

World Civilizations I (1113-003/4/5/6):
003: MWF 10:30-11:20 AM SCIE 418
004: MWF 11:30-12:20 PM SCIE 418
005: TU/TH 8:00-9:20 AM SCIE 418
006: TU/TH 9:30-10:50 AM SCEN
408

Instructor: Dr. Geoffrey W. Jensen
Office Location: 410 Old Main
Office Hours: MWF 9-10 AM or by
appointment
Office Phone: 479-575-5882
Email: gjensen@uark.edu

What will we do?

History is the study of the past. Specifically, History embraces every aspect of the human experience, including warfare, political institutions, the economy, religious practice, technology, and artistic endeavor. History asks students to analyze empire and revolution, genocide and humanism, enslavement and liberation, sexuality and gender and to do so from the perspective of both social scientific and humanistic inquiry.

In our case, we will explore some of the many social, political, and religious origins of the world; and follow these developments until the fifteenth century. Indeed, in this course, you will learn about cultures and groups of people that you have had little experience with. Yet, by the end of the semester, you will have an understanding of the following issues:

- The role played by diversity in shaping human experience
- The operation of large-scale forces responsible for causing change over time, such as politics, economics, technology, warfare, nature, and religion
- The challenges mounted by an increasing reliance on technology
- The changes caused by the increasing interconnectedness of the ancient world

Required Texts:

1. [Main Text] Robert Tignor, *Worlds Together, Worlds Apart, Volume I* (New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2008)
2. Lao Tzu and Jonathan Star (translator), *The Tao Te Ching* (New York: Penguin Group, 2001)
3. Arthur Waley (translator), *The Analects of Confucius* (New York: Vintage Books, 1989)

1.) Attendance Policy/Make Up Test Policy:

If you are sick, face a family emergency, or cannot wake up on time, you do not have to provide me with a note that validates your reason for missing class. This also goes for test and quiz days. If you miss the test or quiz, you will make it up on the day of the final—please note that you will be limited to the time provided during the final to complete this work.

I would be remiss if I did not warn you that it would be highly unlikely that you could pass my course if you missed multiple assignments and tried to take them all on the day of the final. In theory, it could be done, but in reality, this path often leads students to failure.

- ***A word on punctuality:*** If you are going to be more than five minutes late to any class, for whatever reason, do not come. Students that come in late disturb the flow of the lecture and the concentration of those students that came to class on time.

2.) **Graded Assignments:**

Tests: There will only be three tests. Each test will be worth one hundred points and will be made up of multiple choice and true/false questions. The tests are based solely on the notes you take during class lectures.

Quizzes: You will take five quizzes throughout the semester. The quizzes will cover the readings in your textbook (*Worlds Together, Worlds Apart, Volume I*). They are worth twenty points each and are composed of multiple choice and true/false questions.

****The lowest Quiz Grade will be dropped.****

Total Points available:

In summary, there will be three tests worth one hundred points each and five quizzes worth twenty points each. This gives us a grand total of four hundred points. My grading scale is as follows:

A: 90-100%

B: 80-89%

C: 70-79%

D: 60-69%

F: 50-59%

3.) **Everything else:**

Grievance Policy: If dissatisfied with a grade (for a legitimate reason) on a test or quiz, the student must submit to the instructor approximately one page detailing why he/she feels the assignment was improperly graded along with the assignment at which time the instructor will set up an appointment to discuss the grievance. Students must submit grievances within one week of the assignment's return to the general class.

Inclement weather policy: If the University of Arkansas is closed, we will not have class.

Further information:

Students with special needs should contact The Center for Educational Access to find out about assistance programs.

Mandatory readings:

1. *The Tao Te Ching*: All of it.
2. *The Analects*: pgs, 13-26, 82-110, 115-120, 123, 128, 132-134, 138-140, 146-156, 162-165, 171-173, 180-183, 193-196, 202-204, 209, 210, 218-220, 224-225, and 231-233.

