

HE15210
Course: History, World Civilizations
Time: F, 5:30 – 9:40 PM

Instructor: Frank Bailey
Number: pager: 251-3811
office: 735-488

Bay

Semester: Winter Term, night WE99

World Cultures in Perspective

Texts: McKay, Hill, Buckler, A History of World Societies, vol. II, 4th 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 consists 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 an F for the course.

Week 10 Read: 30 and 31
Lecture: The Second World War
Lecture: Recovery and Crisis
Read: 32 and 33
handout

Week 11 **Final Exam**