

**Kennesaw State University**  
**Fall 2009**  
**HIST 1110-04**  
**Course Syllabus**

Mr. Victor L. Reesor

Office: N/A

Office Hours: By Appointment Only

Email: vreesor@kennesaw.edu or via WebCT Vista email

Class/Times: Social Science Building Room 1021 /MW 2:00 – 3:15 p.m.

History 1110 is a survey course that offers an introduction to the development and growth of the major cultures and civilizations that make up our world. We will hopefully accomplish this by studying the development, ascendancy, decline, fall and, in some cases, reemergence of the major civilizations of the Asian, Mediterranean (Europe), African and American continents. We will attempt to focus on how what has happened in the development of these civilizations shaped these different cultures and, ultimately, our world today.

Course Objectives:

1. Acquaintance with the broad sweep of world history from the end of the Neolithic period to the present
2. Development of a knowledge of the diverse cultural traditions and norms that have developed in different civilizations and different eras
3. Familiarization with the major geographic place-names relevant to world history and contemporary affairs
4. Development of analytical and argumentative skills expressed through clear, coherent prose

Required Books:

There will not be a required text for this course

Attendance:

Class attendance is required. All absences need to be approved by the instructor, **in advance**, unless of an emergency nature. Emergency absences need to be validated in some manner. A student's attendance record may be taken into account by the instructor when calculating final grades.

**It will be the student's responsibility to keep up to date with what is going on in class. Each student will be responsible for class discussions and all announcements regarding assignments, class schedule, etc..**

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Grading:

Each student's grade will be based upon three parts:

- Exams – Will focus on both an understanding of the basic underlying facts of history as well as a demonstration of analytical skills. Students will take the exams online. All exams will be comprised of multiple choice questions.
- Argumentative Essay – Students will submit an argumentative essay on a topic of choice (either chosen from a pre-approved topic list or one authorized by instructor). Students will need to demonstrate an understanding and use of the historical, argumentative style of writing. The instructor will give students information and instruction on this style of writing during the semester.
- Geography Assignment – Students, by the end of the semester, will identify major rivers, mountain ranges, historical regions and national boundaries of the continents we will study on a series of maps

The final grade will be based upon the following formula:

Exams – 50%

Argumentative Essays – 35%

Geographical Assignment – 15%

Department:

Each student will be required to show proper respect for the views and arguments of his/her fellow students. Our class will involve discussion of persons, events and ideas that can be viewed and interpreted from different perspectives. I strongly encourage each student to develop and make relative arguments as long as they are formed from evidence and reasoning. We will not all agree, but we will all agree to disagree respectfully.

**Important notice:** Though I recognized the growing importance computers play in everyday life, no electronic devices of any kind are allowed in the classroom. This includes laptop computers, iPods, cell phones, etc. These devices have shown themselves to be sources of distraction and disruption of class time.