

World Civilizations I

Fall 2024

HIST 2321 – Online only course

3 Credit Hours [No Prerequisites Required]

Instructor: Mrs. Jill N. Carter

Email: Jcarter@uttyler.edu [preferred contact] – I do not have an office phone

In your email, please note which class you are in (example History 2321)

Expect a response within 24 hours M-F or 48 over the weekend

I will only reply to email from an official UT-Tyler email account

Office Location: College of Arts and Sciences Building (CAS)122

Office Hours: Since this is an online class and everyone has a different schedule, I want to accommodate for that and appointments for meetings are available in person or zoom by request with advanced notice of more than 24 hours. Email is the quickest way to communicate, and I will make every effort to get back to you quickly. I encourage you to reach out if you have questions, concerns, or need any help as office hours are better thought of as student hours to help you to more successful or get one on one time with your professors.

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” ~ Nelson Mandela

Course Description

This online class will be conducted through Canvas. If you experience any problems logging into Canvas or any technical problems with the system you should seek help from Campus Computing. They can be reached via email at itsupport@patriots.uttyler.edu. Please include your full name, student ID number and date of birth in any communications you send to them. If you experience any issues in Canvas, such as a locked module, you need to reach out to Canvas support and email me as well.

This course examines the history of world civilizations from their origins to early modern times. It provides a global perspective on the past, viewing history on a wider spectrum than has been conventional and emphasizing the connections and interactions between civilizations that have been neglected or unknown in the past. It also introduces the student to the most current historiographical developments in the field of world history.

It is divided into three units of study: (1) From Human Origins to Early Agricultural Centers, to 600 BCE; (2) The Age of Empires and Visionaries, 600 BCE to 600 CE; and (3) The Formation of Religious Civilizations, 600 to 1450 CE. We will focus on developments, transformations, and connections of the world's peoples from a variety of perspectives, ranging from economic networks to cultural influence, from environmental transformations to social movements. With this broad framework, and drawing from a wide variety of primary and secondary resources, this class will investigate various social, political, ideological, and economic processes and factors that shaped global history over time.

Objectives

This class is designed to get students to generally understand the various cultures and peoples of the World from Pre-History to 1450 C.E., even while fostering the students' ability to analyze and think about history and history-making processes more generally at the local, regional, national, and global levels. The class will use a variety of sources, including primary sources, secondary monographs, art, and other media to teach students how to analyze historical processes and to formulate their own analysis and understanding of world history.

Thus, in accordance with the Student Learning Outcomes for this course, by the end of the semester, students will acquire the following skills:

1. Develop critical thinking skills that reflect an ability to analyze, synthesize, and evaluate information while improving creative thinking, innovation, and inquiry.
2. Develop communication skills that reflect the ability to develop, interpret, and express their own ideas through written, oral, and visual communication.
3. Develop a sense of social responsibility that reflects intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in local, regional, national, and global communities.
4. Develop a sense of personal responsibility that the ability to connect individual choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

More specifically, in accordance with the Student Learning Outcomes as they pertain to the material in this course, this course will teach students to:

1. Create an argument through the use of historical evidence
2. Analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on this period of world history
3. Discuss and interpret information related to varying cultures, diverse peoples, and a broad range of historical contexts.
4. Demonstrate knowledge related to a wide range of principles and subjects in the humanities. This includes political science, philosophy, and arts.

Finally, as a course that helps students complete their Core Curriculum requirements, there are no university-based prerequisites for this course, but students are expected to have basic reading, writing, and analytical skills in order to succeed in this course. As a hybrid course, students are expected to be familiar with basic computing tasks like internet usage, posting through Canvas, using word processors, and using email.

Attendance and Make-Up Policy:

Regular attendance is one of the best ways to stay engaged and be successful in this course. I invite you to log onto Canvas each week, where you can work through the module content and complete the graded assignments. Logging in without engaging is not considered attendance, as it does not confer the same benefits to your learning. Each unit has a once per section due date for all its assignments to provide you with maximum flexibility within that period to complete work, but it is not intended to encourage you to wait until the last minute to complete everything. Regular (weekly) module engagement and assignment completion is key to being successful in this course. While there is no penalty for not doing weekly work, this will keep you on track, help you develop time management skills, and help reduce the stress of trying to cram

an entire unit of work into a short period of time. However, if an emergency comes up, you travel, get sick, or for anything else that may happen then you have until the hard deadline to catch up, which offers you flexibility when needed. You may also work ahead in a unit if that is what works best for you. I invite you to submit late assignments after the “soft deadline,” up until the “hard deadline,” after which no late work is accepted for full credit.

