

## Professor Michael R. Cavey



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Welcome to the course in Western Civilization I. My name is Michael Cavey, and you and I will be working together over the next several months. I look forward to that experience.

Over our time together, we will be exploring the way civilizations have developed and interacted from the first civilizations, which arose around 3000 BCE, to the emergence of the early modern West by 1650 CE. Along the way, we will examine the growth and decline of civilizations in Egypt, the Middle East, Greece, Rome, the Islamic world, medieval Europe, and the eras of the Renaissance and Reformation.

My own background is in the political, religious, and intellectual history of early modern England, though I also have a fascination with the German history of that period and during the time between the world wars as well. I joined the adjunct faculty at NOVA in spring, 2010, but I have also taught at the community college level in Pennsylvania, and in various colleges and universities in Maryland, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey. My primary focus, however, is high school teaching. I have taught at that level for over thirty years and have been at my current school, Stone Ridge School in Bethesda, Maryland, for twelve years. I teach Advanced Placement Government, United States History, and European History, and am an Exam Essay Reader for the AP European History Exam each year.



My outside interests include hiking through the Blue Ridge, long walks along Atlantic beaches, especially at Cape Henlopen State Park in Delaware and along the C&O Towpath near Harper's Ferry with my wife, Rebecca, and my dog, Abigail, gardening in the summer, and looking after Rebecca's livestock: her Jacob sheep, Elvis Parsley, and her angora goat Ingrid.



Cape Henlopen State Park, DE



Blue Ridge Mountains, Skyline Drive

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at the e mail address above. This is the best place to reach me, and you will find that I reply promptly since I check my inbox several times a day.

If you wish extra credit for the Optional ELI Orientation as explained in the course instructions, I urge you to watch the general ELI orientation video available at all NVCC campus Learning Resources and Testing Centers (this is also available from time to time as an NVCC-TV broadcast) or review the online ELI orientation website ([eli.nvcc.edu/orientation](http://eli.nvcc.edu/orientation)), review all course materials, and e-mail me with any questions you may have.

Remember that it is your responsibility to keep copies of your coursework and graded assignments. I encourage you to use the [HIS 101](#) course schedule to keep track of your grades. If questions arise over the course of the semester, please contact me so we can try to work things out.

Finally, please remember to make frequent use of the materials in [Charlie's History Writing Center](#). This site contains materials Dr. Evans graciously makes available not only to his own students but also to you and me.

We have some interesting times ahead of us. I welcome you once again to the course, and wish you much success

