

## **HISTORY 265**

### ***World History to 1500***

Doctor John Walter Biles—Spring 2008

Section 8, Room 206, SHB, TuTh 11:00 AM – 12: 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:** 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. **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.

#### **Learning Outcomes:**

The student will be able to:

Understand the basic methods by which historians learn about the past.

Analyze primary documents to understand how the biases of document authors shape their accounts of past events and how historians have to identify and overcome these biases to understand past events

Compose short essays applying the above

Analyze historical events, trends, and individuals to identify their content and significance for later events

Compose short essays on historical topics which require them to compare and contrast intellectual trends, political history, social developments, economic systems and religious development over time

**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, each worth 50 points, described below.

In short:

- 3 100 point exams: 300 points
- 2 50 point short essays: 100 points
- 1 200 point comprehensive final: 200 points

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.

### **History 265 First Writing Assignment**

**Due: March 4, 2008**

#### **The Late Classical Christianity Writing Assignment**

**Sozomen Hermias (5th Century): Ecclesiastical History Online:**

**<http://www.newadvent.org/fathers/26021.htm>**

Read the above source (it's about 18 pages long), then write a 3-5 page essay on one of the following topics, using this section of the Ecclesiastical History as evidence:

- 1) Church-State relations
- 2) Saints
- 3) Heresy
- 4) Monasticism

Quotes should be set off with quotation marks if they are 4 lines or less, or indented at both ends if longer than 4 lines. At the end of a quote, put the chapter number in parenthesis. Please type your essay in 12 point font, Times New Roman, double-spaced with standard margins. You will not need to use any other sources for this paper, though you can cite the textbook if necessary or useful with this formula at the end of the sentence: (Text, p. Whatever). Example: (Text, p. 234). Please do not use too many huge quotes, as the bulk of the paper should be based on your analysis.

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### **History 265 Second Writing Assignment**

**Due: March 25, 2007**

**The Tale of Genji Writing Assignment**

**Tale of Genji Online:** <http://www.globusz.com/ebooks/Genji/00000010.htm>

Read 2 chapters of the Tale of Genji of your choice, then write a 3-5 page paper on what can be learned about Heian era Japanese aristocratic culture from the Tale of Genji, using quotes from the book to support your points.

Follow the quotation guidelines for the previous assignment. Please type your essay in 12 point font, Times New Roman, double-spaced with standard margins. You will not need to use any other sources for this paper, though you can cite the textbook if necessary or useful with this formula at the end of the sentence: (Text, p. Whatever). Example: (Text, p. 234). Please do not use too many huge quotes, as the bulk of the paper should be based on your analysis.

**ATTENDANCE, MISSED WORK, PARTICIPATION, & COMPORIMENT**

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.

### **Late Work**

Any assignment turned in late, unless I excuse your failure to turn it in on time, will be penalized by -10 for each class day it is late.

**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>**

Failure to uphold these standards includes, but is not limited to, the following actions:

*Plagiarism on written work or projects;*

Plagiarism means passing off as his/her own the ideas or writings of another (that is, without giving proper credit by documenting sources). Plagiarism includes submitting a paper, report or project that someone else has prepared, in whole or in part. **IT MOST DEFINITELY INCLUDES COPYING THE COURSE NOTES INTO YOUR PAPER (OR INTO ANY OTHER ASSIGNMENT) OR COPYING ANYTHING ELSE I HAVE WRITTEN.** Please don't be stupid enough to think I cannot recognize my own writing.

*Cheating on exams or assignments;*

Cheating includes looking at or copying from another student's exam, orally communicating or receiving answers during an exam, having another person take an exam or complete a project or assignment, using unauthorized notes, texts, or other materials for an exam, and obtaining or distributing an unauthorized copy of an exam or any part of an exam.

*Collusion on an exam or project;*

Collusion is inappropriately collaborating on assignments designed to be completed independently.

*Misrepresentation of credentials or prerequisites when registering for a course.*

Copying my lecture notes into an assignment without credit being given is PLAGIARISM and will be punished as such. I don't give you assignments so you can just copy my notes into them. Also, I can't even begin to understand how anyone would think they could get away with it. Yet, events have shown some people will try this if not told they should not. So here is your warning.

The first time I catch you plagiarizing, cheating, or in other ways acting dishonestly in the context of class work, you will get a zero on the assignment. On a second offense, you will get a F in the class.

If you have cheated in one of my classes before, I will go straight to giving you an F in this course, as you ought to know better.

Punishments may be appealed to the Department Chair, then to the Dean, then to the Vice President of Academic Affairs, whose decision is final.

**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:

January 17: Class Rules and Procedures and Introduction to World History

Week 2:

January 22: *Read Chapter 1*

January 24: *Read Chapter 2*

Week 3:

January 29:

January 31: *Read Chapter 3*

Week 4:

February 5:

February 7: *Read Chapter 4*

Week 5:

February 12:

February 14: **Test 1**

Week 6:

February 19: *Read Chapter 5*

February 21: *Read Chapter 6*

Week 7:

February 26:

February 28: *Read Chapter 7*

Week 8:  
March 4: *First 50 point Writing Assignment is Due.*  
March 6: *Read Chapter 8*

**Week 9: March 10-16. Spring Break! No Classes! Have Fun!**

Week 10:  
March 18: **Test 2**  
March 20: *Read Chapter 9*

Week 11:  
March 25: *Read Chapter 10. Second 50 point Writing Assignment is Due.*  
March 27:

Week 12:  
April 1: *Read Chapter 11*  
April 3:

Week 13:  
April 8: *Read Chapter 12*  
April 10:

Week 14:  
April 15: **Third Exam.**  
April 17: *Read Chapter 13*

Week 15:  
April 22: *Read Chapter 14.*  
April 24: *Read Chapter 15.*

Week 16:  
April 29:  
May 1: *Read Chapter 17.*

Week 17:  
May 6:  
May 8: Review for the Final

**FINALS WEEK**  
**May 15: FINAL EXAM: 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM**