

## Bellevue College

### HIS 101: History of Civilization: Cultural Traditions

Winter 2013

**Instructor:** Dr. Brian Casserly

**Office Hours:** Mondays and Fridays, 10 – 11am; TWTh, 11am – noon; and by appointment. My office is in D-110.

**Contact Information:** brian.casserly@bellevuecollege.edu

#### INTRODUCTION:

Welcome to HIS 101! This class is a survey of the some of the major developments in world history from pre-history to the post-classical era.

Over the course of the quarter we will be concerned with the study of history in terms of both process and content. As part of this class we will learn the process of history, what it is that historians do and the kinds of skills that they use. This will involve working with primary sources, the tools that historians use to understand the past, such as art, myth, literature and poetry, laws, letters, government documents, and religious writings to name just a few. We will also explore how historians construct interpretations and analyses of the past, i.e. secondary sources. We will learn to think critically about these sources and what they can tell us about the past and about the explanations that historians produce. We will also focus on learning how to develop strong analyses of historical evidence. It is important that we understand that interpretations of the past are not static. Professional historians expect that newly discovered artifacts, newly released documents and new approaches to studying history will change our perceptions of the past.

We will also be concerned with content. Between now and the end of the quarter we will explore the history of many different societies, nations and cultures around the world during the past two centuries. We will examine important events in the Near and Middle East, Africa, Asia, and Europe (not necessarily in that order) and the impact they had on the history of the world. We will focus largely (but not exclusively) on several main themes:

- The development of a variety of civilizations and cultures in terms of political and social structures, economies, religious and philosophic beliefs, gender relations, etc.
- Exchanges and interactions between different cultures and societies and how this shaped their development.
- The emergence of empires, and how military and political developments shaped world history.
- Humans' relationship with their environments and how this shaped their societies, economies, etc.

Your responsibility over the quarter is to complete all readings and assignments on time and become familiar with the key developments in world history as presented in the readings and class lessons. You will also be asked to develop skills in historical thinking, to learn how to analyze primary sources, to make arguments and interpretations from them, and to critically evaluate the interpretations that other historians have made.

**HIST 101 is a college-level class and it involves intensive reading and writing. To be successful, all students should have reading and writing skills that are at least at the English 101 level. If you are not comfortable at this level of reading and writing you should not take the class.**

**This class meets daily.** Class time will consist of lectures, discussion of primary and secondary source documents, movies, etc. This is not a distance learning class! We will cover material during class meetings that is not covered in the books or readings and which is not available online. Some of this material will be included in exams, quizzes and other assignments. **Regular attendance in class is required and is essential if you are to receive a passing grade.** If you don't think you can regularly make it to class then you should not register for the course.

**I am available to meet with you individually during my office hours (or by appointment) to discuss any questions or problems you may have about any aspect of the course. E-mail is the easiest way to contact me and during the regular work week I will usually respond to messages within 24 hours.**

**You MUST establish a Bellevue College e-mail account as soon as possible by going to <https://bellevuecollege.edu/sam/> and you should check this account regularly throughout the quarter. In accordance with Bellevue College policy, I can only e-mail students through your Bellevue College e-mail accounts.**

**Class materials will be available through MyBC – go to <http://mybcc.net/> and look for the link to HIST 101.**

#### **LEARNING OUTCOMES ADDRESSED:**

At the end of the course successful students should:

- Be able to explain the causes and consequences of the major developments in world history in the period covered by the class, and be able to explain the historic significance of those developments
- Have developed their skills in critical thinking and analysis in dealing with historical questions
- Have improved their writing skills and their ability to produce thesis-driven, evidence-based essays
- Have developed a familiarity with the historical backgrounds of a diversity of cultural traditions.

For a complete description of the course outcomes see <http://bellevuecollege.edu/classes/All/HIST/101>

#### **REQUIRED READINGS:**

The weekly reading assignments will be an important part of your learning experience. They will form the basis for our discussion in class and will allow us to investigate in greater depth issues that are raised in the textbook and class lectures. Students are responsible for completing all of the reading assignments (detailed on the Class Calendar in MyBC) on time. Material in the scheduled readings that is not covered during class meetings may still appear on exams, so make sure you read all that has been assigned. The following are the required books for the class:

- McKay, Hill, Buckler, Ebrey, Beck, Crowston, Wiesner-Hanks, [\*Understanding World Societies: A Brief History\*](#) (Bedford St. Martins, 2013).

