Survey of World Civilizations I

History 1111-02        TR 9:30- 10:50        TLC 1303

Instructor: Dr. Teresa Leslie            Office: TLC 3214
Office Hours: Tues and Thursday 11 until 2, Weds. 10 until 12, 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.

Students, please carefully review the following information at this link:
http://www.westga.edu/assetsDept/vpaa/Common_Language_for_Course_Syllabi.pdf  It contains important information pertaining to your rights and responsibilities in this class. Because these statements are updated as federal, state, university, and accreditation standards change, you should review the information each semester. This link contains information about such things as the university honor code and class accommodations related to the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Text:

Grades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Exam</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Exam</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Exam</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Grading scale—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>895 points and above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>795 to 894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>695 to 794</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>595 to 694</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>594 points or less</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“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

Homework Assignments

There will be ten online homework assignments. Some of these will be open-book quizzes covering textbook material that we will not have time to cover in class. Other homework assignments will be based on maps, primary source readings, or other resources provided to you in class. The primary source readings will be short (less than 50 pages) and available online. Some examples of past primary source readings include excerpts from the Analects of Confucius, Plato’s Apology, and Einhard’s Life of Charlemagne. These homework assignments will be done online through CourseDen.

Extra Credit/Improving Your Grade

Extra credit is not regularly available for this course. Any extra credit opportunity that arises will be available to ALL students in the class.

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

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

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  
Aug 27, 29  
Introduction  
Early Civilization of Near East (Edgar, Chapter 1)  
Online Assignment 1: Quiz over Syllabus

Week Two  
Sept. 3, 5  
Early Civilization of Near East, continued (Edgar, Ch. 1)

Week Three  
Sept. 10, 12  
Early Civilization of Persia (Edgar, Ch. 1)  
Online Assignment 2: Primary Source Quiz

Week Four  
Sept. 17, 19  
Early Civilization of China (Edgar, Ch. 2)  
Online Assignment 3: Primary Source/Map Quiz

Week Five  
Sept. 24, 26  
Early Civilization of India (Edgar, Ch. 3)  
**FIRST EXAM THURSDAY, SEPT. 26**

Week Six  
Oct. 1, 3  
Early Civilization of India, cont. (Edgar, Ch. 3)  
Online Assignment 4: TBA

Week Seven  
Oct. 8  
Greek Civilization (Edgar, Ch. 4)  
**NO CLASS THURSDAY, OCT. 10**  
Online Assignment 5: TBA
Week Eight  
Oct. 15, 17  
Greek Civilization, continued  
Roman Civilization (Edgar, Ch. 5)  
**October 18  Last day to withdraw with a W**

Week Nine  
Oct. 22, 24  
Roman Civilization (Edgar, Ch. 5)  
Online Assignment 6: Chapter Quiz

Week Ten  
Oct. 29, 31  
Eastern Mediterranean World (Edgar, Ch. 6)  
**SECOND EXAM  TUESDAY, OCT. 29**

Week Eleven  
Nov. 5, 7  
Islamic World (Edgar, Ch. 7)  
Online Assignment 7

Week Twelve  
Nov. 12, 14  
Islamic World, cont. (Edgar, Ch. 7)  
African Beginnings (Edgar, Ch. 8)  
Online Assignment 8: Primary Source Reading

Week Thirteen  
Nov. 19, 21  
Classical and Medieval Asia (Edgar, Ch. 10)  
Online Assignment 9

Week Fourteen  
Nov. 26, 28  
**NO CLASS  THANKSGIVING BREAK**

Week Fifteen  
Dec. 3, 5  
Medieval and Renaissance Europe (Edgar, Chs. 9, 12, 14)  
Online Assignment 10

**Final Exam:** The final exam will be given in our regular classroom at the time listed in the course bulletin for the semester—Thursday, December 12, from 8 until 10:30. See instructor in case of schedule conflicts.

*“Anyone who closes his eyes to the past is blind to the present.”*  
Richard von Weizsacker