

**History 1110/02
Fall 2009**

Introduction to World History

Kennesaw State University

Time: M & W: 12:30-1:45 P. M.
Room: SO 2034
Office Hours: M & W 11:45-12:15
and by appointment anytime
Website: <http://kennesaw.view.usg.edu>

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Course Description

“An overview of world history which provides an introduction to the origin and development of the world’s societies and their political, cultural, and economic traditions. The course uses a global approach to world history.”

Organizing Theme

This course is organized around the notion of convergence, that is, the mixing and mingling of peoples of different regions and cultures. The underlying principle here is that history unfolds as a web of intricate interrelationships. In other words, humans are constantly interacting, peacefully or otherwise. Ideas and materials are exchanged through these interactions or convergences. While local initiatives were critical in the formation of some societies, it was through convergence that ideas and materials often spread.

Objectives

The general objective is to provide students with the basic knowledge about the origins of societies. Specifically, the course will explore the social, cultural, economic, and political changes that shaped our world. Also, students will regularly evaluate the role of geography in the development of societies. The last objective is to elevate the level of critical thinking in historical analysis through class discussions, exams, and writing.

Books Required for Course

Duiker and Spielvogel, *The Essential World History*, 3rd edition
Benjamin, *A Student's Guide to History*

Course Requirement and Evaluation

<u>Areas</u>	<u>% of Course Grade</u>
2 exams	30
3 map quizzes	30
2 half page-long papers	20
NOW (News of the World)	10
Class exercises	10

Final grade

To convert your numerical grade to a letter, follow this formula: 90-100=A; 80-89=B; 70-79=C; 60-69=D; 0-59=F.

Attendance

Class attendance is mandatory. Drop the class if you expect to miss more than the three absences I allow. There are no make-ups.

Exams

These non-cumulative exams will include multiple-choice questions and short essays. I will draw the exams from the lectures. Excellent tips for taking notes and studying can be found in *A Student's Guide to History* (Chapters 2 & 3). Dates of the exams are below on the Tentative Schedule.

Quizzes

The quizzes fulfill part of the geography requirement for the course. Each will last for about 20 minutes. You will identify regions and geographical features on blank maps and answer questions drawn directly from study guides. The study guides are posted on WebCT Vista, along with blank maps to help you prepare. Regions to be covered are Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America. The dates of the quizzes (and regions) are listed below.

Two separate half-page long essays

You will write a half-page long essay, single-spaced in 12 pt Times New Roman font. I will post the assignment on WebCT Vista, and you will do likewise with your essays. Follow the format in *A Student's Guide to History*: Chapters 4 & 5 (especially the sections on plagiarism, paraphrasing, and documentation). The consequence of plagiarism is simple: I will give you an F. (See below: *Academic Integrity*.) A grade of "B" is the highest score you can earn on a late essay. You have two days from the original deadline (including Saturdays and Sundays) to turn the assignment in, otherwise you forfeit the points. It is your responsibility to make arrangement for turning in tardy assignments.

You are required to write grammatically correct sentences. If you need assistance with writing, the following information might be useful: "The KSU Writing Center is a free service offered to all KSU students. Experienced, friendly writing assistants work with you throughout the writing process on concerns such as topic development, revision,

research, documentation, grammar, and mechanics. Rather than edit your paper for you, writing assistants will help you learn strategies to become a better writer on your own. For more information or to make an appointment (appointments are strongly encouraged), visit <http://www.kennesaw.edu/english/WritingCenter>, or stop by Room 242 in the English Building.”

News of the World (NOW)

Each day before class commences, you can present one piece of news about any place in the world. You must give the source, date of publication, and explain the relevance of the news to our class. A number of reputable local and national news organs contain excellent international coverage: e.g., *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* and *The New York Times*. There are some equally good sources on the Internet, among which is the BBC. Each presentation is worth one point.

Class exercises

These are mostly in-class activities design to facilitate or encourage class discussions. The exercises are not specified on the Tentative Schedule, but I will incorporate them throughout the semester.

Academic Integrity

Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section II of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the University’s policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to University materials, misrepresentation/falsification of University records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious/intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the University Judiciary Program, which includes either an “informal” resolution by a faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct’s minimum one semester suspension requirement.

Class Etiquette

The consequence for “abusive, profane, threatening and/or inappropriate behavior” is severe; see Disruption of Campus Life Statement in the KSU Faculty Handbook, pp. 3.10-3.12. Accordingly, proper behavior and respect for class decorum is essential. Please silence all cell phones and electronic devices that tend to disrupt the decorum of the class. Laptops should be used only for taking notes.

(OCTOBER 12: LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY)

Tentative Schedule

Part I *Introductory; Q & A; thinking history; how does an event become "history?" the significance of chronology; studying primary sources; What is convergence in history? And how significant is geography to history?*

Aug. 17-19 Readings: Duiker and Spielvogel, Pp. xv-xxxi; Benjamin, Chapter 1

Part II *Convergence in Western Asia and North Africa*

Aug. 24-26 Readings: Duiker and Spielvogel, Pp. 2-3; Chapter 1

Part III *India and China*

Sep. 2-9 Readings: Duiker and Spielvogel, Chapters 2-3

Sep. 7 Labor Day: No Class

Geography Quiz #1 Africa (Sep. 9)

Part IV *World of the Greeks and Romans*

Sep. 14-23 Readings: Duiker and Spielvogel, Chapter 4-5

Part V *Pre-Columbian America*

Sep. 28-30 Readings: Duiker and Spielvogel, Chapter 6
Exam # 1 (Sep. 30)

Part VI *Islam*
(assign half-page essay)

Oct. 5-7 Readings: Duiker and Spielvogel, Chapter 7

Quiz #2 Asia (Oct. 7)

Part VII *Early Africa*

Oct. 12-14 Readings: Duiker and Spielvogel, Chapter 8

Part VIII Making of Europe

Oct. 19-21 Readings: Duiker and Spielvogel, Chapter 12

Part IX New Encounters

Oct. 26-Nov.-2 Readings: Duiker and Spielvogel, Chapter 13

Part X Beginnings of Modernization

Nov. 4-11 Readings: Duiker and Spielvogel, Chapter 18
(assign *half-page essay*)

Part XI Twentieth-Century Crisis

Nov. 16-23 Readings: Duiker and Spielvogel, Chapter 22

Quiz # 3 (Europe and Latin America)

Nov. 25 Fall Break: No Class

Part XII Globalization

Nov. 30-Dec. 2 Readings: Duiker and Spielvogel, Chapter 25

Final or Exam # 2 Dec 7: 12:30-2:30