Course outline:

This is a tentative reading and lecturing outline for the semester (subject to change). Here you will find out what we are going to do from week to week. Most importantly, it includes tentative test dates and general quiz dates. Please note, because of the nature of this class we will travel to many different countries at various times throughout the semester. Thus, giving you one firm set of readings per week is impossible. However, I have divided the readings the best I can to avoid too much repetition.

NOTE: All quizzes and tests will be on Thursdays (TU/TH) and Fridays (MWF).

Week 1: August 24-28(RD Worlds: Chapter: 1-3):

M: Intro to the class
W: The Neolithic Revolution
F: Americas in the pre-modern world

Week 2: August 31-Sept 4 (RD Worlds: Chapter: 8):
*****Quiz 1 over *Worlds*, Chapter #2 this week!!!*****

M: Mesopotamia
W: Africa
F: India

Week 3: September 7-11(RD Worlds: Chapter: 5):

M: **Labor Day!!!**
W: China (Xia, Shang, Zhou)

F: Religion and society: Hinduism and Jainism

Week 4: September 14-18 (RD Worlds: Chapter: 4 and 10 and pages 120-126):

*****Quiz #2 over Worlds, Chapter #5 this week!!!*****

M: Religion and society: Buddhism

W: Religion and society: Taoism

F: Social guidance for the leadership of China: Confucianism (End materials for test #1)

Week 5: Sept 21-25 (No readings):

*****Test #1 this week!!!*****

M: Religion and society: Fire From Heaven: The Foundations of Middle Eastern Monotheism

W: Religion and society: Children of Abraham (Judaism)

F Test #1!!!

Week 6: September 28-Oct 2 (RD Worlds: pages, 115, 154-156, 164-165, 192-193):

M: Religion and society: The Early Christians

W: Religion and society: Greece and Rome

F: Warfare and society: China: The Warring States to Qin Dynasty

Week 7: October 5-9 (RD Worlds: Chapter: 7):

*****Quiz #3 over Worlds, Chapter #7 this week!!!*****

M: China: The Han Dynasty

W: The Empires of India

F: Warfare and society: Greece

Week 8: October 12-16 (RD Worlds: pages, 160-162, 227, 246-249, 285-298):

M: Alexander the Great

W: The Foundations of Civilization in Central Italy (Birth of Rome)

F: The Foundations of the Roman Empire (End materials for test #2)

Week 9: October 19-23 (RD Worlds: Chapter: 6):

*****Test #2 this week!!!*****

M: Rome falls

W: Justinian and Theodora

F: Test #2!!!

Week 10: October 26-30 (RD Worlds: pages, 333-340, 361-363):

M: Religion and society: Orthodoxy Christianity

W: Religion and society: Islam (begins)

F: Religion and society: Islam (continues)

Week 11: November 2-6 (RD Worlds: Chapter: 9):

*****Quiz #4 over Worlds, Chapter # 9 this week!!!*****

M: Religion and society: Islam (concludes)

W: China: Tang and Song dynasties

F: Chinese influence in East Asia

Week 12: November 9-13 (No readings):

M: Charlemagne

W: The Vikings

F: The Crusades

Week 13: November 16-20 (RD Worlds: pages, 402-413, 446-454):

MOVIE WEEK!!!

Week 14: November 23-27 (No readings):

M: **NO CLASS!**

W: Thanksgiving holiday!

F: Thanksgiving holiday!

Week 15: November 30-December 4 (RD Worlds: Chapter: 10):

*****Quiz #5 over Worlds, Chapter # 10 this week!!!*****

M: The Mongol Empire

W: The Plague

F: The Age of Reconnaissance

Week 16: December 7-11 (No readings):

M: Review day

W: DECEMBER 9th: Dead Day/Final day of classes (**NO CLASS!**)

Finals:

003: Saturday, December 12, 2009, 3-5 PM

004: Saturday, December 12, 2009, 12:30-2:30 PM

005: Tuesday, December 15, 2009, 7:30-9:30 AM

006: Monday, December 14, 2009, 10-12 PM

I reserve the right to change the syllabus at any time and all changes will be announced in class or by email and are the responsibility of the student.