- Gainty and Ward, [Sources of World History, Volume I, to 1600](#) (Bedford St. Martins, second edition, 2012).
- Mary Lynn Rampolla, [A Pocket Guide to Writing in History](#) (Bedford St. Martins, seventh edition, 2012).

**I have ordered the combined volume of *Understanding World Societies*, which is available from the college bookstore packaged with *Sources of World History* and *A Pocket Guide to Writing in History*, i.e. the three books come shrink-wrapped together.** You may use other versions of the textbook (e.g. Volume I) that cover the time period the class focuses on.

- There are also additional readings available online – these should be printed out and brought to class on the days they are scheduled for discussion.

**To maximize the quality of discussions and the grades you get for class participation it is important that you complete all the readings that have been assigned for that week. You MUST bring the readings to class on the days we are scheduled to discuss them.**

### **ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING:**

To be successful in this course you will need to master the narrative of world history as presented in class and in the readings. In addition, you will be asked to think like historians and evaluate material critically so that you can make informed and intelligent interpretations and analyses. My job as the instructor is to help you acquire these skills and those you will need to write effective essays and exams.

The assignments for this class are intended to help you develop skills in critical thinking and effective writing. All written assignments (except those completed in-class) must meet my requirements for papers (available separately) and must be submitted at the start of class on the day they are due. For due dates of assignments please see the Schedule. Late assignments will be penalized for each day they are late. Your grade in the class will be determined by the quality of your work on the following assignments:

- **Quizzes/homework short writing assignments** (150 points out of a total possible 1,000 points for the course). There will be six quizzes/homework assignments over the course of the quarter; your lowest score will be dropped. They will be based on the reading assignments and/or material covered in class for that particular week. They will either take place in class or I may ask you to complete a short (half page or so) writing assignment at home.
- **Midterm and Final Exams.** The midterm is worth 100 points and the final 150 points. Both exams will take place in class.
- **Attendance and Participation in Discussion of Readings and Class Material** (200 points). 100 points of your overall grade will be based on class attendance. You are allowed 3 unexcused absences from class over the quarter. For each additional absence (except in the case of documented illnesses or emergencies) your attendance grade will fall by 5 points. In addition, it is also each student's responsibility to actively participate in discussions of the readings and class materials. An additional 100 points of your overall grade for the class will be based on the **quality and frequency** of your participation in class discussions, as well as on other in-class work that I may assign. **Make sure you bring the readings to class!**
- **Citing evidence assignment.** This is worth 50 points.
- **Two papers**, the first is worth 150 points and the second 200 points of your overall class grade.

#### Class policies on assignments:

- All material covered in the assigned readings, lectures, etc. is fair game for inclusion in exams, homework and quizzes.
- **Completing and earning a passing grade on ALL assignments is necessary to pass the course as a whole.**
- Your overall grade will be based on the assignments listed above.
- **Late assignments will be penalized** and I reserve the right not to accept them.
- **There are no make-ups on exams or quizzes**, except in cases of documented emergency.
- Cheating on exams or quizzes or plagiarizing on paper assignments will, at minimum, lead to a grade of zero on that assignment. See below for more details on plagiarism and cheating and how to avoid them.
- Grades for in-class discussion will be assigned as follows:
  - A: You make insightful comments on the assigned readings or class materials that help to further the discussion.
  - B: You demonstrate through more than one comment that you have completed and understood the readings.
  - C: You make at least one pertinent, insightful comment on the readings.
  - D: You make an effort to participate, but do not show that you have adequately thought about, understood and/or completed the readings.
  - F: You make no effort to engage in class discussions
- If you disagree with my assessment of your work, you should discuss this with me. Before you meet with me to discuss your grade, you must describe in writing why you disagree with my assessment. Please supply the original paper, quiz or exam with my comments and a description of why you feel the grade you received was not a fair evaluation of the quality of your work. After reevaluating your work I may decide to increase, decrease or leave your grade unchanged.

#### PREPARATION FOR SUCCESS:

- Come to class and be on time. Attend all classes and actively participate in discussions. I will take attendance regularly – if you do not attend class you will not be able to receive credit for class participation. Class powerpoint slides are NOT available online and I do not provide them to students who miss class. If you are absolutely unable to attend a class, make sure you obtain notes from a fellow student and make up all work covered during your absence. If you are late in arriving to class or need to leave early please discuss this with me.
- Be prepared to work hard. Students will need to demonstrate independent work habits and to be ready to work on class materials almost every day. You should expect to study at least two hours each day outside of class.
- Read all of the assigned readings when you are supposed to be reading them. Take notes as you do your readings.
- Ask me for help if you do not understand material covered in class or in the readings.
- Complete assignments and submit them on time - at the beginning of class on the due date. Assignments and their due dates are noted in the course schedule. **Late assignments will be penalized.**
- In order to provide an atmosphere that is supportive of learning I expect you to behave with courtesy and respect toward your fellow students and myself. That means no private conversations, texting, reading unrelated material or other disruptive behavior in class. All cellphones, ipods, and other unapproved electronic devices should be turned off during class times. Laptop computers and tablets must be used for class work only.

