

HIST 1111Honors
SURVEY OF WORLD HISTORY TO 1500
Spring 2012

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Office hours: M/W, 10:00-12:00 a.m., 1:00-2:00 p.m. or by appointment.

Lectures: M/W 2:00-3:20, Pafford 207.

Course Description and Learning outcomes: This is an introductory survey course on selected topics in the history of the 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 write essay format responses, 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 that reading, discussion and writing are essential parts of the course. **READ. READ. READ.** Students are expected to fulfill reading assignments in order to follow the course, participate in discussions and complete written 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 will adversely affect your grade. **Students who miss more than three classes without documented medical or official UWG excuses may have their grade dropped by one whole letter grade, students who miss more than six classes may receive an 'F' for the course.** 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.

Required texts:

J.R. and W. McNeill, *The Human Web* (Norton)

T. Standage, *A History of the World in 6 Glasses*.

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

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

M. Crichton, *The 13th Warrior* (Ballentine)

Document Sourcebook at: <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/asbook.html> and <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/modsbook.html>

GRADING AND ASSIGNMENTS

Document reports: 10% (5% for each of each two)
Trading Tastes reports 10%
Explorer Assignment 15%
Mid-Term 30%
Final Exam: 35 %

Grade Scale

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

1) Each student must read and **analyze two (2) sets of document readings** assigned to them, write a brief report (500 words 2 pages typed, 12-point font) on each set and make a class presentation on their findings. In your analysis you need to explain the historical context in which the documents were written, who wrote the documents and why, and what significance they have for understanding the nature of the given civilization and its connections to global webs. We will then have a class debate where we consider the arguments made in the documents.

2) Each student will read an assigned section of the Trading Tastes book, **write a brief report and synopsis of the section** (2-3 pages typed, 500-750 words, 12-point font) and present their findings to the class.

3) **Explorer Assignment:**

Students will have to conduct a self-guided or guided online exploration of a specific historical place. You will need to explore the foundations, connections and significance of the place, and write up a report. You may explore one of the three locations of virtual walking tours (Alhambra Mosque, Suleymaniye Mosque or Dome of the Rock) at the Aramco World website <http://www.saudiaramcoworld.com>, follow Ibn Battuta's voyages on Google Earth, or use Google Earth and locate a site from the regions we have studied, and explore historically significant elements through this program. ALL SITES must be APPROVED by the Instructor.

Each report must be 750-1000 words analyzing the following elements:

1. The historical context or setting: Where is the place you are analyzing, why is the location important, how is it connected to other historically important developments
2. The predominant society/culture associated with the place, and evidence that shows their unique imprint on the place. If there is more than one major society, explain the relationship between/among them.
3. Consideration of how the place, buildings or cultures and societies changed over time, and why.
4. Analysis of evidence the main themes of world history you discover such as religion, social stratification, migration, competition and conflict, trade and cultural synthesis.

Papers will be graded based on the following:

1. Analysis of the historical setting: Needs to include specific references from the texts or documents used in the class: 25%
2. Analysis of the predominant culture and its place in world history. Was it related to a big or small state, what role did any of the following play: religion, trade, empire-building, warfare, economic development: 25%
3. How did the place change over time, what evidence did you see or can you point to show this change: 25%

4. Overall format, clarity of writing, appropriate use of references and evidence from the course, the site, and class: 25%

4) Each student will write both the mid-term and final exams. **Students must write the exams and complete assignments in or for the time periods noted.** From time to time, the instructor may need to change dates of assignments, and **the syllabus is provisional and subject to change.** 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 health matter.

Exams:

Exams will consist of a variety of questions based on course readings from the text and documents, maps, class lectures and discussions. Question types may include identify and explain the significance of select terms, map-based questions, short essay responses and multiple-choice questions. **Written responses for essay questions will be graded on the basis of the following rubric**

Articulation of a sustained historical argument in response to a question: 15%

Selection and explanation of relevant evidence from texts and class: 35%

Analysis and/or comparison of evidence relevant to the argument: 35%

Clear, concise writing with correct grammar, syntax and spelling: 15%

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 be counted absent and they 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 and an absence will be recorded for that 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 will be asked to leave the class and be counted absent. Persistent disruptions may be cause for being dropped from the class.

-N.B. This syllabus is subject to change, and the instructor has final say regarding these changes and their implementation. Students are responsible for coming to class in order to make themselves aware of these changes

Assignments and lectures:

9 -11 Jan.

M: Introduction and Course Handouts

W: What is history; what is world history, Civilization Vs. Barbarism?

Readings: McNeills Chp. I

16-18 Jan.

