

# SYLLABUS

## History 151 – World Civilization I

2 July>10 September, Monday, 1730-2140 Tripler AMC

Instructor: Don Wilson

Address: 1400 Pensacola St. #204, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96822

Home Phone: 531-6147

E-Mail: Wimpenny @ Hawaii.rr.com

Text: P.J. Adler, R.L. Pouwels, *World Civilizations*, Vol. I sixth Edition, Thomson Higher Education, 10 Davis Drive 94002-3098, USA.

Description: A basic survey of the human experience from prehistoric times until about CE1500. It concentrates on the world's major civilizations, and seeks to provide a coherent examination of their political systems, social and economic structures, and cultural developments. Since the various civilizations have had lasting effects on the human community that can be observed even today, it is hoped that the course will provide a basis for understanding the nature of the modern world.

Objectives: To provide a basic understanding of the origins and subsequent progression of events that have influenced, and formed the institutions, values, and attitudes by which the world still lives. Also, by observing our predecessors solutions to their problems, and the effects of these solutions, to furnish a background, with which to judge the courses of action offered today, for similar situations. Finally by becoming acquainted with the accomplishments of civilizations other than our own, to gain an appreciation and an understanding that will assist the interaction between people that must occur, as technology rapidly shrinks the world.

Reading/Writing Assignments: The lecture schedule lists the required readings from the text. Students are also responsible for two essay answers to the questions listed under the heading "Essay Topics".

Class Format: A combination of lectures and discussions. Visual aids will be utilized where applicable. Students are encouraged to raise questions, or make comments, at any time.

Grading: Grading will be based on a point system as follows:

Mid-Term & Final....100 pts

2 Quizzes.....30

2 Essays.....70

Grade: 200>180=A

179>160=B

159>140=C

139>120=D

## Lecture Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Reading Assignment</u>
Jul. 2	Introduction-Ancient Civilizations, Mesopotamia, Persian Empire.	Chap. 1, 2, 3, 4
9	Ancient Age, Classical Civ., India, China, Greece	Chap. 5, 6, 7
16	Hellenic Culture, Hellenism, Roman Republic.	Chap. 8, 9, 10 - <b>Quiz #1</b>
23	Roman Empire, Christianity, America, Africa	Chap. 11, 12, 13
30	Islam, India, Hinduism.	Chap. 14, 15, 16

### Mid-Term Examination-Essay #1

Aug 6	China, Japan, SE Asia, Europe (the Middle Ages)	Chap. 17, 18, 19
19	Europe (Middle Ages-Renaissance), the Mongols.	Chap. 20, 21.
26	Exploration, Reformation.	Chap. 22, 23 - <b>Quiz #2</b>
Sep 3	Review	
10	Final Examination	

### Essay/Discussion Topics

Egypt and Mesopotamia were both sites of ancient civilizations. Describe each of these civilizations in terms of its political structure, religion, society, and culture. How can we account for the similarities and differences?

Describe the evolution of the Jewish religion, including the nature of Yahweh and the covenant. In what ways did the Hebrews religion affect their society?

In what ways did the Persian Empire contribute to the advancement of civilization? How do these compare with others' contributions?

Describe the essential teachings of the Buddha. How did Buddhism modify Hinduism? What explains the appeal of Buddhism?

The Maurya Empire has been described as the apex of the political history of early India. What are the key features of this empire? How does the career of Ashoka contradict or confirm the assertion? What were his important achievements?

Intellectual trends in China seem to have had a decidedly secular tone. Discuss the basic ideals of Confucius, Tao, and Legalism. How did they differ from other religious concepts of their time, how did they influence China's social and political development?

Greek civilization has been described as the one that most clearly exemplifies the spirit of western society. What were the Greek attitudes towards philosophy, politics, art, and drama that the statement refers to?

Contrast Athens and Sparta. How accurately could the situation between the two city states be described as a contrast between good and evil?

Assess the career of Alexander the Great, and gauge the depth of his contributions to the advancement or detriment of civilization.

What values and ideals did the Hellenistic philosophers and their philosophies expose and embrace? How do these compare to classical philosophic beliefs? Contrast the basic art forms of each.

Describe the rise of Rome from the overthrow of the Etruscan kings to the establishment of its Empire. Include the significant events of its expansion, and their effect on changing Rome from a Republic to an Empire.

What forces contributed to the crisis atmosphere in the Roman Empire during the 3d century? Describe and evaluate the reforms of Diocletian and Constantine.

The Renaissance has been described as the period when Western Europe began to turn away from the religious orientation of the middle Ages towards a secular point of view, and a concept known as "humanism". In what ways did the period display these values, and how did they influence the evolving society?

The Reformation is considered one of the most significant events in western history. What were its causes, who were the major personages, what were its basic doctrines, and what is its significance?

Describe the culture and cultural influences of the Ming/Qing periods. What conclusions about Chinese society can be drawn from occurrences during this time?

Describe the formation of the Tokugawa state, and its policies.