- Any type of disruptive or discourteous behavior is unacceptable and will not be tolerated; these types of behavior will result in the student being asked to leave the class.
- Active participation in discussion sections means that sometimes there will be strong disagreement over issues and interpretations. I encourage you to challenge the ideas you hear in class, in the readings, and from other students. When challenging others' ideas please do so in a respectful and courteous manner. Keep your comments to the issues and the evidence NOT the person!
  - Keep copies of all graded exams and papers returned to you.
  - Hand in your own work. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. This includes cheating, copying and plagiarism (see the explanation of plagiarism below).
  - Incomplete grades are only available for students who maintain a C average through Week 10 of the quarter, who have completed all the assignments up to that point, and who have a genuine **documented** emergency that prevents them from completing the class.

### **PLAGIARISM AND ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:**

Plagiarism involves the use of ideas or material which is not your own without giving proper credit to whoever created the idea/material. Examples of plagiarism would include cutting and pasting material directly from a website into a paper or assignment without citation, taking an idea from a book and presenting it as your own, or having someone else write a paper for you and presenting it as your work. To avoid plagiarism you should keep the following in mind:

1. If you copy material word for word from another source you need to place that copied material in quotation marks "... " and provide a citation for it.
2. Always provide a citation for ideas or material that you found on websites, books, articles, TV documentaries, etc. You should do this EVEN if you are not using the material from the source word for word.
3. All ideas and material that are not your own should be cited using the *Chicago Manual of Style* format. Information on providing citations for papers, interviews, etc. is available on the class website in Angel.
4. You may not submit papers and assignments from other classes to meet assignment requirements for this course.

For additional information about what constitutes plagiarism or how to avoid it, see *A Pocket Guide to Writing in History*, pages 98-105. If you have any concerns or questions, please contact me.

In the context of exams cheating involves the use of unauthorized notes or other resources (e.g. cellphones), copying from other students, the use of a surrogate exam taker, etc. Like plagiarism, I will not tolerate cheating on exams and students found cheating will be reported to the college authorities and will, at minimum, receive a failing grade on the exam.

I will not tolerate plagiarism or cheating and I will investigate suspected cases. In the event that I find instances of plagiarism or cheating I reserve the right to report the student to the college authorities for disciplinary action. **At minimum, the student will receive a failing grade on the assignment. I also reserve the right to give students guilty of plagiarism or cheating a failing grade for the class as a whole.** All ideas and material that are not your own should be cited using a consistent citation format.

The bottom line: ALL work submitted for the class must be your work only.

**CLASS CANCELLATION:**

Class will meet at all scheduled times unless otherwise noted. In the unlikely event that the college is closed due to inclement weather and/or other emergency conditions, classes will not meet and arrangements will be made to adjust the course schedule accordingly. If you believe the college may be closed because of emergency conditions, you should check the college website for a posted announcement.

**A NOTE ABOUT COURSE CONTENT:**

Since historians examine just about every aspect of human culture and societies, we sometimes talk about provocative or controversial material or issues that people may find disturbing. You may be confronted with subject matter that is difficult to read about, look at, discuss, or listen to. Please be advised that when we explore controversial topics, they will always be framed within an academic context. Keep in mind that you will still be responsible for any course material you miss if you choose not to participate because you feel uncomfortable with that material. If you have any questions or concerns about content or the class climate surrounding controversial material, feel free to speak with me about it.

**OTHER INFORMATION:**

If any student needs to have a disability accommodation for this class or needs special accommodations in the event of an emergency, please contact me as soon as possible. You will need to complete the relevant college forms and present them to me within the first week of the quarter. No accommodations will be made without the proper documentation.

