HISTORY 115: HONORS WORLD HISTORY to 1500
Learning Community
Fall 2013 (10:00 Class)
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Office Hours:
Students sometimes need help or advice on the course, the quizzes and the exams. My office is in 211 Normal Hall. I’m there to help you MF 9:00-9:45, TR 10:00-10:45, or by appointment.

Subject and Goal:
The course provides an overview of global history from the Neolithic Revolution to around 1500. We will cover a wide geographical area and a long chronology, but this course is not taught to just make you memorize facts. It will help you to engage the past. It is a question-asking course, where you involve yourself in the analysis of historical data, look for patterns and relationships in the civilizations we survey, and develop for yourself a meaning for the past. There are five major objectives for this course. It should leave you with knowledge of the following:

- The common patterns of world history.
- The distinguishing characteristics of the some of the world’s major civilizations.
- Points of contacts and cultural exchange among some of these civilizations.
- Historical foundations of some modern cultural traditions.
- The work of historical inquiry, analysis, and critical thinking.

General Education Program Assessment Criteria

5a. Students will understand and appreciate the diversity and interrelationship of cultures locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally.
5c. Students will demonstrate linguistic skills and cultural knowledge.
5d. Students will describe the nature of development, persistence, and change in the history of the human kind.
The Academic Foundation:

Textbook readings provide background information to the course. Lectures focus on one or two aspects of the topic under study. Discussions, writing assignments, quizzes and exams focus on complete primary sources and historical studies from the periods and cultures under study.

Books to Purchase:
Please note. It is required that you purchase the books for this course.


Under “Course Documents” two articles on Thomas Kuhn

Course Requirements and Assessment

Attendance:
In all classes, attendance is mandatory. I require a formal excuse for illness or emergencies. You are responsible to obtain any missed notes or arrange to hand in late assignments. After three unexcused absences, I may reduce your grade by one letter. After four unexcused absences, you may receive an "L" grade.

Reading:
This is the key to success for this or any other course. Lectures only cover part of the material on exams and readings cover the rest. Mastering reading comprehension is a large part of the college experience and one of the most important life skills you will gain as a college student. All assigned readings should be completed on schedule. Reading is assigned for each class. Make sure it is completed before each class.

Discussions:
This is the heart of exploring our special honors topic!

How do I calculate your participation grade?

Every time you make a good point in a class discussion, I add points (15-20) to your participation score! You can earn participation points when we have our
discussions from historical source readings. If you score a minimum of 350 points, you earn an "A" for your participation grade! Remember: Participation is 30% of your total grade! And if you earn more, it will count towards extra credit.

You will also earn point for in-class group work on discussion days!

**Writing Assignments:**
In this class you will write five papers based upon our discussions and reading of the primary sources in *Sources of World Societies*. You’ll find separate instructions on Blackboard. We’ll review these in class. Here are the due dates:

- Write 1: In Class: **Monday Sept 16**
- Write 2: In Class: **Monday Sept 30**
- Write 3: In Class: **Monday Oct 28**
- Write 4: In Class: **Monday Nov 25**
- Write 5: In Class: **Monday Dec 10**

**Learning Community Special Project**

This learning community includes four classes. There is one project all classes share that brings the skills and competencies taught in all four into one project. See the [Learning Community Special Project Learning Community Special Project rubric filed under course documents](#).

**Blackboard Quizzes:**
Each chapter from *Traditions and Encounters* has a quiz posted on Blackboard. You need to take this quiz and complete it by the due date. After the due date, it will not be accepted. See your syllabus for each due date.

There are two examinations in this class:

- Midterm Exam: (50 Minutes) **Friday October 19**
- Final Exam: (2 hours) **Monday December 17 10:15-12:15PM**

**Learning Objectives**

5a. Students will understand and appreciate the diversity and interrelationship of cultures locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally.

5c. Students will demonstrate linguistic skills and cultural knowledge.
**Plagiarism:**
Everything you write must be in your own words! Copying material from encyclopedias, web pages, your textbook, a friend’s paper, etc. is academically dishonest. So is using any material purchased on line! Students caught plagiarizing will get an “F” for the assignment. Please refer to your student handbook’s sections on Academic Dishonesty.

**GRADE VALUES**

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**LECTURES AND READINGS**

**Week One**

Reading Assignments: (For Week One)

*Traditions and Encounters*

Chapter One: “The Foundations of Complex Societies”

Mon Sept 2       No Class: Labor Day.

Wed Sept 4       Course Introduction

Fri Sept 6       Lecture 1

Chapter 1 Quiz Deadline: Sunday Sept. 08 10:00 PM

Reading Assignments: (For Week Two)

*Traditions and Encounters*

Chapter Two “Early African Societies and the Bantu Migrations”

For Writing Assignments, Class Discussion, and the Discussion Board

See the two special articles and focus questions under the “Course Documents” listing “Kuhn and History”
Week Two

Mon Sept 9       Lecture 1 “The Foundations of Complex Societies” (cont.)

