

SYLLABUS
HISTORY 1111/all sections – Survey of World Civilization to 1500
Southern Polytechnic State University
Fall Semester 2006

Instructor: Mr. Mark D. Vickrey
Phone/Voice Mail: (678) 915-7325
 [SIS office: (678) 915-7442]
E-mail: mvickrey@SPSU.edu

Office: J-314
Office Hours: M T W Th F: 11:00-12:00;
 T Th: 5:00-6:00;
 other times by appointment

TEXT:

Required:

McKay, Hill, Buckler, Ebrey, and Beck. A History of World Societies. Vol. One. To 1715. Seventh Edition.
ISBN: 0-618-61094-4
Mitchell and Mitchell, eds. World History. Vol. 1. Prehistory to 1500. (Annual Editions) Eighth Edition.
ISBN: 0-07305377-5
Other brief readings and maps will be handed out during the semester.

Recommended:

- _ A daily newspaper and a weekly newsmagazine.
- _ A dictionary: If you don't already have one, a good dictionary is an excellent investment (*The American Heritage College Edition* is a good choice). Look up words and terms you aren't familiar with as you read.

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:

Through readings, lectures, class discussions, and other presentations we will survey world history from the rise of civilization (4th millennium B.C.) through 1500.

The major objectives will be to develop a greater awareness of our past, an understanding of the factors which influenced civilization's development (the "why?"), and an understanding of how ideas, institutions, and societies developed as they did through 1500 (and how this relates to the present). Students will be expected to put together ideas from diverse sources (assigned reading, class presentations, etc.) and analyze the way topics and themes fit together. Certain themes we will emphasize in our survey of world civilization will be:

1. factors that make civilization possible
2. the rise, expansion, and impact of the world's greatest empires and civilizations
3. the rise of the world's most significant religions (Judaism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Christianity, and Islam)
4. the complex factors that bring changes to the world's societies and enable some civilizations' achievements to stand out more at some times than at others
5. the importance of various technological developments on human society
6. recent historical and archaeological discoveries that are reshaping our view of world history (especially true of North and South America's pre-European past)

Further objectives will be to strengthen critical thinking and writing skills, improve geography skills, and develop an awareness of how ideas, beliefs, and past events influence the present (and future).

COURSE STRUCTURE:

Course materials will be divided into three units; each unit will conclude with an examination. The final exam will focus on the third unit; it is not comprehensive.

ASSIGNMENTS:

Three examinations worth 100 points each (300 points total). Exams will be made up of some combination of multiple choice, fill-in-the-blanks, matching, true/false questions, short answer, identification questions, and/or essays. Formats will be announced prior to each exam.

Four quizzes. The quizzes will be made up of some combination of fill-in-the-blank, true-false, multiple choice, and/or short answer questions. Quiz 1 will be worth 10 points; quizzes 2-4 will be worth 15 points each. The first unit includes two quizzes; unit II and unit III each include one quiz. Dates of the quizzes will be provided on schedule sheets for each unit. (55 points total for all quizzes)

Three map exams. Blank maps will be handed out each unit along with lists of items that need to be located on the maps. Students will locate the items on their copies of the maps and then learn the maps. Tests will feature blank maps with certain items identified (or questions asked about the items). The map exams are worth 20 points (60 points total).

Failure to take Exam I will result in the instructor withdrawing the student from the course.

Failure to take Exam II or Exam III (Final) will result in an F on the course.

COURSE POLICIES:

1. Grading scale for individual assignments:

Quiz 1		Quizzes 2-4		Map Exams:		Exams:	
9-10	A	13.5-15	A	18-20	A	90-100	A
8-8.5	B	12-13	B	16-17.5	B	80-89.5	B
7-7.5	C	10.5-11.5	C	14-15.5	C	70-79.5	C
6-6.5	D	9-10	D	12-13.5	D	60-69.5	D
Below 6	F	Below 9	F	Below 12	F	Below 60	F

Course Grade Calculations:

- notes: a. Grades **will not** be curved.
b. No extra credit assignments.
c. All unit examinations must be taken (see statement above).
d. Final averages will be based on the number of points earned divided by 415 (total points possible on exams, quizzes, and map exams). The total point/grade breakdown for the semester is:

A 373.5 - 415	B 332 - 373	C 290.5 - 331.5
D 249 - 290	F Below 249	

Notes on new SPSU policies:

- a. SPSU faculty members, in the second week of class, will be recording student "engagement." All students will be categorized as "engaged," "not engaged," and "no show." Those categorized as "not engaged" will be invited to enroll in SPSU 1001 – Hitchhiker's Guide to SPSU.
b. For the first time, mid-term grades/S-U (satisfactory-unsatisfactory) will be made available this semester. They will be posted into the Banner system by the end of the day Tuesday, October 3 (one week before the actual midpoint of the semester). The calculation of the grade, or S/U, for this class will be based on all work completed prior to that date.

