1b9f/th/pre/i/2012/285/7/3/hanging_gardens_of_babylon_by_batkya-d3d1mxr.jpg) of Babylon**)**

**(4)** Used for storage of food & resources

**(5)** Taxes paid in**–**kind (crops & animals)

**(6)** Artisans fashioned raw materials there

**(7)** Priests & Scribes lived & worked here

**(8)** Nobles lived around it

**(9)** Social classes represented by ziggurat

**3.** Priests originally ruled **(**Theocracy**)**

**a.** Originally kings were warriors for priests

**b.** Kings replaced priests but still religious

**i.** Lowered from the heavens

**ii.** Led armies

**iii.** Initiated laws

**iv.** Supervised all building & organized labor

**v.** Provided courts

**vi.** All helped the king to succeed

**~90% of pop. 4.** Farming was the main profession **(**attached to city-states**)**

**5.** Sumerian Writing **(**Very First to **~** 3000 **B.C.E.)**

**a.** Cuneiform **(**[Writing](http://graphics.stanford.edu/projects/cuneiform/) on wet clay using a

sharpened reed [*cuneus*] on [wet](http://www.ancientscripts.com/sumerian.html) clay**)**

**b.** **~** 600 cuneiform signs

**c.** Most important written on stone

**d.** Use of phonograms & pictograms

**e.** Developed for recordkeeping

**f.** Written by scribes chosen at a young age

**Would be caned** **i.** Usually from wealthier families

**by instructors** **ii.** Worked for the temples, palaces, & gov’t **6.** Sumerians developed the wheel

**(**3500 **–**3000 **B.C.E**.**) (**4 wheelChariots by 2000 **B.C.E.)**

**7.** Extensive trading **(**[Wheel](http://www.speedace.info/wheels/wheel_images/wheel_development_log_roller_to_wagon.jpg) [invented](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_KryZjY51N6M/S7yd4_vdhgI/AAAAAAAACKM/q50HVG3GJ5I/s400/Cart-ancient+2500+BC.jpg) by

Sumerians ~3000 **B.C.E.)**

**8.** Slavery was minimal as those were taken from

another god in war and used in the palace or by

the wealthy

**III.** History of Mesopotamia

**A.** Early Mesopotamian Empire

**1.** Early Dynastic Age **(**3000-2340 **B.C.E.)**

**2.** Many wars over land & water

**3.** City-states in despair

**B.** Akkadian Empire **(**2350-2150 **B.C.E.)**

**Semitic 1.** Semitic hill people

**Language 2.** Sargon the [Great](http://thisiswarblog.files.wordpress.com/2013/04/345704438_a7df32c1e8.jpg) **(**2334-2279 **B.C.E.)**

**Chart on p. 9 a.** Overran most Sumerian territory **(**2330 **B.C.E.)**

**b.** Used former Sumerians to rule

**c.** System of Akkadian rule copied by others

**d. 1st** to rule **2** or more cities

**e.** **1st** to keep a standing army he rotated

from city to city **(~**5400 soldier**)**

**f.** 1st empire from Mediterranean Sea thru.

Persian Gulf region.

**3.** [Naram](http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fichier:Stele_Naram_Sim_Louvre_Sb4.jpg) Sin **(**2254-2218 **B.C.E.)**

**a.** Grandson of Sargon

**b.** Winner of 9 battles in one year

**c.** Had the titles**:** **“**God of Akkad**”** & **“**King of

the Four Quarters of the Universe**”**

**d.** Became an Akkadian deity

**4.** Akkadians were eventually destroyed

**Curse of**  *(by Gutian hit & run raids crippled the*

**Agade** *Akkadians economically)*

**C.** Third Dynasty of Ur **(**2112-2004 **B.C.E.) “**Neo-Sumerian**”**

**1.** Founded by Ur-[Nammu](http://gordonconfesses.co.uk/gordonconfesses/wp-content/uploads/King-Ur-Nammu-208x360.jpg) **(**2047-2030 **B.C.E.)**