Weds Sept 11    Lecture 2 “Early African Societies and the Bantu Migrations”

Fri Sept 13     Discussion One: Kuhn and Historical Paradigms

Chapter 2 Quiz Deadline: Sunday Sept. 15 10:00 PM

Reading Assignments (For Week Three)
Traditions and Encounters
Chapter Three “Early Societies in South and East Asia
Sources of World Societies Chapter 2: “The Rise of the State in SW Asia and the Nile Valley”

Readings: 2-1 4, 5
For Writing Assignments, Class Discussion, and the Discussion Board
Review Comparative Question 2 on page 46.

Week Three

Mon Sept 16     Lecture 2 (Continued)
Writing Assignment One Due in Class

Weds Sept 18    Lecture 3 “Early Societies in South and East Asia”

Fri Sept 20     Discussion Two: “The Rise of the State in SW Asia and the Nile Valley”

Chapter 3 Quiz Deadline: Sunday Sept. 22 10:00 PM

Reading Assignments (For Week Four)
Traditions and Encounters
Chapter Four “Early Societies in the Americas and Oceania”
Chapter Five “The Empires of Persia”
Sources of World Societies Chapter 3: “The Foundation of Indian Society”
Readings: 3-1, 2, 3, 4, 5
For Writing Assignments, Class Discussion, and the Discussion Board
Review Comparative Questions 1 and 2 on page 69.
Week Four

Mon Sept 23    Lecture 4 “Early Societies in the Americas and Oceania”

Weds Sept 25   Lecture 5 “The Empires of Persia”

Fri Sept 27    Discussion Three: “The Foundation of Indian Society”

Chapters 4 and 5 Quiz Deadline: Sunday Sept 29 10:00 PM

Reading Assignments: (For Week Five)
Traditions and Encounters
Chapter 6 “The Unification of China”
Sources of World Societies Chapter 4: “China’s Classical Age”
Readings: 4-2, 3, 4, 5
For Writing Assignments, Class Discussion, and the Discussion Board
Review Comparative Questions 1 and 2 on page 89.

Week Five

Mon Sept 30    Lecture 5 (Continued)
               Writing Assignment Two Due in Class

Weds Oct 2     Lecture 6 “The Unification of China”

Fri Oct 4      Discussion Four: “China’s Classical Age”

Chapter 6 Quiz Deadline: Sunday Oct. 6 10:00 PM

Reading Assignments: (For Week Six)
Traditions and Encounters
Chapter Seven “State, Society, and the Quest for Salvation in India”
Chapter Eight “Mediterranean Society Under the Greeks and the Romans”
Sources of World Societies Chapter 5: “The Greek Experience” Readings: 5-2, 3, 4, 5.
For Writing Assignments, Class Discussion, and the Discussion Board
Review Comparative Questions 2 and 6 on page 115.

Week Six

Mon Oct 7      Lecture 7 “State, Society, and the Quest for Salvation in India”
Weds Oct 9  Lecture 8 “Mediterranean Society Under the Greeks and the Romans” Part I

Fri Oct 11  Discussion Five: “The Greek Experience”

Chapters 7 and 8 Quiz Deadline: Sunday Oct. 13 10:00 PM (Two quizzes)

Reading Assignments: (For Week Seven)
Review material for the midterm exam!

Week Seven

Mon Oct 14  Fall Break! No Class!

Weds Oct 16  Midterm Exam Review!

Fri Oct 19  **Midterm Exam!**

No quiz this week!

Reading Assignments: (For Week Eight)
Traditions and Encounters
Chapter Nine “Cross-Cultural Exchanges on the Silk Road”
Sources of World Societies Chapter 6: “The World of Rome”
Readings: 6-3, 4, 6, 7
For Writing Assignments, Class Discussion, and the Discussion Board
Review Comparative Questions 1 and 5 on page 149.

Week Eight

Mon Oct 21  Lecture 8 “Mediterranean Society Under the Greeks and the Romans” Part II

Weds Oct 23  Lecture 9 “Cross-Cultural Exchanges on the Silk Road”

Fri Oct 25  Discussion Six: “The World of Rome”

Chapter 9 Quiz Deadline: Sunday Oct. 27 10:00 PM

Reading Assignments: (For Week Nine)
Traditions and Encounters
Chapter Ten “The Christian Commonwealth of Byzantium”
Chapter Eleven “The Expansive Role of Islam”
Sources of World Societies Chapter 8: “Continuity and Change in Europe and W Asia”
Readings: 8-1, 2, 3, 5, 7
For Writing Assignments, Class Discussion, and the Discussion Board
Review Comparative Questions 2 and 6 on page 182.

