

# Course Syllabus

## **HISTORY 101: SYLLABUS (5 CR) HISTORY OF CIVILIZATION:**

### **THE GREAT CULTURAL TRADITIONS**

**INSTRUCTOR:** ISAAC MEYER (isaac.meyer@bellevuecollege.edu)

### **PRESCRIBED TEXTS:**

McKay, Hill, Buckler & Ebrey, A History of World Societies. (9<sup>th</sup> ed.)

Riley, Gerome, Lembright, Myers et al. The Global Experience Vol. 1 (5<sup>th</sup> ed.)

### **COURSE CONTENT AND OBJECTIVES:**

History 101 is a survey of world civilizations from pre-historic origins to the end of the early middle ages i.e. c. 1000 AD/CE .The course examines developments during pre-historic times and then the emergence of the earliest civilizations in Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, China and their diffusion across Eurasia. The achievements of so-called Classical civilizations such as the Greek, Roman, Indian, Chinese and early Byzantine Empires are considered. Students will show that they have a clear understanding of the meaning of classical civilization by the end of the course The course is designed to make students aware of the totality of the human experience and hence attention is focused on economic, social, governmental, religious, cultural, intellectual and technological developments. The course seeks to provide students with an understanding of the comparative features of early and classical civilizations; and appreciation of the role of personalities in shaping the past, as well as an understanding of the impact of historical developments on the lives of ordinary men and women. The course will help students to appraise the nature of the problems facing ancient and classical civilizations and to assess these from a balanced perspective.

One of the major objectives (through reading, discussion and writing assignments) is to develop critical thinking skills. History (from the Greek) means learning through inquiry and a key objective is to promote inquiry and discussion. Students will demonstrate a capacity to make inferences, handle complexity of cause and consequence; understand divergent interpretations and the nature of historical evidence and the debates to which it gives rise in relation to the history of global societies during ancient and classical times. These will be specific elements of assessment in this class. The discipline is more than knowing lists of facts and dates (though these are important) and students will need to demonstrate that they have developed thinking/ analytical skills by the end of this course. History 101 is intended also to develop General Education skills in areas such as reasoning skills (critical thinking; research & information); communication (writing); cultural traditions (historical & intellectual Perspectives; cultural diversity).

Students are advised to make careful notes leaving space for the incorporation of supplementary materials from the text- books or for the creation if independent questions about the topics under review. All questions concerning discussion or text assignments are welcome at any time. Please contact me via email at my email address (isaac.meyer@bellevuecollege.edu) with them. Note that I generally do not check email after 7 PM, so any email sent after that time will not be answered until the next day.

It is important for students to gain a reasonable geographical sense of places under discussion. Also, it is crucial that each student develop a chronology of events that will serve as a scaffold upon which to build arguments and interpretations of data. Timelines of all the civilizations we will be covering as well as atlases and maps are available online – these resources will be a tremendous help.

Note: When dealing with electronic sources, it is generally better to go for something from a .edu domain. Wikipedia is an acceptable place to start, but you will be better off going to the sources listed for an article than using the article itself.

The course is divided into approximately ten thematic/historical topics. To locate the materials/assignments for each topic access the "Pages" section of the course. (left hand margin menu). These will be labeled by week and date (e.g. “**Week 1, 4/6-4/10**”, “**Week 2, 4/13-4/17**”, etc.) There you will find both the week’s assignments and the readings. Readings listed as due on a specific day (e.g. April 7<sup>th</sup>) should be done *before class* on that day.

It is critically important that students follow the weekly assigned readings and avoid falling behind. Students are entirely responsible for reading and knowing the relevant material in the prescribed texts as well as any other assigned material.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

### **(1) QUIZZES:**

Students will complete four quizzes. The material for the quizzes will be drawn from the prescribed readings and documents, lecture comments and discussions as well as the data in the reading guides or lectures. Quizzes will be done electronically on your own time. Because they are typed, spelling does count – use spellcheck to ensure you don’t lose points for no reason.

Each quiz comprises a series of multiple-choice questions and may also include match-ups and time-line questions. A brief overview for each quiz will be posted. Quizzes cumulatively will represent 20% of the final grade (thus each quiz is 5% of the final grade).

