

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY
HISTORY 1110
INTRODUCTION TO WORLD HISTORY
Fall Semester 2009
Section 12, CRN 80434
Tuesday and Thursday, 12:30 PM -- 1:45 PM
Social Science Classroom Building, Room 3029
August 18, 2009 thru December 3, 2009

Dr. Joseph L. Meeler, Instructor

Office Hours: 7:30AM to 9:00 AM Tuesdays & Thursdays and by appointment

Office: Social Sciences Classroom Building, Room 4114

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Course Content

This course covers over 4000 years of human history. Together, the class will examine a variety of intellectual, cultural, economic, social, and political trends, with the objective of gaining familiarity with several early world civilizations and cultures. In this manner, the student will acquire an appreciation for the importance these historical groups and societies in the development of today's world.

Required Readings:

The student will need to obtain *World History in Brief* (sixth edition) by Peter Stearns (called "text" in this syllabus). Even if the student must be absent, he or she is responsible for all assigned readings, the content of any films shown in class, and any information handed out in class. The **website** that accompanies the text is a valuable vehicle for clarifying the historical information within each chapter and an important aid to students when preparing for examinations. (Go to www.ablongman.com/stearns and click on the image of your textbook.)

The attached course schedule is a guide, outlining the reading schedule and the subjects of discussion for each class period. Students should complete all assigned readings before class. Do not fall behind on reading assignments. Although there will not be enough time to lecture upon all assigned readings in a particular class, the information in each assignment may be included on examinations.

The course schedule is subject to change. Students are responsible for any amendments to the reading list that the instructor may announce in class during the semester.

Attendance:

The instructor will take roll on a regular basis. Excessive absences (more than three) will result in a lower class participation grade and will surely impair the student's ability to succeed on examinations. When necessity prevents a student's class attendance, he or she should assure the procurement of notes from a reliable source.

Assignments and Evaluations:

In order to effectively participate in class discussions and fully comprehend the materials presented in class, students must read all assignments. **READ, READ, READ!** Students are responsible for all information presented, so take notes during lectures, discussions, and films. Students should complete their work on schedule, and actively participate in class discussions. Although the daily subjects listed in the course schedule will usually reflect the topic of the lecture scheduled for a specific class period lectures and activities may vary from the prescribed reading agenda.

Students will earn grades for this course based on the following scheme:

First Exam: 25%
Second Exam: 25%
Final Exam: 25%
Class Participation: 10%
Quizzes and Writing Assignments: 15%

Students will receive their participation grade based on their individual contributions to classroom activities and attendance. **Each class absence over three (3) will result in a twenty- (20%) percent reduction in the “Participation” grade. Additionally, classroom inattention to lectures – sleeping or talking – will result in a reduction of the “Class Participation” grade.**

The instructor will give quizzes over selected chapters to discern students’ reading diligence. Students who are absent from class on the day of a quiz cannot take it on a later date. However, the instructor will drop the lowest two daily grades -- only one of these dropped grades can be a writing assignment -- for each student when figuring the final “Quizzes and Writing Assignments” grade. The course schedule lists examination dates. **Students must obtain prior permission (before the scheduled date of the test), from the instructor, to reschedule an examination.** Without such an arrangement or an approved excuse, students cannot make up a missed examination.

As world geography is an important part of this course, examinations and quizzes will include maps. On examinations, grammar or spelling mistakes will not count against the student; nevertheless, his or her writing must be legible and comprehensible, and his or her responses should be well organized and reasoned. If the instructor cannot make sense of an answer, he will give no credit for that response.

The grading scale for this course is as follows:

A = 90% or above
B = 80% to 89%
C = 70% to 79%
D = 60% to 69%
F = 59% and below

Honor Code:

Observe the honor code. The student handbook and Kennesaw State catalog thoroughly explain the University’s stance on cheating and plagiarism. This instructor will enforce all stipulations of this code. **Do your own work!**

Office Hours:

Students should bring questions concerning readings, lectures, themes, or general concepts, and any other course-related matters to the instructor’s attention. By appointment, students can arrange a visit with the instructor at his office (see the first page of this syllabus). Students can speak with the instructor after class, make contact by E-mail, or leave a message in this instructor’s mailbox in the KSU History Department in order to arrange such a conference.

