

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 four units of study: (1) Early Complex Societies, to 500 BCE; (2) Classical Societies, 500 BCE to 500 CE; (3) Rebuilding the World in the Post-Classical Era, 500 to 1000 CE; and (4) Toward a New World Order: Cross-Cultural Intervention, 1000 to 1500 CE. **Please note:** announcements and class materials are posted electronically on Blackboard. Be sure to “enroll” in Blackboard by September 1.

Required Textbooks: Bentley and Ziegler. *Traditions and Encounters: A Global Perspective on the Past*, fourth edition. (Use of third edition is acceptable.)

Grading the Course:

Exam #1(includes global essay)	25%
Exam #2(includes global essay)	25%
Exam #3(includes global essay)	25%
Exam #4(includes global essay)	25%

Course Outline:

<u>Subject of the Class</u>	<u>Reading Assignment</u>
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UNIT I: EARLY COMPLEX SOCIETIES, TO 500 BCE

Orientation

Prehistory and the Nature of Complex Societies
Mesopotamia and Egypt

South Asia: Origins of Indian Civilization
East Asia: Origins of Chinese Civilization

Hellenic Civilization; The Americas and Oceania
EXAM #1

Part I: Chaps. 1-6

UNIT II: CLASSICAL SOCIETIES, 500 BCE TO 500 CE

The Nature of Classical Civilizations: Persia
Political and Cultural Foundations of China

The Spirit of Indian Civilization
Hellenic Civilization and Its Influence

The Romans and Their World
A World Without Borders

The End of the World As They Knew It
EXAM #2

Part II: Chaps. 7-12

UNIT III: REBUILDING THE WORLD IN THE POST-CLASSICAL ERA, 500 TO 1000 CE

The Byzantine Empire and Eastern Christianity
Islamic Faith and Culture

Chinese Splendor: Empire and Influence
Influence of Indian Traditions

UNIT IV: TOWARD A NEW WORLD ORDER: CROSS-CULTURAL INTERVENTION, 1000-1500 CE

Mongols and Turks: Eurasian Integration

Variations in Sub-Saharan Africa
Europe in the High Middle Ages

Europe in the High Middle Ages (continued)
THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY—NO CLASS

Societies of the Americas
Reaching Out to the World

Reaching Out to the World
TBA

EXAM #4 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

Part IV: Chaps. 18-22

Description of Assignments

- (1) **Regular Reading of Class Notes, Textbook, and Periodic Assignments.** Students should review class notes regularly, read the textbook regularly at least twice a week, and study the assignments that are periodically announced in class or in Blackboard. The professor reserves the right to administer unannounced quizzes on this material at any time.
- (2) **Study Guides.** The professor has prepared four study guides that help students in various ways. They familiarize students with historical geography, provide practice in writing precise and substantive identification items, help students discern the authors' main line of argument, and provide opportunities to construct solid answers to essay questions while preparing for the four written examinations. These are designed to be used weekly, not only prior to scheduled exams. Students are encouraged to complete these even though the guides are not submitted as formal assignments
- (3) **Supplementary Readings.** Students are responsible for reading all handouts and supplementary assignments that are announced. These readings may be posted on Blackboard or available either on the Internet or on reserve at the Muntz Library.
- (4) **Global Essays.** Four global essays, one per unit of study, are required in this course. Each is a minimum of two pages and maximum of three pages in length and completed outside the classroom. It is submitted along with the in-class portion of the exam and becomes part of that exam. Each global essay is worth either 10% or 20% of the exam grade, whichever is announced in advance in class.

Global Essays do not require consultation of sources beyond regular course readings. The essays call for some critical thinking, analysis, imagination, and personal evaluation. Because these are not traditional research papers, they do not have footnotes or bibliography. The title of each global essay appears on the appropriate study guide, giving sufficient time for reading, reflection, and writing.

Use only the exact title that has been assigned; it announces the theme of your essay. You will be graded on accuracy of information, clarity of expression, historical thinking, the persuasiveness or logic of your argument, and comprehensiveness. To be comprehensive, your essay must address a variety of cultures/societies that reasonably cover the known world at the time.

Format of Global Essay. Place the short title at the top of the first page. The essay must be double-spaced. Required font is Times New Roman 12 pt. Pages should be numbered at the top center (except for p. 1) and have one-inch margins on all four sides. Indent paragraphs on the left. Do not justify the right margin. Place your name (last name, first name) at the top right of the first page only and staple the paper once at the upper left. No clip, folder, or title page. No added information such as course number or title or professor's name. While first-person references are ordinarily inappropriate in formal writing, they are acceptable in these essays, especially when expressing personal reactions to and views you may have about the subjects.

Class Policies

- (1) **Attendance.** Attendance at all class sessions is expected. Missing more than the equivalent of two weeks of class will affect the grade. For each absence after the fourth one, 1% will be deducted from the final course grade unless special circumstances apply, which have been discussed with the professor. Guests may attend class only with the prior approval. Children may not attend class.
- (2) **Courtesy.** Tardiness is not acceptable. It is disruptive to the class and discourteous to both professor and students. Habitual tardiness will affect the final course grade and may require withdrawal. Students should remove caps and hats in class. Pagers and telephones must be turned off in class. University regulations do not permit food in the classroom. When corresponding with the professor via e-mail, please always identify yourself (unless your real name is already part of your e-mail address) and identify the course number in

the subject line of your message. If an emergency requires you to leave the room while class is still in session, be considerate. Do not disturb others and do not slam the door either upon exiting or returning.

- (3) Deadlines. Each global essay is due at the time of the exam. Since no late essays can be accepted, a missing essay will lower the exam grade by one or two whole letter grades (depending on whether the essay was worth 10% or 20% of that particular exam).
- (4) Make-Up Exams. Ordinarily there are no make-up exams. In the unlikely event that you must miss an exam because of illness or emergency, notify the professor immediately to seek authorization for a make-up exam. Provide documentation immediately upon return to classes. If authorized to do so, take the exam at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 13, 2008. Meet in BUS 205 unless another classroom has been booked and announced. Absolutely no more than one make-up exam will be authorized.. Make-up exams cover the same material as the original exams, but their format may be different.
- (5) Reporting of Grades. As soon as exams are graded, you will receive an e-mail message alerting you that the grades have been posted in Blackboard and (at the end of the semester) Campus Connect.