

HISTORY 101: HISTORY of CIVILIZATIONS: Cultural Traditions

Instructor: Robert A. Doan

Course: History 101

Classroom: B101

Times: Daily 7:30-8:20

Office: B106

Office Hours: T-Th 9-11am

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Course Description: The purpose of this course is to explore the origins, evolution, and varieties of World Civilizations from their origins (c. 3000 BCE) up to the Middle Ages (c. 1000CE). The civilizations to be examined are thus defined as “ancient” ones, but this does not mean they do not represent important aspects of our present legacy or reveal a great deal about our present culture. Indeed, all of these civilizations developed ideas, philosophies, religions, social values, and techniques that we may still learn from. Indeed, aspects of our “modern” world that have origins in the “ancient” world include:

money	government	organized religion	writing	mathematics
taxes	bureaucracies	monotheism	music	science
commerce	law	rational thought	art	astronomy

Unfortunately, corruption, warfare, repression, anxiety, hatred, greed, exploitation, and social class resentment also must be included in this list. In fact, our society differs little from ancient ones in possessing most of these features. Thus, this course is really a look at why we adopted the civilization(s) we all now live under.

The prime focus of this course will not be on the names and dates of dynasties, kings, rulers, battles, etc. (though SOME will be discussed and tested upon), but rather on expanding the student’s worldview concerning the nature of civilization, its varieties, advances and failures, so as to allow greater perspective when interpreting our present world. While the former aspects, as well as change over time (i.e., history) will not be ignored, comparison and understanding of the varieties of societies, cultural values, religions, and philosophies of the civilizations concerned will be emphasized.

Learning Objectives:

1. To be able to answer the following questions:
 - Why did civilization begin, and what functions does it serve?
 - How did various ancient civilizations resemble or differ from each other?
 - How and where did civilization spread and evolve new forms?
 - Why did most civilizations fail to endure?
 - What aspects of the ancient world are still found in our present society?
 - What can we learn from the ‘Ancients’?
 - How did each civilization interpret their physical world, their society, and the non-physical realms (i.e., religion and philosophy)?
2. To see and understand how people from different societies and backgrounds can have conflicting views of the same situation or issue.
3. To hone the skills of reading comprehension, clear writing, and useful note taking.
4. To advance critical thinking skills (including of the textbook, the instructor, and widely accepted ideas held in American society).
5. To develop basic library and research skills.

Learning Philosophy- Learning is a multifaceted process. In addition to the necessity of reading and making a solid effort to comprehend the reading, it also involves critical thinking, student/student and student/instructor dialogue and discussion, and collaborative learning. I expect us all to make an effort in all these areas by doing the reading and by engaging in discussion and group activities. I also will be available to facilitate your learning and projects, but the responsibility is yours.

Americans With Disabilities Act: If you require special classroom accommodations due to disability, have emergency medical instructions, or need special arrangements for building evacuation, please tell the instructor as quickly as possible.

GRADING

I basically grade on the following numerical system,

A = 87%-100%

B = 75%-87%

C = 64%-75%

D = 51%-64%

as I have always felt that if you receive over 50% you should pass.

The individual portions of your grade include the following:

Grading Percentages:

Reaction Paper -- 10%	Exams -- 37.5%
Group Report/Paper – 15%	Atlas Quizzes -- 10%
Class/Group Participation 20%	Textbook Quiz – 7.5%

Some assignments percentages are in ranges because I try to be a bit flexible in grading. If you do quite well on exams I will count them a bit more than if you did not, for example. I also take into account improvement as quarter progresses.

1. Exams

- Midterm and Final exams, combined worth 37.5%.
- Final not cumulative.
- Both consist of combination of identification and essay questions.
- List of questions for each given out and discussed about one week before.

