

World Civilization to 1648

History 105

Fall 2011

A: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 11 am – 11:50 am in Amino Center A1

B: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 1 pm – 1:50 pm in St. Benedict's Hall 401

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Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 2 pm – 3:30 pm; Tuesday and Thursday, 2:30 – 3:30 pm (and by appointment)

This course is a survey of world civilizations from Paleolithic times to 1648. It is intended to introduce students to some of the most prominent events, people, governments, ideas, beliefs, and cultures during this long period and across a broad geographical range that encompasses the Near East, Asia, India, Africa, Europe, and the Americas. In our age of rapid globalization, it should prove useful to students to know the historical foundations of the major world cultures and the ways in which they interacted with and influenced one another. Students will also learn to appreciate the methods of historians in studying the past. Participants will have the opportunity to read and evaluate sources from the societies that we study, and to tackle the many challenges these texts present.

Topics covered in this class include the formation and development of the societies and governments of the ancient Near East, Egypt, Greece, Rome, China, Europe, Africa, India, and the Americas; the religious and philosophical systems of Judaism, Confucianism, Buddhism, classical paganism, Christianity, and Islam; cultural practices surrounding love and marriage; and economic and societal relationships.

The exams in this class will require students to master and synthesize the factual information in readings and lectures, whereas quizzes, group work, and presentations will focus on interpreting and identifying the significance of important historical texts.

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Goals of the Course

- To fulfill the Historical Foundations, Global Perspective, and Western Perspective requirements.
- To gain knowledge of the historical development of world civilization from its beginnings to 1648, including major events, ideas, and cultural contributions.
- To practice the art of an historian: that is, to learn the defining characteristics of certain periods and how they changed over time, to understand historical cause and effect, to read the sources upon which historical evaluations are based, and to form interpretations about the past from reading.
- To learn how to read and understand texts produced by world civilization.
- To improve the ability to think, read, and write about the past.

Required Texts

- Albert M. Craig, William A. Graham, Donald Kagan, Steven M. Ozment, and Frank M. Turner, *The Heritage of World Civilizations, Volume 1: To 1700*, 9th ed. (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, 2011). ISBN-13: 978-0-205-80348-4.
- Kevin Reilly, *Worlds of History, Volume One: To 1550: A Comparative Reader*, 4th ed. (Boston; New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2010). ISBN-13: 978-0-312-54987-9.
- Additional materials will be made available to students enrolled in the course. I will either forward a link or PDF to students to supply these materials. Most materials for the course, including outlines distributed for lecture, can be found on the class website: <http://www.mediafire.com/?ssjtl4oduk61a>.

Note:

- Be sure to prepare assigned reading listed on the syllabus before every session. In addition, you should have *Worlds of History* with you for group work.

Attendance Policy

Students are required to attend class and to be punctual. It is the students' obligation to take notes on lectures; I do not produce written copies of lectures. Much of the information presented in class, which will form part of the material that will be tested on exams and quizzes, cannot be found in the textbook. In addition, students will not gain any credit for group work or presentations if they do not attend class sessions. In accordance with Benedictine policy, you may be dropped from the course after six absences.

In the cases of *documented* illness or family emergencies that make it impossible for students to attend class or complete assignments, students are urged to get in touch with the instructor as soon as possible.

Personal Electronics Policy

Students may not use cell phones in any capacity in this class, including making or receiving calls or texting. Students may use laptops or PDAs, but only with the express purpose of taking notes. Violators run the risk of being asked to leave class.

Academic Honesty Policy

Students are expected to adhere to Benedictine College's Academic Honesty Policy for all assignments in this course. Any violations of this policy may result in failure or even dismissal from the college. I expect that all exams and quizzes are *your own work* completed without any assistance. Only group work and presentations will allow you to consult with fellow classmates. For further information, refer to your student handbook.

Schedule of Classes and Reading

I will use the following abbreviations in this section:

- *The Heritage of World Civilizations* = HWC
- *Worlds of History* = WH

Note: These readings are listed by chapter, the section in the chapter, and page number. For example, WH, 1.1 (pp. 1-3), is chapter 1, section 1, pages 1-3.