M: The Human Apprenticeship; the emergence of modern humans

W: Food Production

Readings: McNeills Chps. I and II

Sumerian Inscription *Umma and Lagash* <http://www.piney.com/BabUmmLag.html>

[Enki and the World Order: A Sumerian High God](http://www.mircea-eliade.com/from-primitives-to-zen/016.html) <http://www.mircea-eliade.com/from-primitives-to-zen/016.html>

23-26 Jan.

M: River Valley Civilizations

W: Civilized achievements and synthesis: *** **Doc. Reports 1 and 2 Due*****

Readings: McNeills, Chp. III, Standage chps. 1 and 2

Papyrus Lansing found online at:

<http://www.u.arizona.edu/~afutrell/w%20civ%2002/paplansing.html>

and Hatshepsut at:

<http://fathom.lib.uchicago.edu/1/777777190131/>

Mesopotamian Laws (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/2550mesolaws.html>) and **Code of the**

Assyrians (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/1075assyriancode.html>) and Hammurabi's

Code found at <http://eawc.evansville.edu/anthology/hammurabi.htm>

30 Jan.-1 Feb Jan.

M: Civilized Variations

W: India *** **Doc. Report 3 Due** ***

Readings: McNeills, Chp. III, pp. 62-82

The Laws of Manu, <http://www.sacred-texts.com/hin/manu.htm>

Prince Siddhartha Encounters Old Age, Sickness, and Death <http://www.mircea-eliade.com/from-primitives-to-zen/225.html>

and **Buddha: First Sermon – The Middle Path**

<http://acc6.its.brooklyn.cuny.edu/~phalsall/texts/bud-ser1.html>

found at the Wadsworth Site under the documents section on Ancient India

6-8 Feb.

M: China foundations: *****Doc. Report 4 due*****

W: China: Culture and Politics

Readings: Lao Tzu, Tao te Ching <http://www.sacred-texts.com/tao/taote.htm>

Han Fei, Legalist Views on Good Government

http://www.wsu.edu:8080/~wldciv/world_civ_reader/world_civ_reader_1/hanfeitzu.html

Confucius: <http://academic.brooklyn.cuny.edu/core9/phalsall/texts/analects.html>

13-15 Feb.

M: Greek Civilization *****Doc. Report 5 Due*****

W: Greek Democracy, Hellenism and Rome

Readings: Standage chps. 3 and 4

Aristotle Politics Book III at http://www.constitution.org/ari/polit_03.htm Or
(http://wadsworth.com/history_d/special_features/ilrn_legacy/wawc1c01c/content/wciv1/readings/aristotle_pol3.html) and **Herodotus: Persians Reject Democracy**
(<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/herodotus-persdemo.html>)

Roman Slavery: <http://www.fordham.edu/Halsall/ancient/slavery-romrep1.asp>

20-22 Feb.

M: World Webs and Expansive monotheistic religions: Christianity

W: Expansive monotheistic religions: Islam *****Doc. Report 6 Due*****

Readings: Readings: McNeills, Chp. IV, persecutions of Christians:

<http://www.csun.edu/~hcfl004/xtians.html>

The Sunnah <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/sunnah-horne.html>

The Qur'ân Chapter of Women <http://www.sacred-texts.com/isl/sbe06/004.htm>

27-29 Feb

M: Barbarism and Civilization: **Readings: *The 13th Warrior***

W: *****Mid-Term Exam*****

5-7 March

M: Thickening Webs: Trade

W: Trade*****Spice Report*****

Readings: McNeills, Chp. V, pp. 116-136, *Trading Tastes*

12-14 March

M Trading Tastes reports: *****Salt Report*****

W Trading Tastes: *****Silk Report*****

Readings: Gilbert and Reynolds, *Trading Tastes*

19-21 March

NO CLASSES: SPRING BREAK

26-28 March

M: Ibn Battuta, Africa and the Global economy

W: Ibn Battuta's voyages

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

2-4 April

M: ***Explorer assignments***

W: ***Explorer assignments***

9-11 April

M: The emerging worldwide web

W: The Columbian Exchange

Readings: McNeills, chps. V and VI pp.155-174, 206-212

16-18 April

M: Trading Tastes: Sugar: ***** Sugar Report*****

W: Slavery, the plantation complex and the Atlantic world

Gilbert and Reynolds chp. on sugar.

23-25 April

M: Final Exam

*****FINAL EXAM***:** The Final Exam is schedule for **Mon. 23 April 2012 from 2:00-4:30 P.M.** All students must sit the exam in this scheduled slot unless the instructor changes the date to the last day of class in which case they must sit the exam that day.

N.B. All students must write the exams and complete assignments at the times and dates specified or as instructed by the instructor if a change of date is needed. No exceptions will be made for other than documented and verifiable medical excuses. No make-up exams will be provided and a grade of A0" (zero) will be recorded for any missed assignments or exams. Late assignments will not be accepted.

-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.

-N.B. This syllabus is subject to change, and the instructor has final say regarding these changes and their implementation.