Week Nine

Mon Oct 28     Lecture 10 “The Christian Commonwealth of Byzantium”

Writing Assignment Three Due in Class

Weds Oct 30    Lecture 11 “The Expansive Role of Islam”

Fri Nov 1      Discussion Seven: “Continuity and Change in Europe and W Asia”

Chapters 10 and 11 Quiz Deadline: Sunday Nov 3 10:00 PM  (Two quizzes)

Reading Assignments: (For Week Ten)
Traditions and Encounters
Chapter 12 “The Resurgence of Empire in East Asia”
Sources of World Societies Chapter “The Islamic World”
Readings: 9-1, 2, 3, 4
For Writing Assignments, Class Discussion, and the Discussion Board
Review Comparative Questions 2 and 3 on page 204.

Week Ten

Mon Nov 4      Lecture 11 (Continued)

Weds Nov 6     Lecture 12 “The Resurgence of Empire in East Asia”

Fri Nov 8      Discussion Eight: “The Islamic World”

Chapter 12 Quiz Deadline: Sunday Nov. 10 10:00 PM

Reading Assignments: (For Week Eleven)
Traditions and Encounter
Chapter Thirteen “India and the Indian Ocean Basin”
**Week Eleven**

Mon Nov 11       Lecture 12 (Continued)

Weds Nov 13      Lecture 13 “India and the Indian Ocean Basin”

Fri Nov 15       Lecture Catch-Up Day!

Chapter 13 Quiz Deadline: Sunday Nov. 17 10:00 PM

**Reading Assignments: (For Week Twelve)**

*Traditions and Encounters*

Chapter Fourteen “Nomadic Empires and Eurasian Integration”

Chapter Fifteen “States and Societies in Sub-Saharan Africa”

*Sources of World Societies* Chapter 7: “East Asia and the Spread of Buddhism”

Readings: 7-2, 6, 7 and 3-5 (in a previous chapter)

For Writing Assignments, Class Discussion, and the Discussion Board

Review Comparative Questions 2 and 3 on page 162.

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**Week Twelve**

Mon Nov 18       Lecture 14 “Nomadic Empires and Eurasian Integration”

Weds Nov 21      Lecture 15 “States and Societies in Sub-Saharan Africa”

Fri Nov 23       Discussion Nine: “East Asia and the Spread of Buddhism”

Chapters 14 and 15 Quiz Deadline: Sunday Nov. 25 10:00 PM

**Reading Assignments: (For Week Thirteen)**

*Traditions and Encounters*

Chapter 16 “Christian Western Europe during the Middle Ages”

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**Week Thirteen**
Mon Nov 25
Lecture 16 “Christian Western Europe during the Middle Ages”
Writing Assignment Four Due in Class

Mon Nov 25
Learning Community Special Project
Presentation Day: 2:00-4:45
Location to be announced!
(Time and location may be revised)

Weds Nov 27
Thanksgiving Break

Fri Nov 29
Thanksgiving Break

Chapter 16 Quiz Deadline: Sunday Dec 1 10:00 PM

Reading Assignments: (For Week Fourteen)
Traditions and Encounters
Chapter Seventeen “Worlds Apart: The Americas and Oceania”
Sources of World Societies Chapter 10: “African Societies and Kingdoms”
Readings: 10-1, 2, 3, 4, 5
For Writing Assignments, Class Discussion, and the Discussion Board
Review Comparative Questions 1 and 2 on page 225.

Week Fourteen

Mon Dec 2
Lecture 16 (Continued)

Weds Dec 4
Lecture 17 “Worlds Apart: The Americas and Oceania”

Fri Dec 6
Discussion Ten: “African Societies and Kingdoms”

Chapter 17 Quiz Deadline: Sunday Dec 8 10:00 PM

Reading Assignments: (For Week Fifteen)
Traditions and Encounters
Chapter Eighteen “Reaching Out: Cross Cultural Interactions”
Sources of World Societies Chapter 14: “Europe in the Middle Ages”
Readings: 14-1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
For Writing Assignments, Class Discussion, and the Discussion Board
Review Comparative Questions 1, 2, and 4 on page 311.

Week Fifteen
Mon Dec 9         Lecture 17 (continued)

Weds Dec 11       Lecture 18 “Reaching Out: Cross Cultural Interactions”

Fri Dec 13        Discussion Eleven: “Europe in the Middle Ages”

Chapter 18 Quiz Deadline: Sunday Dec. 15 10:00 PM

**Final Exam**       To Be Announced

**Statement of Commitment**
As a member of the university, I pledge to
Pursue academic excellence,
Support open inquiry and civil expression,
Listen respectfully to the viewpoints of others,
Participate responsibly in the life of the community,
Conserve and enhance the beauty of the campus, and
Help members of the university realize their potential.