Wednesday, 8/24/11: Introduction to World Civilization

*Friday, 8/26/11: **Origins of Civilization***

Reading: HWC, pp. 1-14

WH, 1.1, 1.3 (pp. 2-9, 15-22)

*Monday, 8/29/11: **Ancient Egypt***

Reading: HWC, pp. 14-20

WH, 2.4-2.6 (pp. 62-72)

*Wednesday, 8/31/11: **The Ancient Near East and Judaism***

Reading: HWC, pp. 20-23, 56-61

WH, 1.6, 2.3, 6.5 (pp. 33-34, 58-61, 212-22)

*Friday, 9/2/11: **Epic of Gilgamesh***

Reading: *The Epic of Gilgamesh* (to be forwarded to enrolled students)

Assignment: First presentation

*Monday, 9/5/11: **Early India***

Reading: HWC, pp. 23-30, 49-52, 54-56

WH, 3.2-3.4 (pp. 91-96)

*Wednesday, 9/7/11: **Ancient China***

Reading: HWC, pp. 30-35, 41-49

WH, 4.3-4.5 (pp. 138-48)

*Friday, 9/9/11: **Ancient Greece***

Reading: HWC, pp. 77-101

WH, 3.6-3.7 (pp. 102-9)

*Monday, 9/12/11: **Hellenistic Greece***

Reading: HWC, pp. 104-12

Assignment: First quiz

*Wednesday, 9/14/11: **Classical Greek Thought***

Reading: HWC, pp. 61-70

WH, 3.8 (pp. 110-20)

*Friday, 9/16/11: **Empires of Persia***

Reading: HWC, pp. 115-31

Cyrus Cylinder (to be forwarded to enrolled students)

Inscription of Darius I the Great

(http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Full_translation_of_the_Behistun_Inscription)

*Monday, 9/19/11: **Women and Love in the Classical World***

Reading: WH, 5.1-5.6 (pp. 165-95)

Assignment: First group work project

Wednesday, 9/21/11: Building Indian Civilization

Reading: HWC, pp. 131-43
WH, 3.5, 6.1-6.3 (pp. 96-102, 200-9)

Friday, 9/23/11: Early Africa

Reading: HWC, pp. 148-72
Periplus of the Erythraean Sea (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/periplus.html>)

Monday, 9/26/11: First Midterm

Assignment: Students must bring blue books with them to the exam.

Wednesday, 9/28/11: The Roman Republic

Reading: HWC, pp. 175-89
Livy, The Rape of Lucretia (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/livy-rape.html>)
Livy, The Roman Way of Declaring War
(<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/650livy1-34.html>)

Friday, 9/30/11: The Roman Empire

Reading: HWC, pp. 189-98
WH, 4.7-4.8 (pp. 154-61)

Monday, 10/3/11: The Later Roman Empire

Reading: pp. 198-208
WH, 7.2-7.3 (pp. 243-49)

Wednesday, 10/5/11: China's First Empire: Qin and Han Dynasties

Reading: HWC, pp. 212-30
WH, 4.1-4.2 (pp. 126-38)

Friday, 10/7/11: Sun Tzu, The Art of War

Reading: Sun Tzu, *The Art of War* (<http://classics.mit.edu/Tzu/artwar.html>)
Assignment: Second presentation

Monday, 10/10/11: Imperial China: Sui, Tang, and Song Dynasties

Reading: HWC, pp. 232-51
WH, 8.6-8.7 (pp. 296-304)

Wednesday, 10/12/11: Imperial China: Yuan Dynasty and the Weakness of Imperial China

Reading: HWC, pp. 252-58
WH, 11.5-11.6 (pp. 413-25)

Friday, 10/14/11: The Emergence of Japan

Reading: HWC, pp. 260-85
The Taika Reform Edicts (<http://www.wsu.edu:8080/~dee/ANCJAPAN/TAIKA.HTM>)

Monday, 10/17/11: Origins of Islamic Civilization

Reading: HWC, pp. 290-97
WH, 8.3-8.4 (pp. 289-92)
Assignment: Second quiz

Wednesday, 10/19/11: Islamic Society

Reading: HWC, pp. 297-310
WH, 7.6, 8.5 (pp. 259-67, 293-95)

Monday, 10/24/11: Love and Marriage in Europe and Asia

Reading: WH 9.1-9.5 (pp. 314-43)
Assignment: Second group work project

Wednesday, 10/26/11: The Byzantine Empire

Reading: HWC, pp. 313-27
Sources on the Byzantine Empire (to be forwarded to enrolled students)

Friday, 10/28/11: Early Medieval Europe

Reading: HWC, pp. 327-42
WH, 8.1, 11.4 (pp. 281-84, 410-13)
Letter of Pope Leo I (to be forwarded to enrolled students)

Monday, 10/31/11: Second Midterm Exam

Assignment: Students must bring blue books with them to the exam.