**a.** Brought unity and order

**b.** Est. his capital at Ur

**c.** Est. the first written law [code](http://www.realhistoryww.com/world_history/ancient/Misc/Sumer/ur_nammu_law.htm) and 300 yrs.

before Hammurabi’s

**2.** Elamites of Iran, eventually ended Neo-Sumerian rule

**D.** Amorites **→** Babylonians **(~**2000-1600 **B.C.E.)**

**1.** Semitic herding people who used copper

**2.** Capital of Babylon on the Euphrates

**3.** [Hammurabi](http://www.thelatinlibrary.com/imperialism/images/hammurabi.jpg) **(**1792 **–** 1750 **B.C.E.)**

**(**Title**: “**The Sun of Babylon, the King Who Made the 4 Quarters of the Earth Obedient**”)**

**Conquered** **a.** Using divide & conquer tactics he conquered

**Sumer** **& Akkad** the whole Tigris-Euphrates Valley

**b.** Made Babylon the Capital

**As barbarians do** **c.** Assimilated much of Sumerian culture

**d.** He encouraged trade

**e.** Also referred to himself as a **“**shepherd**”**

**f.** His law code of 282 [comprehensive](http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/hamcode.asp) [laws](http://www.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://tomgpalmer.com/wp-content/uploads/legacy-images/The%2520Code%2520of%2520Hammurabi.jpg&imgrefurl=http://tomgpalmer.com/2005/08/28/the-rule-of-law-yes-and-no/&usg=__-F5tBxZy9jFl8wJFsCWpoUgGI6s=&h=529&w=518&sz=120&hl=en&start=6&zoom=1&um=1&itbs=1&tbnid=CLakNbVIoVa5nM:&tbnh=132&tbnw=129&prev=/images%3Fq%3Dhammurabi%2Blaw%2Bcode%26um%3D1%26hl%3Den%26sa%3DN%26tbs%3Disch:1)

**i.** Showed Hammurabi as a source of justice

**ii.** Posted on stone pillars in town centers

**iii.** Enforced by king’s judges**/**officials

**iv.** **“**eye for an eye**”** law code

**v.** Fine, death, or loss of body part, depend-

ing on the status of the offender**/**victim

**vi.** Influenced future Near East Law codes

**vii.** Women could own property & along with

children**,** were protected under the law

**IV.** Culture of Mesopotamia

**A. All** revolved around the gods

**1.** Priests/priestesses were key

**2.** Lots of offerings & monuments to gods **(**polytheistic**)**

**3.** City**/**States reflected divine order

**a.** Dedicated to gods **(Ex.** Uruk & Inanna**)**

**b.** People were like the wind, subject to the

natural forces of the gods

**4.** [Enuma](http://www.ancienttexts.org/library/mesopotamian/enuma.html) Elish **(“**when on high**”) (**of the 18th Century **B.C.E.)**

**a.** Babylonian or Mesopotamian creation epic

**b.** Marduk, god of fertility and storm

**(Originally salt water)** **i.** Battles Tiamet, goddess of watery chaos

**ii.** Tiamet is killed by wind and arrow

& is divided into heaven & earth

**iii.** Her breasts became mountains & eyes

became the Tigris & Euphrates Rivers

**iv.** Blood of Tiamat’s general becomes man-

kind to serve gods with labor & sacrifice

**v.** [Marduk](http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/4/4f/Marduk_and_pet.jpg/150px-Marduk_and_pet.jpg)’s [victory](http://www.thexplan.net/nibiru/foto/8marduk.jpg) **(**[Celebrated](http://exclaim.ca/images/marduk1.jpg) [Annually](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rGPhzzN11fo)**)**

