

HIST 1111 FALL 2007

Dr. Aran MacKinnon, Office: TLC 3220

Tel: O: (678) 839-6038, E-mail: amackinn@westga.edu

Office hours: M/W, 9:00-12:00, or by appointment.

Lectures: M/W 2-3:15, TLC 1203

Course Description and Learning outcomes: This is an introductory survey course on selected topics in the history of major world civilizations that have shaped the foundations of our modern world. From the origins of humans in Africa to the age of discovery, we will explore how societies emerged, developed and interacted to create a synthesis of >civilization=. The course will introduce students to basic historical enquiry and prepare them to execute the oral and written presentation of ideas. This will prepare students to write about and discuss their understanding of the forces which shaped our world in order for them to live and work more effectively in it. Students who successfully complete this course will be able to demonstrate their understanding, through written and verbal communications, of important themes in world history including those related to: environment, social stratification and gender relations, urbanization, warfare, technology, philosophy, government and the state, religion, economics and culture. Students who successfully complete this course will be able to conduct basic research and be able to prepare for class discussions. They will also develop basic map reading skills and be able to demonstrate an understanding of the importance of the geographic and environmental context of world history.

This is a lecture-based course. Students are reminded, however, that reading and writing are essential parts of the course. **READ. READ. READ.** Students are expected take notes in class and from the assigned readings and to fulfill reading assignments in order to follow the course, participate in discussions and complete assignments. The texts and assignments are designed to provide students with a basic understanding of the course. They are by no means an exhaustive list of what you should be reading. Students are expected to **ATTEND ALL LECTURES**. Failure to do so may adversely affect your grade, although there is no set attendance policy. Students are responsible for any and all work they have missed. The professor will not provide lecture notes. We will be covering material in the lectures which is not available in the texts, and class discussions are vital to the course so attending class is essential. Exams and quizzes may include multiple guess, short essay and map/visual based questions. **No make-up exams or quizzes will be granted except for cases of verifiable and documented health matters or official UWG business.** Students **MUST inform and provide the instructor with documentation in advance of any excusable absence and make arrangements to take any quizzes or exams at an alternate time set at the discretion of the instructor.**

Required texts:

P. Adler and R. Pouwels, World Civilizations with Online Documents, with access code for Wadsworth World History Resource Center at: <http://worldrc.wadsworth.com/>

S. Hamdun and N. King, *Ibn Battuta in Black Africa* (Markus Wiener)

E. Gilbert and J Reynolds, *Trading Tastes*, (Prentice Hall)

For documents, you may also consult Fordham University's Internet Ancient History Sourcebook at: <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/asbook.html>

GRADING AND ASSIGNMENTS

Surprise Document/Readings quizzes: 15% (5% for each of each 3)
First Exam 25%
Second Exam 30%
Third/Final Exam 30%

Grade Scale

A = 90% and above
B = 80-89 %
C = 70-79%
D = 60-69%
F = below 60%

The syllabus is provisional and subject to change. From time to time, the instructor may need to change dates of assignments. Students are responsible for noting any changes made by the instructor and fulfilling their responsibilities on the dates the instructor indicates. **Students are responsible for coming to each and every class and they should not schedule anything that may conflict with this responsibility. You must write the exams in the time periods noted below (unless advised otherwise by the instructor)** No re-writes will be granted for any exams or assignments missed unless in case of a verifiable and documented UWG business or a health matter.

A NOTE ON ACADEMIC HONESTY and other class policies

All students are expected to conduct themselves with honesty and to **DO THEIR OWN WORK**. Cheating, in whatever form not only does a disservice to you, fellow students and the University community, it is fraud and brings severe disciplinary action. I refer all students to the section on Academic Honesty in the University Catalogue. I reserve the right to fail any student for academic dishonesty, and further disciplinary action may be taken.

-No electronic devices of any kind may be used during exams, tests or quizzes.

-Students who are late to class, or who leave early (based on the instructor's determination of time) will not be permitted to write any tests, quizzes or exams in that class period.

-NO CELL PHONES IN CLASS. Students who use their cell phones in class will be asked to leave the class.

-There is no extra credit provided for this course.

-The instructor will not accept work that has been submitted for another course in this course.

-Students causing a disturbance or engaging in disruptive behavior (as deemed so by the instructor) will be asked to leave the class. Persistent disruptions will result in the student being dropped from the class with a failing grade.

Weekly Assignments and lectures:

15 Aug.

W) Introduction and Course Handouts

Readings: Adler Chp. 1

20-22 Aug.