Quiz dates are: April 17, May 1, May 15, May 29

**PLEASE NOTE CAREFULLY: Once a quiz has been accessed it will close after the prescribed time allotted.**

### **(2) DISCUSSIONS/ OTHER ASSIGNMENTS**

Twenty percent of your final grade will be based on participation in discussions in class. There will be discussions after lecture for 10-15 minutes almost every day of class (sometimes we will skip discussion for other reasons, such as when we discuss your papers).

I will break you into smaller groups to discuss readings and lecture based on both your own questions and ones that I will provide to guide you. I will be noting who does or does not participate in those discussions. Be sure that you do – these should be twenty very easy points to get as long as you are doing the reading.

### **(3) EXAMINATIONS:**

There will be a midterm and a final examination. The midterm will be on May 8, the final on June 17. Both the midterm and final exam will be handled electronically through Canvas. See the course canvas page for more details. Each will be worth 20% of your final grade.

### **(4) TERM PAPER:**

Students will submit a term paper that will be drafted and edited before final submission. The topic must be selected in consultation with the instructor and it must relate directly to the subject material of this course. The details regarding length and other requirements will be found in the pages section of the course. (See "Pages" - "Term Paper.")

On May 1, a 100 word summary of your topic with a bibliography of no less than five sources will be due on Canvas. This is to ensure that you have started to think about a topic and do research, so that you are not forced to switch topics at the last minute due to a paucity of sources.

### **GRADING:**

All results will be reduced to an overall average to decide the final grade. The midterm, (20%) final examinations (20%) and term paper (20%) will count 60% towards the final grade. Quizzes make up 20% of the grade. The discussions and assignments will be worth the remaining 20% of the final grade.

It is important to remember that at one level history is the narrative of things done, and so students are expected to know an accurate body of facts about the past. However the study of history also involves thinking about the changes that have taken place across historic time, why and how these changes came about. Superior grades will be earned by students who move beyond simply narrating history and begin to analyze it. The key to this course is to consider the broader themes that unite each of the disparate cultures we will deal with, both with each other and with the modern world.

There are no courtesy grades for this class. Grading is designed to maintain the highest college level standards and to measure as accurately as possible the individual student level of performance against this standard. In order to achieve a passing grade students must demonstrate that they have met the requirements of the course and achieved competency in the course objectives. It is imperative that students make use of consultation with the instructor. It is

pointless to make known difficulties at the last moment when the situation may be beyond salvage. Students have the responsibility of seeking assistance in a timely manner.

### **GRADES:**

Are achieved on a straightforward percentage basis. There is no curve grading. Please note that A grades are only awarded if student's work has attained the highest levels of excellence as outlined in the requirements above. The grading scheme is as follows:

A = 90-100% A- = 85-89%

B+ = 80-84% B = 75-79% B- = 70-74%

C+ = 65-69% C = 60-64% C- = 55-59% D = 50-54%

F = Below 50%

Students who find that they need to withdraw from the course need to make a responsible decision by the final date for withdrawal (in person). Students who remain on the roster after that date will be assigned a final grade.

### **PROVISIONAL COURSE OUTLINE:**

Note: Reading assignments for an individual week are given on Canvas under the corresponding page (ex. "Week 1 – 4/6-4/10").

**Week 1:** Human ancestors, the Stone Age, Ancient Mesopotamia

**Week 2:** Ancient Israel, Ancient Egypt, the Persian Empire

**Week 3:** Classical India

**Week 4:** China from the Xia to the Han

**Week 5:** China from the Han to the rise of the Tang

**Week 6:** The Golden Age of Greece

**Week 7:** The rise of Alexander and the Diadochi, the rise of Rome

**Week 8:** The Fall of the Roman Republic, the Roman Empire

**Week 9:** Fall of the Roman Empire, the Byzantines and the Rise of Islam

**Week 10:** Islam and the Middle Ages

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## **“Top Ten” Campus Resources for Students**

### **In alphabetical order:**

**Academic Success Center** – Get free (!) tutoring (in virtually any subject), writing help, or math assistance at this great campus resource! Students who visit the Academic Success Center, we believe, do better in their classes. Stop by the Center in D204, or visit them online at <http://bellevuecollege.edu/asc/> ([Links to an external site.](#))

