

HISTORY 265

World History to 1500

Doctor John Walter Biles—Fall 2007

Section 5, Room 305, AB4, TuTh 2:00 PM – 3:20 PM

Contact Information:

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Office Hours: TBA

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Texts:

Craig, Graham, Kagan, Ozment, and Turner. *The Heritage of World Civilizations*, Volume I.

Blackboard and Electronic Reserve: Notices and course information may be placed on **Blackboard** (found on the SHSU homepage). Use your university account name and password for access. Please check the Announcements section periodically. I may also email the class using your student computer account address. Copies of the overheads used in class, some lecture notes, and other information are available on Electronic Reserve. On the SHSU homepage, click Library, then Course Reserves, Electronic Reserve, and finally Electronic Reserves by Instructor (Biles, John), HIS 164, and finally the item you wish to download. The password is _____. You will need to use PDF (Adobe Acrobat) to download the material. It should come up automatically. **NOTE: You must take good notes yourself. Do not rely on just having the outlines and listening; that is a ticket to taking the course again next semester! Use the outlines as a basis for outlining your own notes.**

My Website: Lecture Outlines and Notes will be available at <http://www.thekeep.org/~wombat/SHSU>

Purpose: This course will introduce the student to the broad outline of world history from the dawn of civilization in Mesopotamia, China, India, Egypt, and Mesoamerica through the Middle Ages in Europe and Asia. The Middle Ages, Renaissance, and Reformation, as well as the rise of nation states and the commercial economy are stressed as background to modern history. Further, the student will be introduced to the historical methods by which historians come to understand the past.

Requirements: You will take three non-comprehensive exams and a comprehensive final. The non-comprehensive exams are each 100 points. Each exam will require you to define some vocabulary terms and write a brief essay. You will also write two short papers to be explained in class.

You may write a 5-7 page paper which can be substituted for your worst test grade out of the 3 100 point exams. This is optional; come talk to me if you want to do this.

In short:

3 100 point exams: 300 points
2 50 point short essays: 100 points
1 200 point comprehensive final: 200 points
(100 point optional paper substituted for worst test)

540-600 total points gives you an A. 480-539 total points is a B. 420-479 is a C. 360-419 total points gives you a D. 0-359 total points is an F.

ATTENDANCE, MISSED WORK, PARTICIPATION, & COMPORTMENT

Attendance is required and mandatory. There is a correlation between coming to class and decent grades. The first three unexcused absences do not affect your grade. 4 to 6 unexcused absences lowers your grade by one step. Seven to nine lowers it by two. Ten to twelve lowers it by three steps. More than 13 absences and I will simply flunk you.

It is your responsibility to email me as soon as possible or talk to me before or after class if you are absent, so that things can be cleared up as soon as possible if you have an excuse. You must speak to me within two weeks of returning to class after an absence if you want to see if I will excuse it. Please keep track of your attending class so you don't suddenly find you have eleven absences at the end of the semester because you weren't paying attention.

Students who wander off and don't come back while class is still in session will be counted as absent, even if they were present at roll call. If you have scheduling issues, please talk to me in advance, otherwise, I will assume you are basically skipping out on class and I will count you absent for the day. Please do not do this; it is very rude.

If you miss an assignment, contact me as soon as possible. Missed work must be made up within two weeks of your return to school after missing the test or due date. A missed final exam must be made up before the end of finals, unless you have a very good reason why not (such as broken legs).

Turn off all cell phones, pagers and other items prone to make noise during class.

TARDY

Please don't be late; it is fundamentally rude. There is no formal punishment for being slightly late, but if I notice you are consistently tardy, I will tend to regard you as a bad student, which won't help you if you need to ask for mercy later. You'll also miss roll call, which is a good way to get counted absent if you don't come and make sure I noticed you came in.

Anyone who is more than fifteen minutes late will be counted absent unless you have a good reason why you are late (car wreck, family emergency, etc). **If you are going to consistently have trouble being on time, come talk to me, and we'll see if we can work something out.** DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE END OF THE TERM TO COME TALK TO ME ABOUT IT.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

<http://www.shsu.edu/administrative/faculty/sectionb.html#dishonesty>

STUDENT ABSENCES ON RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS POLICY: Holy day absences are treated like other excused absences. Provide me documentation of the absence before or after the absence and arrange to make up any missed work within two weeks of the absence.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES POLICY: SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, I encourage you to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. **NOTE: No accommodations can be made until you register with the Counseling Center.**

Calendar

Week 1:

August 21: Introduction to World History

August 23: ***Read Chapter 1***

Week 2:

August 28: ***Read Chapter 2***

August 30:

Week 3:

September 4: ***Read Chapter 3***

September 5: **NOT A CLASS DAY:** Twelfth Class Day. Last day to drop without a "Q" and receive 100% refund.

September 6:

Week 4:

September 11: ***Read Chapter 4***

September 13:
September 14: **NOT A CLASS DAY:** Last day for dropping half-semester courses without grade of F.

Week 5:
September 18: **Test 1**
September 20: **Read Chapter 5**

Week 6:
September 25: **Read Chapter 6**
September 27:

Week 6:
October 2: **Read Chapter 7**
October 4:

Week 7:
October 9: **Read Chapter 8**
October 10: **NOT A CLASS DAY:** Last day for dropping Fall Semester courses without grade of F.
October 11:

Week 8:
October 16: **Test 2**
October 18: **Read Chapter 9**

Week 9:
October 23: **Read Chapter 10**
October 25:

Week 10:
October 30: **Read Chapter 11**
November 1:

Week 11:
November 6: **Read Chapter 12**
November 8:

Week 12:
November 13: **Third Exam.**
November 15: **Read Chapter 13**

Week 13:
November 20: **Read Chapter 14. We DO HAVE CLASS.** If you skip, you will get the absent penalty.
November 22: **NO CLASS DUE TO THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY.** Have fun, whatever you do!

Week 14:
November 27: **Read Chapter 15.**
November 29:

Week 15:
December 4: **Read Chapter 17.**
December 6:

Week 16: FINALS WEEK
December 13: FINAL EXAM: 2:00-4:00 PM