I understand that things happen, that is why I give an extended period of time for each unit. It is also why module assignments and quizzes submitted after the unit deadline receive a 50% reduction on points per day (a 0 after second day). You have ample time allotted to complete each assignment, usually several weeks, and waiting until the last minute to do an assignment is not advised. Time management is one of the skills you will need for the future, and this schedule is to help you work on that skill. If you have a computer issue, internet issue, or any other issue on the date an assignment is due is not an excuse for not completing the assignment on time and no additional points will be granted for late work. If you do the work early and an issue presents itself, then there is time for us to work together and resolve it so that you can submit the work by the due date. Unfortunately, each semester I have students who put off everything until the due date and sometime comes up or they run out of time. This causes you stress and harms your grade, I strongly encourage you NOT to risk this, but if you do, then you must accept those consequences.

Also there are no make-up exams or alternative assignments given once a test has been missed. There are 4 exams given over the semester and one of them is dropped. If you miss an exam, then that will be your dropped test grade. If you miss multiple exams that are open for an extended period of time because of an emergency situation then I encourage you to reach out to the CARE team on campus for that they can help you and determine the best course of action. No provisions are made in this course for missing more than one test in a semester. If you are going to miss an exam because of a school activity, you must make arrangements to take the exam prior to the day the exam will be given, as they are open the entire time the unit is.

Texts and Readings

This course relies on a mixture of primary and secondary sources in order to get students to understand World history as the people lived it. These sources also allow students to consider how history is produced, who produces it, and how it is used and interpreted. There will be materials that students will occasionally have to read online; in such instances, the documents will be available on Canvas. Textbooks will be available in the bookstore or from various online retailers (like Amazon), and are mandatory reading. I would suggest price checking as different places have better prices. Required texts are:

1. Patterns of World History, Volume One: To 1600 with Sources Second Edition Peter von Sivers, Charles A. Desnoyers, and George B. Stow ISBN: 9780199399796 (newer edition also acceptable)
2. Additional readings will be posted on Canvas.

Course Requirements

Learning is a process that takes place over days, weeks, months, and years in a variety of ways. One of the most rewarding parts of the learning process is the student’s direct engagement with learning via classroom interactions and discussions. It is imperative that you participate in your

own educational experience; to choose not to do so is to undertake the more tedious parts of learning without enjoying its rewarding parts.

Students will also be given weekly assignments and three exams through the course of the semester. In the event a student misses a test, no make ups are given, instead they take the comprehensive final exam that is given during finals week as a grade replacement.

Grades:

- Online module Quizzes: 165 points
- Online article assignments: 50 points
- Online writing assignment: 20 points
- Test 1: 100 points
- Test 2: 100 points
- Test 3: 100 points
- TOTAL: 535 points

Grading Mechanisms

The quizzes and online assignments for the Modules are due by **11:59 PM** on the day of the exam that covers them. You have several weeks to complete all the work, waiting until the last minute and then having an issue is not an excuse for not completing work on time. The Syllabus Quiz has a different due date, please check canvas. Module quizzes and assignments submitted late are reduced in points by 50% per day.

Online quizzes are multiple choice and true or false questions, and will be graded based on correct answers. There are 12 quizzes, worth 15 points each. Quizzes count for a total of 165 possible points. At the end of the semester the lowest quiz grade is dropped. Late work is reduced in credit by 50% per day.

Online article quiz assignments will be five questions over an article you have to read. These grades will be based on correct answers to the multiple choice and true and false questions. There will be 12 article assignments worth 5 points each, the lowest two grades will be dropped. These assignments will count for 50 possible points. Late work is reduced in credit by 50% per day.

Additionally, there will be one writing assignment given over the course of the semester. It is an essay that is worth 20 points. No late work is accepted for the essay. See AI Policy below.