**CEO (Career Education Options)** – This is an EXCELLENT program for students aged 16-20 who did not receive high school diplomas. CEO advises and mentors its students, helping them attain a degree. Many of our students, with the help of CEO, have succeeded at their second chance at education. To learn more, visit <http://bellevuecollege.edu/ceo/> ([Links to an external site.](#)) or call (425) 564-4035

**Counseling Center**– Did you know that BC offers free, short-term counseling for students? If you’re having a problem in your life and you’d like to talk to someone about it, consider seeing a BC Counselor. We have referred our students to the Counseling Center for a very wide range of issues, ranging from stress and depression to relationship problems to sexual assault and other forms of abuse. BC’s Counselors are sensitive, understanding, and trained. To make an appointment with a counselor, call (425) 564-2212. If you have a crisis and cannot reach the Counseling Center, call the 24 hour Crisis Clinic Hotline at (206) 461-3222 or 1-800-244-5767.

**DRC (Disability Resource Center)**– Although many BC students already know about the great people at the Disability Resource Center, there are some students with disabilities who haven’t yet gone by the DRC for assistance. If you have any kind of disability whatsoever, we strongly encourage you to visit the DRC in B132. They are a wonderful group of folks who are dedicated to providing students with open, fair, and equitable access to education. You can also visit them online at <http://bellevuecollege.edu/drc/> ([Links to an external site.](#))

**Human Development Classes and Workshops** – The Counseling Center offers many classes that can have long-term impact on your life, such as “Stress Management,” “Selecting a Major,” “Assertive Communication,” “Building Self-Esteem,” and “Race in America.” These classes typically range from one to three credits, so they don’t meet as often as sociology courses, nor do they cost as much money.

**LGBTQ Resource Center** – The LGBTQ Resource Center is a place on campus where students can feel safe to be themselves, free from harassment, prejudice, or ridicule. Hang out, meet new people, use the computers to get some work done, or check out the books on a variety of LGBTQ-related themes. For more information, stop by their office in C225 or call them at (425)564-6041.

**MCS (Multicultural Student Services)** – MCS specializes in assisting students of color, gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender students, and refugee and immigrant students. BC’s MCS office

is wonderful! MCS aims to help all students reach their academic goals, so all BC students are welcome to use MCS's services free of charge. MCS is really wonderful at helping all students feel comfortable and welcome at Bellevue College. They will help integrate you into the life of our College. MCS has been a shoulder our students have leaned upon and a network of friends to turn to. We have seen MCS help with a wide variety of personal and professional challenges, from figuring out how to pay for college and secure childcare for kids, to personal counseling and advising. MCS pretty much can do it all – and if they can't, they can DEFINITELY connect you with the right people who can! For more information, visit <http://bellevuecollege.edu/mcs/index.html> (Links to an external site.) , stop by their office in B233, or call them at (425) 564-2208

**Student Programs** – Meet new people! Get involved! There is a wealth of student clubs and organizations on our campus. The Muslim Student Association, the Math Club, the Black Student Union, El Centro Latino, the Peer-to-Peer Mentoring Program, the Street Dance Club, Student Government, and MANY more organizations (there are dozens!) are housed in Student Programs. We are confident that every student can find something of interest. Stop by Student Programs in room C212, or visit their site at <http://bellevuecollege.edu/stupro/> (Links to an external site.)

**TRiO** – This department provides excellent academic support for students who have limited incomes, documented disabilities, OR who are the first in their families to attend college. Students tell us that their experiences with TRiO are amazing, and we have personally witnessed our students THRIVE (!) with TRiO's assistance and guidance. Students who join TRiO are given close and intensive academic advising, lessons in study skills, tutoring, and overall support not only as students but as human beings. For more information, visit <http://bellevuecollege.edu/trio/> (Links to an external site.) , stop by their office in B233, or call them at (425) 564-5475.

**Veterans Office** – If you are a veteran of the United States Military, BC's Veterans Office can help you with a variety of issues, most notably financial assistance. They will guide you along the GI Bill benefits, and they can help you activate your Veterans Affairs Educational Benefits. For more information about your options, visit <http://fa.bellevuecollege.edu/veterans> (Links to an external site.) To contact them, call (425) 564-2220.

