

**Course:** History, World Civilizations H.E. 151  
**Time:** Th, 11:00 – 12:20  
**Place:** Henry Hall 121  
**Semester:** Fall, 1998

**Instructor:** Frank Bailey  
**Office:** 735-4888  
**Pager:** 251-3811  
**email:** kamai@gte.net

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### **World Cultures in Perspective**

**Texts:** McKay, Hill, Buckler, A History of World Societies, vol. I, 4<sup>th</sup> ed.

**Scope of the Course:** This course will study the origins, development, achievements, transformations, and passing of several of the world's major civilizations to about 1600. We will sample broadly from various regions; however, our emphasis will not necessarily be chronological or even a simple narration of "facts" and dates. Rather, we shall focus upon a critical examination of the key social, cultural, political and economic practices and institutions that allowed past societies to comprehend and confront such universal concerns as survival, government, law, gender, relations, the nature of God(s) and the pursuit of a better life.

**Readings:** More than anything else, this course is designed around readings and discussions. You should come to each class meeting with the reading assignment completed and with a willingness to engage in a lively discussion that focuses on the themes and content of the reading.

**Requirements:** There are several requirements for this course. In addition to keeping up with the background readings in the McKay, Hill and Buckler text, you are required to read and write a book review. The book review should be from five to seven pages, typed and doubled spaced. In addition, there are six short articles drawn from the fields of biography and social and cultural history; you are expected to read and write on each of the articles. The writing requirements for these readings consists of a 1 to 2 page essay that addresses key thematic concerns or questions raised by the topics being examined. I will identify these concerns for you well in advance of the assignment's date. These essays are to be typed as well. There will also be two examinations, the midterm and the final. These examinations will focus on key concepts covered and shall not be cumulative, in that, material on the final will consist of topics covered after the midterm. In addition, each student is required to maintain a course binder in which all lecture notes, handouts, writing assignments and other materials relating to this course are kept. Periodically I will examine your notebooks.

**Grading:** Your book review is worth 100 points as are both of your examinations, which account for 300 points toward your final grade. The six article writings are worth 25 points each for a total of 150 points. Class participation shall account for 50 points of your grade. In all, the total number of points achievable is 500. The class grading goes as follows:

- Oct 29 Charlemagne and early middle ages
- Nov 5 the birth of Europe's modern state  
the Middle Ages, and discuss handout
- Nov 12 Renaissance and the Reformation  
European expansion and religious wars
- Nov 19 Absolutism vs. constitutionalism in Europe

**This is a tentative schedule and can be changed at any time.**

A = 500-450

B = 449-400

C = 399-350

D = 349-300

Any students who earn less than 300 points will receive an F for the course.

Please note that all written assignments must be handed in on time. Those not done so shall receive a 10-point deduction per day late. For any work not turned in there shall be a penalty of double the face value of the assignment.

**Attendance:** Students are expected to be on time and in attendance at all class sessions. For each class missed there shall be a ten-point penalty assessed.

### **Schedule of classes**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Lecture</u>
Sept 3	introduction to class Urbanization of man and Mesopotamia
Sept 10	Video: <i>Greatest Pharos of Egypt</i> Egypt, the Hittites, and the fall of Empires Migrations, Israel, and Assyria Discuss handout and video
Sept 17	Ancient India the Rise of China Greece through the Lyric Age
Sept 24	Classical Greece Alexander the Great Greek Philosophy
Oct 1	Rome
Oct 8	The rise of Christianity in Europe German migrations and the Byzantine Empire the rise of Islam
Oct 15	India and the Golden Age of China China continued and Japan Video on Buddhism
<b>Oct 22</b>	<b>Midterm!!!!!!!!!!!!</b>