Wednesday, 11/2/11: Islamic World

Reading: HWC, pp. 345-59
WH, 10.1, 10.4-10.5, 10.7 (pp. 353-59, 370-77, 381-83)

Friday, 11/4/11: The Spread of Islam

Reading: HWC, pp. 360-66
Ibn Battuta, *Travels in Asia and Africa*, pp. 50-57 (“Arrival in Cairo” and “On the Road to Jerusalem”) and pp. 65-73 (“Ibn Battuta arrives at Damascus”)
(<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/1354-ibnbattuta.html>)

Monday, 11/7/11: Ancient American Civilizations

Reading: HWC, pp. 35-37, 369-83
WH, 2.7, 8.8 (pp. 72-77, 305-11)

Wednesday, 11/9/11: Post-Classical American Civilizations

Reading: HWC, pp. 383-98
Pedro de Cieza de León, *Chronicles of the Incas*
(<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1540cieza.html>)

Friday, 11/11/11: Later African History

Reading: HWC, pp. 401-17
WH, 7.9 (pp. 275-77)

Monday, 11/14/11: East Africa

Reading: HWC, pp. 417-22

Two Descriptions of East Africa (to be forwarded to enrolled students)

Assignment: Third quiz

Wednesday, 11/16/11: Epic of Sundiata

Reading: *The Epic of Sundiata* (to be forwarded to enrolled students)

Assignment: Third presentation

Friday, 11/18/11: Central Middle Ages in Europe

Reading: HWC, pp. 424-44

Rule of Francis and Testament of Clare of Assisi (to be forwarded to enrolled students)

Monday, 11/21/11: Late Medieval Europe

Reading: HWC, pp. 444-57

WH, 12.1-12.4 (pp. 433-55)

Monday, 11/28/11: Unrest in Early Modern Europe

Reading: HWC, pp. 460-76

Martin Luther, *Ninety-Five Theses* (to be forwarded to enrolled students)

The Council of Trent (to be forwarded to enrolled students)

Wednesday, 11/30/11: War and Settlement in Early Modern Europe

Reading: HWC, pp. 476-91

Edict of Nantes (to be forwarded to enrolled students)

The Peace of Westphalia (to be forwarded to enrolled students)

Friday, 12/2/11: Ecology, Technology, and Science in Europe, Asia, and Oceania

Reading: WH, 14.1-14.7 (pp. 506-43)

Assignment: Third group work project

Monday, 12/5/11: Transatlantic Contacts

Reading: HWC, pp. 496-520

WH, 13.5 (pp. 491-97)

Final Exam

A (11 am): Monday, December 12 at 10 am - 11:50 am in Amino Center A1

B (1 pm): Thursday, December 8 at 10 am – 11:50 am in St. Benedict's Hall 401

Assignment: Students must bring blue books with them to the exam.

Grading

Final exam, on 12/12 (A) or 12/8 (B)	28%
Second midterm exam, on 10/31	23%
First midterm exam, on 9/26	20%
Quizzes, on 9/12, 10/17, 11/14	15% (all three equal weight)
Group work, on 9/19, 10/24, 12/2	9% (all three equal weight)

Requirements

- It is within my purview as an instructor to apply qualitative judgment in determining grades.
- The midterm exams will demonstrate knowledge of and ability to synthesize significant events, figures, and terms learned in reading and lectures. Students will write essays and identifications of significant terms. To be taken in class on 9/26 and 10/31.
- The final will require a mastery of significant events, figures, terms, and sources. Students will write essays, identifications, and analysis of sources assigned for class. The material on the final is not cumulative: the first two sections will focus on what has been covered after the second midterm and the third section will focus on passages covered after the third quiz. To be taken on 12/12 at 10 am - 11:50 am for the A section; on 12/8 at 10 am – 11:50 am for the B section.
- Students are required to bring blue books for the two midterms and final exam. Those who do not come prepared with blue books will automatically fail the exams. Students are encouraged to purchase three of these early in the semester.
- Quizzes will require students to discuss passages from sources that they have prepared for class. Students will have to analyze the wording of the passages and put them into a broader historical context. To be taken at the beginning of class on 9/12, 10/17, and 11/14.
- The format for the midterms, final, and quizzes will be discussed in class.
- There are no make-up examinations, quizzes, group work projects, or presentations, save for documented emergencies. Students should get in touch with the professor as soon as possible if emergencies arise.
- Group work assignments will require students to discuss sources prepared for class with fellow students in the group and to submit a written response to questions posed by the professor. The students in each group will produce one report and will receive the same grade for their final product. To be done in class on 9/19, 10/24, and 12/2.
- Presentations will require a group of students constituting approximately one-third of the students enrolled in the class to lead one session. Each group will discuss the major themes of one important reading and be prepared to field questions from the professor and other students. The students who deliver a presentation will all receive the same grade for the final product. To be done in class on 9/2, 10/7, and 11/16.
- There are no extra-credit assignments in this course.
- Please note that this schedule is subject to change when circumstances make it necessary. Students will be made aware of any modifications as soon as possible.
- Students are expected to read and be aware of the contents of all e-mails sent by the professor.

Accommodations

Students with disabilities who need special facilities or consideration should present the appropriate documentation from the Reasonable Learning Accommodation Committee to the instructor as soon as possible.