Learning Disabilities:

Any student with learning impairments should inform the instructor of his or her learning disability early in the semester. At this meeting, we will discuss possible instructional accommodations that may facilitate an optimal learning environment for that individual.

The instructor prohibits student use of laptop computers and any other sound-reproducing device in the classroom before, during, or after class.

Students should keep their cell phones in their pockets, packs, or purses, turning the ringer to vibrate or silent before entering the classroom. If a student's cell phone should ring while he or she is in the classroom, that individual should turn it off immediately and directly put it away. However, if the phone call is important, he or she should leave the classroom and answer it outside in the hall. When that phone call is finished, the student should quietly return to his or her seat. No student should have a cell phone in his or her hands for any other reason while he or she is in the classroom.

Course Schedule:

KSU - History 1110 – Section 12 – Fall Semester 2009

1. **Tuesday, 18 August: Get acquainted and Present Syllabus**
2. **Thursday, 20 August: Introduction – Human Prehistory to the Rise of Agriculture**
Text: Chapter 1
3. **Tuesday, 25 August: Early Civilization**
Text: Chapter 2
4. **Thursday, 27 August: Classical China**
Text: Chapter 4
5. **Tuesday, 1 September: Classical India**
Text: Chapter 5
6. **Thursday, 3 September: Human Bondage, Video Presentation and Writing Assignment**
7. **Tuesday, 8 September: Classical Civilization in the Mediterranean**
Text: Chapter 6
8. **Thursday, 10 September: The Rise of Islam**
Text: Chapter 8
9. **Tuesday, 15 September: Africa and Islam**
Text: Chapter 10
10. **Thursday, 17 September: (Continuation)**
11. **Tuesday, 22 September: Western Civilization: The Middle Ages**
Text: Chapter, 12

12. Thursday, 24 September: Centers of Civilization in the Americas

Text: Chapter 14

13. Tuesday, 29 September: FIRST EXAM

14. Thursday, 1 October: The West and the World

Text: Chapter 16

15. Tuesday, 6 October: (Continuation)

16. Thursday, 8 October: Western Civilization Changes Shape in the Early Modern Centuries

Text: Chapter 17

(12 October is the last day to withdraw without academic penalty)

17. Tuesday, 13 October: (Continuation and Catch Up)

18. Thursday, 15 October: (Continuation)

19. Tuesday, 20 October: The First Industrial Revolution: Western Society, 1780-1914

Text: Chapter 21

20. Thursday, 22 October: (Continuation)

21. Tuesday, 27 October: World Economy and Western Imperialism Africa, South Asia

Text: Chapter 22

22. Thursday, 29 October: SECOND EXAM

23. Tuesday, 3 November: World War I and the End of an Era

Text: Chapter 27

24. Thursday, 5 November: (Continuation)

25. Tuesday, 10 November: The West in the Twentieth Century.

Text: Chapter 28

26. Thursday, 12 November: (Continuation)

27. Tuesday, 17 November: Middle Eastern Civilization in the 20th Century.

Text: Chapter 32

28. Thursday, 19 November: (Continuation)

29. Tuesday, 24 November: Guns, Germs, and Steel, Conquest, Video Presentation and Writing Assignment

Fall Break at KSU (25 – 29 November)

30. Tuesday, 1 December: World History and the Future

Text: Chapter 35

31. Thursday, 3 December: (Last day of Classes) Catch Up and Review

Text: Chapter 35

Catch-up and review for final examination

Final Examination: History 1110, Section 12, CRN 80434,
Tuesday, 8 December, 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM,
Room 3029 SSO.