The exams are a mixture multiple choice, matching, and true/false. Each test is worth 100 points, there will be 3 exams, for a total of 300 points. If a student misses a test for any reason, then they will receive a 0. At the end of the semester, students who missed an exam will be given a final exam as a grade replacement. Students who didn't miss an exam have the option to take the test to replace a lower exam grade. Tests count for 300 possible points.

An important note - No lockdown browser or proctoring software is required for exams or quizzes this semester. However, Exams are NOT open book or open note and outside resources, like google, are not allowed. To ensure academic honesty, you must complete the quizzes for each module before taking the exam, or else you will be given a 0 on the test. The exams are

times and once you answer a question, you cannot go back to it and there is a time limit. These measures are taken because I do not require a lockdown browser or test monitoring software on exam since they generally make students have anxiety and score poorly.

****Extra credit is NOT given on an individual basis, if any extra credit assignments are given, they are made available to the entire class. Please do not ask for individual extra credit opportunities. ****

Final Grades for the Semester Are Determined as Follows

89.5% + of total points available = A

79.5% - 89.4% of total points available = B

69.5% - 79.4% of total points available = C

59.5% - 69.4% of total points available = D

Below 59.4% = F

Additional Information

Some semesters, life gets in the way. Should you have one of these semesters, I am more than happy to talk to you about what to do. But if the trauma is too great, I strongly suggest you drop one or all of your courses. Your education is vitally important, but there are things that outrank even education sometimes—and *you have to make that call when it is necessary*. I cannot grade you on how well or poorly you deal with your life at given moments. Your grades reflect your performance in class—not how well you are dealing with other things. I wish all of us a semester in which these things aren't issues.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Usage Statement

UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools' ethical, societal,

philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler's Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course (see below) is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy.

The written work submitted by students in this course will be generated by themselves. This includes all process work, drafts, brainstorming artifacts, editing, and final products. Any instance of the following constitutes a violation of UT Tyler's Honor Code: a student has another person/entity do any

portion of a graded assignment, which includes purchasing work from a company, hiring a person or company to complete an assignment or exam, using a previously submitted assignment and/or using AI tools (such as ChatGPT).

Course Outline: Tentative Schedule

Schedule/Topic Outline (check canvas for all due dates)

Getting Started Module and Syllabus Quiz Due 9/6

Unit 1 - All work from Unit 1 includes Modules 1-5 and Test #1 – Due by 9/27

Module 1 –Pre-History

Module 2 –Mesopotamia and ancient Egypt

Module 3 - Indus Civilizations

Module 4 – Ancient China

Module 5 - Mesoamerica

Unit 2 - All work from Unit 2 includes Modules 6 – 9 and Test #2 Due by 10/25

Module 6 - Persian Empire

Module 7 - Greek and Roman civilizations

Module 8 - Mauryan the Gupta Empires

Module 9 - Imperial China

Unit 3 - All work from Unit 3 includes Modules 10 – 12 and Test #3 Due by 12/6

Module 10 – The Eastern and Western Roman empires

Module 11 - Europe in the Middle Ages

Module 12 - China

The Final Exam comprehensive and is optional unless you miss an exam (Last day of class for this course) Due by 12/10

Syllabus Notice:

The instructor reserves the right to alter the syllabus; however, students will be given ample warning to any possible changes.

Copyright Statement:

Learning materials posted online within UT Tyler courses are protected by copyright law. These materials are only for the use of students enrolled in the course and only for the purpose of the course. They may not be further retained or disseminated.

Student Resources:

For a general overview of resources provided by The University of Texas at Tyler, please refer to this link: <http://lms-media.uttyler.edu/fileman/OID/Resource/>

Academic Integrity

The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrates a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty

Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, submitting work that is not one's own. In the classroom, this generally takes one of two forms: plagiarism or cheating. Cheating can include (but is not limited to) using unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade, inventing information, including citations, on an assignment, and copying answers from a colleague or other source. Tests in this class are not open book and not outside resources are allowed.

Plagiarism is presenting the words **or** ideas of another person as if they were your own. As a result, Plagiarism can include, but is not limited to, submitting work as if it is your own when it is at least partly the work of others, submitting work that has been purchased or obtained from the internet or another source without authorization, and incorporating the words and ideas of another writer or scholar without providing due credit to the original author.