2. Quizzes

- 4 geography quizzes based on Atlas (lowest one dropped) worth 10% total.
- 1 quiz based on textbook reading, worth 7.5%

3. Attendance and Class/Group Participation

- Expected to attend class. If you don't attend class you can't participate.
- Two unexcused misses allowed before grade is affected.
- Participation during discussions and active participation in group activities expected.
- Much group activity based on source book.
- Attendance/participation worth 10% of your final grade.
- Group Work worth 10%

4. Reaction Paper

- Answers handed-out questions based on text material
- **MUST** be turned in before material is discussed in class.
- None can be more than one and a half typed (not single spaced) or handwritten pages
- Will be assigned based on groups
- Must be as grammatically correct and understandable as possible.
- Worth 10% of grade.

5. Final Paper/Presentation

- Two options: 1. Research paper (with Partner) with Presentation.
- Topics anything relevant to class material, but cleared by me
- 2. Individual paper based on posed questions.
- Worth 15% of your grade.

Special Note: For all assignments, **NO PLAGIARISM** (direct copying, or very close paraphrasing without giving credit to the source) will be tolerated. No credit will be given if I find any. Second offense will result in F for the course. I will pass out info on what plagiarism means, but it is ultimately YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to know what it means

6. X-tra Credit:

The **only** extra credit I will allow to give a short (3-5 minute) oral description to the class about an article you read relevant to class material.

Useful Resources:

1. Writing/Redaing Lab -- x2494 D204
2. Academic Tutoring – x2468 D204
3. The Library and its skilled reference people. (Also, King Co. Public Library, and the UW Library, are free and open to public).
4. Walter Plank, How to Study in College, 5th ed. Houghton Mifflin.

TEXTBOOK: A History of World Societies, vol. I 7th ed.
McKay, Hill, Buckler, et. al. Houghton Mifflin

SOURCE BOOK: The Human Record: Sources of Global History
Vol. 1 5th ed. Andrea, Overfield Houghton Mifflin

ATLAS: Hammond Historical World Atlas

Dates, Readings, and Topics

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topics</u>	<u>Readings</u>
Sept. 22-26	Intro, Origin of Civilization Mesopotamia, Egypt	T: Ch. 1 (pp. 3-17) S: #1-4, 9
Sept. 29- Oct. 3	Ancient Middle East and Persia Indus Valley First Atlas Quiz – 10/3	T: pp. 18-32, 37-42 S: #8, 12 or 13, 18, 19 Group 1 Reaction Paper (RP)
Oct. 6-10	Ancient Indian Indian Religions TEXT QUIZ – 10/10	T: Ch. 2 S: #10, 14-16, 34, 35 G2 RP
Oct. 13-17	Ancient China Chinese Philosophies Second Atlas Quiz – 10/17	T: Ch. 3, plus pp. 161-69 S: #5-6, 14, 20-21, 23, 33 (opt.) G3 RP
Oct. 20-24	Classical Greece Hellenistic World	T: Ch. 4 S: #11, 24, 26-29 G4RP
Oct. 27-31 (10/29 off)	Roman Republic Roman Empire MIDTERM EXAM – 10/31	T: Ch. 5 S: # 30-31, 38, 45, 47
Nov. 3-7	Classical Asia Early Christian Europe	T: pp. Ch. 7, plus 174-86, S: #38, 40, 53-54, 65, 81, 86 G5RP
Nov. 10-14 (11/11 off)	Islamic World Third Atlas Quiz – 11/14	T: Ch. 8 S: #55-56, 58, 61, 77 G6RP
Nov. 17-21	African Kingdoms Central/South Asia Last Atlas Quiz – 11/21:	T: Ch. 9 (pp. 259-60, 264-70, 273-80) Ch. 10 (pp. 288-97, 304-10, 313-15) S: #79, 90 or 91 G7RP
Nov. 24-26	Medieval East Asia Western Hemisphere	T: Ch. 11 (pp. 321-32, 335-41) Ch. 13 (pp. 387-99, 404-05, 410-11) S: #67, 68, 71, 97 G8RP
Dec. 1-5	Medieval Europe Papers and Presentations	T: Ch. 12 (pp. 347-57, 363-72) S: #10
Dec. 8 -	<u>FINAL EXAM</u>	

