

Survey of World Civilizations I

History 1111-05

Tues/Thurs 9:30 to 10:45

TLC 1305

Instructor: Dr. Teresa Leslie Office: TLC 3214

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 11 - 12, Wednesday 9:30 – 12:30, and by appointment.

See me before or after class or contact me by email to arrange a meeting.

Email Address: tleslie@westga.edu

This is the most reliable and easiest way to contact me.

Course Description and Learning Outcomes

This introductory course is a survey of the major developments and themes in world history from the earliest civilizations through the Age of Discovery. We will look not only at individual societies, but also at cross-cultural interactions between societies, which play a crucial role in shaping the course of human history. We will also explore how historians develop their understanding of the past, including the way concepts and theories from other academic disciplines enrich our understanding of history, and the impact of current concerns and trends in scholarship on our interpretations of the past.

In this course, students will learn to analyze and interpret information from both primary and secondary sources. They will develop map skills and an appreciation for the impact of geography on history. Students will demonstrate the ability to think historically through understanding of the political, social, economic, and cultural dimensions of world history; comprehension of causal relationships and patterns of change and continuity over time; and awareness of the social significance of ethnicity, gender, race, and class in historical events and study.

Text:

Jerry H. Bentley and Herbert F. Ziegler, *Traditions and Encounters: A Brief Global History, Vol. 1* (ISBN: 0-07-320702-0)

Grades:

First Exam	25%
Second Exam	30%
Final Exam	30%
Homework	15%

Grading scale—

A	89.5 and above
B	79.5 to 89.4
C	69.5 to 79.4
D	59.5 to 69.4
F	59.4 or less

“There will always be a connection between the way in which men contemplate the past and the way in which they contemplate the present.”

Thomas Buckle

“Not to know what took place before you were born is to remain forever a child.”

Cicero

Homework Assignments

Several times during the semester, you will be assigned take-home, open-book quizzes covering textbook chapters that we will not have time to cover in class. You may also have other written homework assignments, such as map exercises or primary source readings. These homework assignments will be done online through CourseDen.

Extra Credit/Improving Your Grade

Extra credit is not regularly available for this course.

Students with a D or F average in the class will be accorded the opportunity to do additional work outside class in order to be more thoroughly prepared for future tests and thus to (it is hoped) bring up their grades. Extra credit points are **not** awarded for this work. If you fall into this category at some point in the semester, you may contact me for more details on this additional work, which is strictly voluntary.

Attendance and Behavior Policy

I do not give grades for attendance or reduce grades for non-attendance. However, students who do not attend class regularly have traditionally done poorly in the class. The tests are drawn directly from my lectures and class discussions. If you miss a class at which I announce a homework assignment, you are still responsible for completing the assignment on time and the due date for that work will NOT be adjusted. Deductions ARE made for work completed late.

Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. This includes talking in class, habitually entering class late or leaving early, doing work for other classes, and any other behavior that is distracting to the instructor and/or other students. Repeat offenders will be asked to leave the class and dropped from the roll.

Make-up Work and Late Assignments

Make-up exams will be scheduled **ONLY** in rare cases, for medical or other emergency. The instructor reserves the right to require written confirmation of this emergency (such as physicians note for illness or police report for accident). If you have a conflict with a scheduled exam that does not fall into this category, please see me as soon as possible **PRIOR** to the exam to discuss the possibility of arranging to take an early alternative exam.

Due dates for homework assignments will usually be two class periods after the assignment is made. Late work will not be given full credit, and will be accepted only by prior arrangement with the instructor.

"The disadvantage of men not knowing the past is that they do not know the present."

G. K. Chesterton

Class Schedule

This schedule is intended to suggest the general outline I hope to cover. **It is subject to change.** Tests, however, will be given on the dates listed.

Week One	Jan. 6
Introduction	
Week Two	Jan. 11, 13
Early Complex Societies -- Mesopotamia, Egypt	
Online Assignment 1: Quiz over Syllabus	
Week Three	Jan. 18, 20
Early Complex Societies -- Egypt, India	
Online Assignment 2: Quiz over Chapter 1, Bentley and Zeigler	
Week Four	Jan. 25, 27
Early Complex Societies-- India, China	
Online Assignment 3: TBA (To Be Announced)	
Week Five	Feb. 1, 3
Early Complex Societies—China	
Week Six	Feb. 8, 10
Classical Civilizations -- Persia	
FIRST EXAM FEB. 8	
Week Seven	Feb. 15, 17
Classical Civilizations -- Persia, China	
Online Assignment 4: TBA	
Week Eight	Feb. 22, 24
Classical Civilizations – India	
Week Nine	March 1, 3
Classical Civilizations-- Greeks	
Online Assignment 5: TBA	
MARCH 2 LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW WITH A W	
Week Ten	March 7-11
SPRING BREAK NO CLASSES	

Week Eleven	March 15, 17
Classical Civilizations -- Greeks	
Online Assignment 6: TBA	
Week Twelve	March 22, 24
Classical Civilizations – Hellenistic World	
Second Exam March 24	
Week Thirteen	March 29, 31
Classical Civilizations— Romans	
Online Assignment 7: TBA	
Week Fourteen	April 5, 7
Early Christianity	
Online Assignment 8: TBA	
Week Fifteen	April 12, 14
The Islamic World	
Online Assignment 9: TBA	
Week Sixteen	April 19, 21
The Islamic World and Medieval Europe	
Week Seventeen	April 26
Renaissance and Reformation	
Online Assignment 10: TBA	

Final Exam: The final exam will be given in our regular classroom at the time listed in the course bulletin for the semester—**Thursday, May 5, from 8 until 10**. See instructor in case of schedule conflicts.

“Anyone who closes his eyes to the past is blind to the present.”

Richard von Weizsacker