2. Attendance Policy. You are expected to attend class. **You are responsible for all materials presented in class.**
3. Make every effort to get to class on time. Exams, map exams, and quizzes will be given at the beginning of class and will be timed. If you are late you will not be given extra time, nor will you be able to take the exam or quiz at another time. **A grade penalty will be imposed for being late for the final exam (the unit III exam): 15 points will be subtracted from the exam grade for being 25 or more minutes late.**

4. If you must leave class before its scheduled completion, tell the instructor before class begins. If you leave class after taking a quiz or map exam (presentations will follow those exercises) without prior permission from the instructor, 5 points will be subtracted from your grade on that exercise.
5. Preparation: **Students are EXPECTED to read the McKay, Hill, Buckler, Ebrey, Beck textbook, The Annual Editions (Mitchells') World History, and all instructor-provided reading assignments.** All readings should be completed prior to their assigned date. Inadequate preparation will compromise class discussions. Reading materials will be tested on exams and quizzes.
6. Absence from an Exam, Quiz, or Map Exam: Permission to take one of the exams, quizzes, or map exams after its assigned date can be given **only** if the instructor is contacted **prior** to the exam, quiz, or map exam and gives his permission for a make-up, or in cases of a **documented** medical, family, or job **emergency**. Absence from any exam, quiz, or map exam without permission will result in a **0** on that exercise, and, if the exercise missed is an exam, withdrawal from the class (if Exam I) or an **F** on the course (Exams II or III – see "Assignments" above). Students are responsible for scheduling a make-up as soon as possible following the excused absence. Class attendance is required on the day a make-up is scheduled, failure to show up for class that day will result in a 10 point penalty assessed on the make-up exam, or a 5 point penalty on the quiz or map exam.
7. Disruptive Behavior: Should any student or students engage in any behavior which disrupts the conduct of class that student or those students will be contacted by the instructor and will discuss the situation. Disruptive behavior can result in the student's (or students') removal from the course or the grade of **F** for the course, or both. See the Southern Polytechnic State University Undergraduate Catalog 2006-2007 page 62 (on-line), ("Disruptive Behavior and Academic Dishonesty"), and the on-line Student Handbook, both Selected Academic Regulations ("Disruptive Behavior and Academic Dishonesty") and Student Life - (Section outlining "Student Conduct Code": "Academic Dishonesty," "Non-academic Misconduct") and Disciplinary Administration (especially the "Regents' Statement of Disruptive Behavior").
- Note: These four things are disruptive:**
- Cellular and satellite phones, beepers, and other similar electronic devices are **not to be used in any way in class**. Audible rings from cellular or satellite phones or beepers are disruptive. If you must carry one of these devices either turn it off or select the vibrate option. Phones may not be answered in class. **Keep you cell phones, Blackberries, and beepers out of hand, out of sight, and off your desk during class.** The instructor will stop class to remind anyone who forgets this policy. Additional violations of this policy will result in removal from the class.
 - Sleeping in class is unacceptable. Anyone sleeping will receive one verbal warning, then will be asked to leave class.
 - Homework, projects, and other assignments for this and other classes are to be done outside of class. Any student doing such work will be asked to stop.
 - Listening to materials on computers, iPods, and other such devices in class is unacceptable.

Repetition of a, b, c, or d following a discussion with the instructor can lead to the student's (or students') removal from the course or the grade of F for the course, or both.

When you are in class you should be paying attention to class materials.

8. Academic Dishonesty: Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. Cheating and/or plagiarism will result in a **F** on the course. Plagiarism, a type of cheating, is defined as the presentation of the words, ideas, or work of another person as one's own work. Within the framework of this course presenting memorized passages from the text, outside readings, passages from the test itself, or other materials on an examination as one's own work constitutes plagiarism. Do your own work and writing, using your own words. Students should be familiar with Southern Polytechnic's policies on academic dishonesty, disciplinary procedures, and appeals process. See the Southern Polytechnic State University Undergraduate Catalog 2006-2007 page 62 (on-line), ("Disruptive Behavior and Academic Dishonesty"), and the on-line Student Handbook, both Selected Academic Regulations ("Disruptive Behavior and Academic Dishonesty") and Student Life - (Section outlining "Student Conduct Code": "Academic Dishonesty," "Non-academic Misconduct") and Disciplinary Administration (especially the "Regents' Statement of Disruptive Behavior").

The instructor reserves the right to assign seats, or move a student or students from one seat to another, during any exam or quiz.

Be sure you are familiar with these course policies and have a copy of this syllabus. If needed, additional copies are available from Mr. Vickrey and from Mr. Vickrey's web site (<http://sis.spsu.edu/mv/htm>).

TIPS FOR DOING WELL IN THIS COURSE:

1. **Attend class.**
2. **Pay attention in class and ask questions.** See the instructor if you have a question about the material or need clarification on something presented in class or in the assigned readings.
3. **Read all assigned materials.**
4. Read over your notes shortly after class each day. If you have any questions about the materials contained in your notes, look through your reading assignments and/or see the instructor.
5. **Think about the materials. How do the readings fit together with the presentations? What insights do the readings provide? How do ideologies contribute to actions?**
6. Keep up with the general chronology of events we discuss. **Although you do not need to remember specific dates, you do need to develop a sense of chronological sequence and have a general idea of when something took place** (e.g. the pyramids were built in Egypt before Greeks fought Persia, Islam arose after Rome's fall, the European age of discovery began in the late 15th century, etc.).

Important note on Communication: Mr. Vickrey has a hearing impairment. When speaking to him or answering questions in class, please speak clearly and loudly (but do not shout!) while facing him. Those measures should enable Mr. Vickrey to hear you. It is also difficult for him to hear when more than one person is speaking at once – please speak when you are recognized. If you are asked to repeat something, Mr. Vickrey is not picking on you, he simply didn't understand what you said. Please forgive any inconvenience this may cause during the semester.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Note: The instructor reserves the right to change dates of exams, map exams, quizzes, and presentations, as needed. These dates will appear on unit schedule sheets.

September 4	M	No Class - Labor Day Holiday
September 25	M	Exam I
October 10	T	Last day to withdraw with grade of W
October 30	M	Exam II
November 22	W	No Class - Thanksgiving Holiday!!!
November 24	F	
December 6	W	Last day of class
TBA	TBA	Final Exam (Exam III)