**I reserve the right to make changes to any aspect of the course as I may see fit over the course of the quarter. It is each student's responsibility to regularly check their Bellevue College e-mail account and the class page in MyBC for announcements about possible changes.**

## Class Schedule

This schedule provides details of which readings and assignments you need to complete each week. Some points to note:

- All reading assignments can be found in the textbooks assigned for the class.
- I will announce in class which documents you need to read for the next class meetings. Unless otherwise noted, you should plan on completing the readings from *Sources of World Societies* by Wednesday of each week. You should be prepared to take quizzes based on the readings on Wednesdays, Thursdays or Fridays.
- I will assume that you have completed all of the assigned readings for the class on time each week. I will expect that you will use this material in completing papers, exams, quizzes and in-class assignments and will grade your work accordingly.
- I highly recommend that you make notes as you complete the readings and attend class. These will be very useful when it comes to completing the quizzes/homework and preparing for exams.
- As you read for class, you should think critically about the information you are encountering. By this I mean that you should be skeptical about what the authors have to say. For questions to consider as you examine primary and secondary sources, see the files “Evaluating Primary Sources” and “Evaluating Secondary Sources” in the class site in MyBC.

### **Week 1: January 2 – 6**

Introduction. Course Syllabus, assignments, etc. What is history? Why study world history? Early human development and societies, development of agriculture.

#### **Reading:**

Class syllabus

*Understanding World Societies*, pages 2-27

*Sources of World Societies*, Documents 1-1, 1-2, 1-3, 1-4, 1-5, 1-6

*A Pocket Guide to Writing in History*, pages 1-21

### **Week 2: January 7 – 13**

Early middle-eastern civilizations

#### **Reading:**

*Understanding World Societies*, pages 28-55

*Sources of World Societies*, Documents 2-1, 2-2, 2-3, 2-4, 2-5, 2-6

*A Pocket Guide to Writing in History*, pages 22-26, 106-115

**Week 3: January 14 – 20****Citing Evidence Assignment due in class on Friday**

Early Indian and Chinese civilizations

Reading:

*Understanding World Societies*, pages 56-101

*Sources of World Societies*, Documents 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, 3-4, 3-5, 4-1, 4-2, 4-3, 4-4, 4-5

*A Pocket Guide to Writing in History*, pages 117-128

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**Week 4: January 22 – 27****No Class on Monday, January 21 (Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)**

Greece

Reading:

*Understanding World Societies*, pages 102-127

*Sources of World Societies*, Documents 5-1, 5-2, 5-3, 5-4, 5-5

*A Pocket Guide to Writing in History*, pages 29-36, 98-103, 49-59

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**Week 5: January 28 – February 3**

Rome

Reading

*Understanding World Societies*, pages 128-155

*Sources of World Societies*, Documents 6-1, 6-2, 6-3, 6-4, 6-5, 6-6, 6-7

*A Pocket Guide to Writing in History*, pages 59-76

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**Week 6: February 4 – 10**

East Asia, Buddhism

**PAPER #1 due in class on Monday, February 4**

Reading:

*Understanding World Societies*, pages 156-181

*Sources of World Societies*, Documents 7-1, 7-2, 7-3, 7-6, 7-7

*A Pocket Guide to Writing in History*, pages 42-47

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**Week 7: February 11 – 17**

Byzantine Empire, Growth of Christianity

**MIDTERM EXAM on Monday, February 11**

Reading:

*Understanding World Societies*, pages 182-207

*Sources of World Societies*, Documents 8-1, 8-2, 8-3, 8-4, 8-5, 8-7

Documents on the fall of Rome, Byzantine economy, etc. (available online)

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**Week 8: February 19 – 24****No class on Monday, February 18**

The Rise of Islam

Reading:

*Understanding World Societies*, pages 208-235

*Sources of World Societies*, Documents 9-1, 9-2, 9-3, 9-4, 9-6

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**Week 9: February 25 – March 3**

Africa

Reading:

*Understanding World Societies*, pages 236-263

*Sources of World Societies*, Documents 10-1, 10-2, 10-3, 10-4, 10-5

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**Week 10: March 4 – 10**

The Americas

Reading:

*Understanding World Societies*, pages 264-289

*Sources of World Societies*, Documents 11-1, 11-3, 11-4, 11-5, 11-6; watch the video on Cahokia at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GAXBA2Pt9wE>

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**Week 11: March 11 - 17**

India, East Asia and Europe in the early Middle Ages, conclusion, review for final exam

**PAPER #2 due in class on Monday, March 11**

Reading:

*Understanding World Societies*, pages 290-351

*Sources of World Societies*, Documents 12-1, 12-2, 12-4, 12-5, 13-4, 13-6, 14-1, 14-2, 14-4, 14-6

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**Week 12: Final Exams, March 18 – 20**

**FINAL EXAM on Wednesday, March 20, from 8 – 9am**

**NOTE: This course ends at the end of the final exam. No assignments will be accepted after that time.**

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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)

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.

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*\*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.*