M) Emergence of Human Communities

W) Civilization and Stratification: Sumerian Society Ancient Egypt

Readings: Adler Chps. 2, 3 and documents, The Legend of Sargon, Wadsworth online documents found at: <http://worldrc.wadsworth.com/>, under the section Origins -1000 BCE

27-29Aug.

M) Egyptian Society

W) Emerging Empires

Readings: Adler Chp. 3, 4 and Papyrus Lansing found online at: <http://nefertiti.iwebland.com/texts/nebmarenakht.htm> and Hatshepsut <http://touregypt.net/historicalessays/hatshepsut.htm>

3-5 Sept.

M) *****Labor day: No Classes *****

W) Empire, Bureaucracy and Law

Readings: Adler Chp.4 and <http://worldrc.wadsworth.com/student/WorldCiv-ch01.html#documents>: Origins -1000BCE, Online readings section, [A collection of Mesopotamian Laws](#) and [Code of the Assyrians](#) and Hammurabi's Code found at <http://eawc.evansville.edu/anthology/hammurabi.htm>

10-12 Sept.

M) Empire and synthesis: The Iron Age

W) Indian Civilization

Readings: Adler chapters 4 and 16, and The Laws of Manu at: <http://web.archive.org/web/20000511162550/http://www.humanities.cuny.cuny.edu/history/reader/manu.htm> and [A Vedic Hymn to the Goddess Earth, Prince Siddhartha Encounters Old Age, Sickness, and Death](#) and [Buddha: First Sermon – The Middle Path](#) all found at the Wadsworth Site under the documents section on Ancient India

17-19 Sept.

M) Indian Spirituality

W) Review and video

24-26 Sept

M) ***** First Exam*****

W) Ancient China **Readings: Adler, Chps. 6 and 17, Documents from the Wadsworth online collection on Ancient Asia: [Selections from the Writing of Han Fei](#) [Dao De Jing](#), [Daoism](#) and [Han Fei, Legalist Views on Good Government](#)**

1-3 Oct.

M) Chinese Politics and Philosophy, Ancient Social relations

W) Greek Civilization

Readings: Adler, Chps. 8, 9 and Documents from Wadsworth site under Ancient Greece: [Hesiod Theogony](#) , [Aristotle, Politics - Excerpts, Book III](#) and [Herodotus: Persians Reject Democracy](#)

8-10 Oct.

M) Hellenism and Greek Political Philosophies

W) The Foundations of Rome and the Roman Empire **Readings: Adler Chps. 10 and 11**

15-17 Oct.

M) The Context of Islam and Early African civilizations

W) Islamic Civilization **Readings: Adler Chps. 15, 16, Online Documents [The Prophet Muhammad's Last Sermon](#), [Collections of Al-Hadiths](#) and [The Sunnah](#)**

22-24 Oct.

M) Ibn Battuta

W) *****Second Exam*****

Readings: S. Hamdun and N. King, *Ibn Battuta in Black Africa*

29-31 Oct.

M) Western Europe

W) The rise of Western Europe

Readings: Adler, Chps. 19, 20 and Online Documents: [Ordinance of Laborers](#), [Gregory of Tours, Harsh Treatment of Serfs and Slaves](#) and [Gregory of Tours, Opposition to Royal Taxation](#)

5-7 Nov.

M) The Renaissance

W) The Age of Discovery

Readings: Adler Chps. 21 and 23

12-14 Nov

M) The Age of Discovery

W) Age of Discovery **Online documents [Prince Henry the Navigator, Chronicle of the Discovery and Conquest of Guinea, chapters 7-9](#), [Christopher Columbus, selections from the Journal - First](#) and [Christopher Columbus, selections from the Journal - second](#)**

19-21 Nov.

M) Trading Tastes

W) *****Thanksgiving: No Classes*****

Reading: E. Gilbert and J Reynolds, *Trading Tastes*

26-28 Nov.

M) Trading Tastes Reading: E. Gilbert and J Reynolds, *Trading Tastes*

W) Film: TBA

3 Dec.

M) Conclusion and Review for Final Exam

*****FINAL EXAM*****: The Final Exam is **Tues. 10 Dec., 2-4**. All students must sit the exam in this scheduled slot.

N.B. All students must write the exams and the document analysis response at the times and dates specified. No exceptions will be made for other than verifiable medical excuses. No make-up exams or quizzes will be provided and a grade of A0" (zero) will be recorded for any missed assignments or exams. Late assignments will not be accepted. THIS SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PLEASE CHECK WITH THE INSTRUCTOR DIRECTLY ABOUT ANY POSSIBLE CHANGES. It is the student's responsibility to note changes.