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## **PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION**

### **Fall 2012**

#### Cheating, Stealing and Plagiarizing\*

Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason,

allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Dean of Student Services and at [http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050P\\_Student\\_Code\\_\(Procedures\).asp](http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050P_Student_Code_(Procedures).asp) (Links to an external site.)

Email Communication with instructors must be done through student email accounts only. Instructors cannot communicate with students about their course work or grades through student's personal email accounts.

### Incomplete

If a student fails to complete all the required work for a course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("I"). The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an "F").

### F Grade

Students who fail a course will receive a letter grade of "F."

### Final Examination Schedule

The Social Science Division will adhere to the final examination schedule as stated in the BC Schedule. Final examinations will be held at the end of each quarter at fixed times. Instructors will not give examinations in advance of the regular schedule. A student who is absent from any examination held at any time during the quarter may forfeit the right to make up the examination. If, for illness or some other circumstance beyond the student's control, the student is unable to be present at any scheduled examination and has contacted the instructor on a timely basis, the student may be permitted to take such examination at a time designated by the instructor.

### Withdrawal From Class

College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course.

### Hardship Withdrawal

Instructors may assign the grade of "HW" (hardship withdrawal) at their discretion in the event that a student cannot complete the coursework due to extreme and exceptional circumstances. Students may also contact the Enrollment Services office BEFORE grades are assigned in cases of hardship.

### Students Who Require Disability Accommodations:

Students with disabilities who have accommodation needs are encouraged to meet with the Disability Resource Centre (DRC) office located in B132 (telephone 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110), to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DRC office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter. Students who require accommodation in class should review the DRC accommodation letter with each instructor during the first week of the quarter.

Students with mobility challenges who may need assistance in case of an emergency situation or evacuation should register with Disability Resource Centre, and review those needs with the instructor as well.

### Distribution of Grades

Grades will not be posted in the Social Science Division or in faculty offices, and program assistants or coordinators will not give out grades. Students should access their grades through the BC Web site.

### Return of Papers and Tests

Paper and/or Scantron score sheet returns will be arranged in the following ways ONLY: by mail, if student supplies the instructor with stamped, self-addressed envelope (with appropriate postage); or by the instructor designating a time and place whereby the student may retrieve his/her papers. Unclaimed papers and/or Scantron score sheets must be kept by the instructor for a minimum of sixty (60) instructional days following the end of the quarter.

*\*If you are accused of cheating, stealing exams and/or plagiarism, there is a Bellevue College Student Discipline and Appeals Procedure (the right to due process) which you may pursue. Contact the office of Division Chair (D110), the Dean of Student Services (B231A) or the Associated Student Body (C212) for information regarding the appeals process.*

Date	Details
<b>Fri Jan 9, 2015</b>	<a href="#">Syllabus Quiz</a> due by 11:59pm
<b>Tue Jan 13, 2015</b>	<a href="#">Autobiography</a> due by 11:59pm
<b>Sun Jan 25, 2015</b>	<a href="#">1st Discussion Topic</a> due by 11:59pm
	<a href="#">2nd Discussion Topic</a> due by 11:59pm
<b>Sun Feb 15, 2015</b>	<a href="#">Midterm Examination Pt II</a> due by 11:59pm
	<a href="#">Midterm Examination: Pt I</a> due by 11:59pm
<b>Fri Mar 13, 2015</b>	<a href="#">3rd Discussion Topic</a> due by 11:59pm

Date	Details
Wed Mar 18, 2015	<a href="#">Final Examination Part II</a> due by 11:59pm
	<a href="#">Final Examination Part I</a> due by 11:59pm
	<a href="#">Quiz #3</a> due by 12:59am
	<a href="#">Quiz #5</a> due by 12:59am
	<a href="#">Quiz #2</a> due by 11:59am
	<a href="#">Quiz #4</a> due by 11:59pm
	<a href="#">Quiz #1</a> due by 11:59pm
	<a href="#">Term Paper</a> due by 11:59pm
Sun Mar 22, 2015	<a href="#">4th Discussion Topic</a> due by 11:59pm