

**Course:** History, World Civilizations

**Time:** M-W-F, 9:00 – 9:50

**Place:** Henry Hall 121

**Semester:** Spring Day 1999

152

**Instructor:** Frank Bailey

**Number:** pager: 251-3811

office: 735-488

**Office Hours:**

M-W-F 2:00-3:00

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### World Cultures in Perspective

**Texts:** McKay, Hill, Buckler, A History of World Societies, vol. II, 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 six short articles drawn from the fields of biography and social and cultural history; you are expected to write on four 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 and double spaced. 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 examinations are worth 200 points each. The four writings are worth 25 points each for a total of 100 points. In all, the total number of points achievable is 500. The class grading goes as follows:

A = 500-450

C = 399-350

B = 449-400

D = 349-300

Any students who earn less than 300 points will receive and 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.

### **Class Scheduling**

Week 1 Jan 11-15	Introductions Lecture: European Expansion Read: chapter 16
Week 2 Jan 18-22	Lecture: Absolutism vs. Constitutionalism in Europe Read: chapter 17 handout
Week 3 Jan 25-29	Lecture: Changing Views in the West The Changing life of the People of Europe Read: chapters 18 and 19
Week 4 Feb 1-5	Lecture: Africa, 1400-1800 The Middle East and India, 1450-1800 Read: chapters 20 and 21 handout
Week 5 Feb 8-12	Lecture: China and Japan 1400-1800 Read: chapter 22
Week 6 Feb 15-19	Lecture: The revolution in Western Politics, 1775-1815 Read: chapter 23 handout
Week 7 Feb 22-26	<b>Midterm</b> Lecture: The Industrial Revolution Read: chapter 24
Week 8 March 1-5	Lecture: Ideologies and Upheavals Read: chapters 25 handout
Week 9 March 8-12	Lecture: Nationalism the World and the West Read: 26 and 27

