

American Civilization An Introduction David Mauk

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carroll quigley was a legendary teacher at the georgetown school of foreign service his course on the history of civilization was extraordinary in its scope and in its impact on students like the course the evolution of civilizations is a comprehensive and perceptive look at the factors behind the rise and fall of civilizations quigley examines the application of scientific method to the social sciences then establishes his historical hypotheses he poses a division of culture into six levels from the abstract to the more concrete he then tests those hypotheses by a detailed analysis of five major civilizations the mesopotamian the canaanite the minoan the classical and the western quigley defines a civilization as a producing society with an instrument of expansion a civilization s decline is not inevitable but occurs when its instrument of expansion is transformed into an institution that is when social arrangements that meet real social needs are transformed into social institutions serving their own purposes regardless of real social needs

this hugely successful text provides students of american studies with the perfect background and introductory information on contemporary american life thoroughly revised this fifth edition covers all the central dimensions of american society from geography and the environment government and politics to religion education media and the arts american civilization covers all core american studies topics at introductory level contains essential historical background for american studies students at the start of the twenty first century analyzes gender class and race and america s cosmopolitan population contains photos case studies questions and terms for discussion and suggests websites for further research with new illustrations and case studies this edition of american civilization includes expanded sections on asian and latino minorities and us foreign policy activities and provides new material including coverage of the 2008 election and the shifting economic situation an invaluable online resource the american civilization companion website features a wealth of material including extensive references for further reading links to key primary sources filmographies and advice to students of how to approach essay questions visit routledge.com/textbooks/9780415481625 to discover more

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excerpt from ancient civilization an introduction to modern history ask yourself as you begin reading this book what is the first thing in life that you can remember probably the event hap pened not more than ten or twelve years ago your the sources father and mother cannot go back in memory more than of our three or four times as many years as that and practically knowledge no man or woman alive to day can recall things that happened a hundred years ago and yet at the very beginning of this book you must imagine that your memory extends ov er thou sands and thousands of years for the beginning of man s history belongs to a time as long ago as that our knowledge of the story of man s existence on earth has been gathered slowly here and there in all parts of europe asia africa and america a few bones of men and of animals a few spearheads and arrowheads a few fragments of clothing and cooking utensils have been found from these and from the rude pictures which men scratched on stones thousands of years ago we have been able to piece together a record which carries back the story of man s life those thousands of years we have learned something about his method of making himself shelter and clothing something about the way he fought with the wild animals of the forest something about the way he gathered his food and fed and reared his children we know the steps by which from a condition like that of a wild animal he climbed up to the place which he occupies on earth to day about the publisher forgotten books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books find more at forgottenbooks com this book is a reproduction of an important historical work forgotten books uses state of the art technology to digitally reconstruct the work preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy in rare cases an imperfection in the original such as a blemish or missing page may be replicated in our edition we do however repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works

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excerpt from ancient civilization an introduction to modern history the purpose of this book is indicated on the title page it is written to meet the needs of classes which can devote only a brief amount of time to the study of ancient history before taking up the study of medieval and modern history the committee of five of the american historical association recommends that if it seems wise to omit any detailed study of ancient history and to give three years substantially to the other three blocks the teacher while omitting all detail may still attempt to give his pupils some idea of the growth of the ancient nations and some idea of their achievements and their qualities with this aim in view only such details of the political history of antiquity have been here included as are necessary for an understanding of ancient civilization furthermore only such elements of the life of the people of antiquity have been emphasized as arc necessary for a thorough comprehension of the history of western europe in modern times the book is written especially for the use of pupils in the first or second year of the high school course the point of view of boys and girls fifteen or sixteen years old has therefore been kept in mind in the selection of details and in the wording and arrangement of the text and also in the choice of maps and illustrations the maps arc adequate for making clear the geographical references in the text several large pictures have been made to illustrate the text an object seldom attained by the illustrations in ancient histories these pictures are carefully designed to arouse the imagination of the readers and to assist them in realizing the conditions of life in ancient times acknowledgment is due to mr morris c deshel teacher of history in the dewitt clinton high school for his assistance in getting together the material for this textbook and for the preparation of the references given under the search topics for helpful criticisms also the author s thanks are due to the history teachers in the dewitt clinton high school and in the julia richman high school about the publisher forgotten books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books find more at forgottenbooks com this book is a reproduction of an important historical work forgotten books uses state of the art technology to digitally reconstruct the work preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy in rare cases an imperfection in the original such as a blemish or missing page may be replicated in our edition we do however repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works

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