Any and all cases of plagiarism or cheating will result in an automatic zero for the assignment. The professor also reserves the right to assign the students a zero for the semester, and to refer cases of plagiarism to the student's respective dean.

Please read the complete policy at

<http://www.uttyler.edu/judicialaffairs/scholasticdishonesty.php>

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

UT Tyler Honor Code

Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace: Honor and integrity that will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do.

Students Rights and Responsibilities

To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link:

<http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php>

Campus Carry

We respect the right and privacy of students 21 and over who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at

<http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>

UT Tyler a Tobacco-Free University

All forms of tobacco will not be permitted on the UT Tyler main campus, branch campuses, and any property owned by UT Tyler. This applies to all members of the University community, including students, faculty, staff, University affiliates, contractors, and visitors.

Forms of tobacco not permitted include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kreteks, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other tobacco products.

There are several cessation programs available to students looking to quit smoking, including counseling, quitlines, and group support. For more information on cessation programs please visit www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free.

Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies

Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. (For Fall, the Census Date is Sept. 10.) Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar>. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date (Sept. 10th) is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions of which students need to be aware. These include:

1. Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
2. Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
3. Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a "W" grade)
4. Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment

5. Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

State-Mandated Course Drop Policy

Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date).

Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

Disability/Accessibility Services

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University of Texas at Tyler offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. If you have a disability, including a non-visible diagnosis such as a learning disorder, chronic illness, TBI, PTSD, ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment, you are encouraged to visit <https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler> and fill out the New Student application.

The Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office will contact you when your application has been submitted and an appointment with Cynthia Lowery, Assistant Director of Student Services/ADA Coordinator. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR webpage at <http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices>, the SAR office located in the University Center, # 3150 or call 903.566.7079.

Student Absence due to Religious Observance

Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities

If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

Social Security and FERPA Statement

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

Emergency Exits and Evacuation

Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor's directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

Student Standards of Academic Conduct

Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

- i. "Cheating" includes, but is not limited to:
 1. copying from another student's test paper;
 2. using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
 3. failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;
 4. possession during a test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed "crib notes". The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test;
 5. using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
 6. collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;
 7. discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;
 8. divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructors has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student;
 9. substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;
 10. paying or offering money or other valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program or information about an unadministered test, test key, home solution or computer program;
 11. falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit;
 12. taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of The University of Texas at Tyler, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct; and
 13. misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or resumes, for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit or injuring another student academically or financially.
- ii. "Plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another's work and the submission of it as one's own academic work offered for credit.

- iii. “Collusion” includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on scholastic dishonesty.
- iv. All written work that is submitted will be subject to review by plagiarism software.

UT Tyler Resources for Students

- 1. UT Tyler Writing Center (903.565.5995), writingcenter@uttyler.edu
- 2. UT Tyler Tutoring Center (903.565.5964), tutoring@uttyler.edu
- 3. The Mathematics Learning Center, RBN 4021, this is the open access computer lab for math students, with tutors on duty to assist students who are enrolled in early-career courses.
- 4. UT Tyler Counseling Center (903.566.7254)

Important Covid-19 Information for Classrooms and Laboratories:

Information for Classrooms and Laboratories: Students are expected to wear face masks covering their nose and mouth in public settings (including classrooms and laboratories). The UT Tyler community of Patriots views adoption of these practices consistent with its [Honor Code \(Links to an external site.\)](#) and a sign of good citizenship and respectful care of fellow classmates, faculty, and staff.

Students who are feeling ill or experiencing symptoms such as sneezing, coughing, digestive issues (e.g. nausea, diarrhea), or a higher than normal temperature should stay at home and are encouraged to use the [UT Tyler COVID-19 Information and Procedures \(Links to an external site.\)](#) website to review protocols, check symptoms, and report possible exposure. Students needing additional accommodations may contact the Office of Student Accessibility and Resources at University Center 3150, or call (903) 566-7079 or email saroffice@uttyler.edu.

Recording of Class Sessions:

Class sessions may be recorded by the instructor for use by students enrolled in this course. Recordings that contain personally identifiable information or other information subject to FERPA shall not be shared with individuals not enrolled in this course unless appropriate consent is obtained from all relevant students. Class recordings are reserved only for the use of students enrolled in the course and only for educational purposes. Course recordings should not be shared outside of the course in any form without express permission.