**(1)** The beginning of male dominance

over female gods**/**females like Ishtar

& Ea **(earth)**

**(2)** Also, Marduk, an Amorite god

defeats earlier Mesopotamian deities,

showing Amorite dominance

**(Babylon was Marduk’s City)**

**5.** Other gods of Mesopotamia

***a.*** *An, god of sky & controlled authority of rulers*

***b.*** *Enlil, god of wind and 2nd to Marduk*

***c.*** *Enki, god of earth and life-giving waters*

***(****water of creativity, invention & craft****)***

***d.*** *Ninhursaga, mother goddess of fertility*

***i.*** *Originally a goddess of soil & mountains*

***ii.*** *Very ancient, but became one with Ishtar*

**6.** Divination or to divine the future

**a.** Use of animals through augury

**b.** Sometimes used the shape of smoke or oil

**c.** Done to lessen the anxiety of the future

**B.** Literature of the **Epic of Gilgamesh**

**1.** Of Sumerian origin to Akkadian

**Actually 3rd** **2.** [Gilgamesh](http://www.mrdowling.com/images/603gilgamesh.jpg) **=** **“**1st king**”** ever of the **“**1st city**”,** Uruk

**King of Uruk** **a.** Demigod **=** Part god **(**mom **=**Ninsun**)** & part human

**b.** First known hero myth

**c.** About how the gods sent an opposite, [Enkidu](http://images.search.yahoo.com/images/view;_ylt=A0PDoYAJoTpQ1i8AMtyJzbkF;_ylu=X3oDMTBlMTQ4cGxyBHNlYwNzcgRzbGsDaW1n?back=http%3A%2F%2Fimages.search.yahoo.com%2Fsearch%2Fimages%3Fp%3Dgilgamesh%2Benkidu%26n%3D30%26ei%3Dutf-8%26fr%3Dyfp-t-701%26tab%3Dorganic%26ri%3D14&w=317&h=400&imgurl=bp1.blogger.com%2F_rkjsjInYiNA%2FSHHlqadt2LI%2FAAAAAAAAALs%2F7PTTh7PfdtE%2Fs400%2FGilgamesh%2By%2BEnkidu.jpg&rurl=http%3A%2F%2Fantiguasruinas.blogspot.com%2F2008%2F07%2Fla-epopeya-de-gilgamesh.html&size=38.5+KB&name=Enkidu+y+Gilgamesh.&p=gilgamesh+enkidu&oid=736f0b8d8616c25d5caba5be623afc1d&fr2=&fr=yfp-t-701&tt=Enkidu%2By%2BGilgamesh.&b=0&ni=72&no=14&ts=&tab=organic&sigr=127gpl457&sigb=13cdul92v&sigi=12s3m52pd&.crumb=rwYdnWzLUQq)

**(**Wild man**)** to battle Gilgamesh and how their

friendship caused the death of Enkidu.

**i.** Gilgamesh sought immortality as a result

**ii.** Gilgamesh fails & realizes death is inevitable

**iii.** Barbarians **(Enkidu)** vs**.** Civilization **(Gilgamesh**)

**Underlying Moral Lesson →** **↓**

Better Civilization

**p. 17 of text** **d.** Tells the Noah story

**i.** Mankind destroyed by Enlil due to

clamor and babble

**ii.** God of water, Ea warns a just man named

**Ruler & Priest**  Utnapishtem **(**Atrahasis**),** the Faraway **(&** [wife](http://images.fineartamerica.com/images-medium-large/utnapishtim-and-his-wife-photo-researchers.jpg)**)**

**(1)** Rained for six days & six nights

**(2)** Humanity turned to clay

**p. 15 is similar story** **(3)** Boat landed on Mountain of Nisir

**to the Akkadian myth** **(4)** Released a dove, swallow & raven

**“Atrahasis” ("exceedingly wise") (5)** Given immortality as a **“**sorry**”**

**iii.** Tells of an evil serpent & a garden

**C.** Mathematics & Astronomy

**1.** Developed Base 60 **(**60**,** 360**,** 720**,** 1440**…)**

**(**360**°** circle **→** Clock face & mapped the sky using 360**°** of arc**)**

**2.** Understood multiplication, division, & interest

**3.** Great astronomers with a lunar calendar they

had to add a month to about every **3** years.