**History 104 – World History, Part I: Antiquity to 1500**

**MWF 11:00 – 11:50 AM Global Scholars Hall 123**

**Instructor:** Cary Barber

**Office and Hours**: McKenzie Hall 340W – Monday 12:00 – 1:00 and by Appointment

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Bernini, “Fountain of the Four Rivers” 1651 – from left to right: Rίo de la Plata (Americas), Ganges (Asia), Nile (Africa)

**Class Goals and Objectives**

Your primary goal in this class is to acquire both knowledge of and an appreciation for the early history of a variety of world civilizations. Because there are simply too many fascinating cultures who inhabit this vast period, we will cover this era thematically. These themes include agriculture and economic development, relations between sedentary and non-sedentary peoples, the rise and fall of empires, the origins of major belief-systems, and how we know what we think we know about life in the past.

As with all history courses, there will be some requirement that you learn basic facts, terms, locations, and dates. Though it may seem tedious to you at first to learn this information, you will find that these bits of knowledge are the foundations for any good understanding of history. Still, it is more important to me that you come away from this course with an extensive knowledge of the various political, social, economic, and religious trends and developments in world history up to about 1500 AD. And even *more* important to me is that you develop the skill of critical thinking – both about history and the world – as a result of your newfound understanding of the trends and developments that make up history. You will be able to employ these new skills in historical analysis – both in future courses and in your daily lives – and you will be able to discern bias and spin all around you in your daily lives.

**Expectations**

Students of this class are expected to attend regularly and complete all assignments and readings. All students must participate in class discussions and are expected to contribute regularly. WARNING: You must be engaged in this class if you wish to receive a high mark.

**University Policies**

**Required Texts**

Tignor, Robert. *Worlds Together, Worlds Apart: A History of the World from the Beginnings of Humankind to the Present* vol*.* 1.W.W. Norton & Company – **4th ed.!!** **(WT in syllabus)**

I will provide online links and scans of primary sources – make sure you check online for them each week!

**Grading** **Scale**

A: 92.6 and above; B: 82.6-87.5; C: 72.6-77.5; D: 62-67.5;

A-: 89.6-92.5; B-: 79.6-82.5; C-: 69.6-72.5; E: below 62

B+: 87.6-89.5; C+: 77.6-79.5; D+: 67.6-69.5;

**Course Requirements and Due Dates**

***Grade Calculation***

Recitation Quizzes 10%

Recitation Attendance + Discussion 10%

Recitation Assignments 10%

Mid-Term #1 10%

Mid-Term #2 10%

Paper Prospectus 5%

Paper 25%

Final Exam 20%

Total Grade 100%

***Attendance/Discussion/Participation***

You must participate actively in order succeed in this class. For those of you who are reluctant to speak up during class and recitation or are concerned that your participation is not being recognized, please free to speak either with your recitation section leader or with me outside of class or during office hours in order to ensure that you receive due credit. In general, however, **as long as you make an active effort to engage with the course materials and prove this effort in some way, you will gain participation credit**. I am very flexible as to how you achieve this requirement. If you participate frequently, you may receive extra credit at our discretion!

We will move at a brisk pace this quarter because we’re covering some 5,000 years in only 10 weeks. As a result, I expect you to attend class every day in order to keep up with discussion and with lecture. I do, however, understand that emergencies occasionally arise and that you may not be able to attend class. You may have up to **two unexcused absences in recitation for the entire quarter**, **after which each absence will lower your overall grade by a half of a letter grade!** Attendance will be taken each recitation at the beginning of class, so if you happen to arrive a few minutes late, please make sure you come up and sign the attendance sheet afterwards.

***Quizzes***

There will be several quizzes in recitation throughout the fall based on material from lecture and readings. These will often be unannounced, and they will count for 10% of your grade. Some of them will be dropped. If you are unexcused-absent for a quiz beyond the two that you are given, you will receive a 0 for that quiz grade. These quizzes are important for us because they gauge how well you are absorbing what you hear and read. They are not just to make you sweat and grumble! **As long as you receive a passing grade on the quiz, you will get full credit.**

***Recitation Assignments and Projects***

You will often be asked to complete a project or an assignment for your recitation section. These will be announced either in class or online. Some of these will be assigned to you as individuals and some will require you to work in your recitation groups. You will have ample time to prepare for these, but make sure that you work together with your group-mates in order to set a schedule to meet up outside of class.

***Exams***

There will be two exams worth 10% each; and the final exam will be worth 20%. These will have a number of sections, including identification, multiple choice, short answer, and/or essay. These must be taken in class during the time allotted to you, and **make-ups will be available only for excused absences.** If you do not think you can attend for any reason, please e-mail me or your recitation section leader beforehand and we will work out a solution.

***Papers and Paper Prospectus***

There will be one final paper assigned in this course, and it will be worth 25% of your grade. As a part of this assignment, you will also be turning in a prospectus to your recitation TA, who will sign off on your topic and the sources you’ve found for it. This prospectus will be worth 5%, and it will be due several weeks before your paper is due (at the end of the course).

Essentially, I would like you to find a topic within the class that you found particularly interesting, and I would like you to write a small research paper on it. You will receive more information about this online and from a typed-up assignment sheet that I will distribute in your recitation sections later in the semester. I expect each paper to be approximately 1250 words, double spaced, regular margins, 12 pt. font. These papers will engage with: the primary sources assigned to you; material from lecture; reading from the textbook, and your own research. They will be graded (1) based on your ability to think critically about a problem using all of the materials available to you and (2) quality and accuracy of prose, grammar, and style. Late papers will be penalized by five points per day, including weekends. You may use whatever citation type you like, but make sure you are consistent.

**Course Schedule and Assignments**

(Read and take notes on each assigned reading before the date listed – Schedule subject to change!)

***Week One (Sept. 25 – 29)***

**Monday – September 25 – Introduction**

* Introduction and Organization

**Wednesday – September 27 – Rivers and Civilization: Mesopotamia and Egypt**

* WT: **Skim** Chapter 1 pg. 2 – 41. **Read** Chapter 2 pg. 42 – 58 and pg. 62 – 69

**Friday – September 29 – Rivers and Civilization: Indus, Yellow/Yangzi, Afro-Eurasia Regions**

* WT: Chapter 2 pg. 58 – 62, 69 – 84

***Week Two (Oct. 2 – 6)***

**Monday – October 2 – Nomads and Empires: Egypt and the Near East**

* *WT*: Chapter 3 pg. 84 – 100

**Wednesday – October 4 – Nomads and Empires: the Shang State (1600 – 1045 BC)**

* *WT*: Chapter 3 pg. 100 – 110

**Friday – October 6 – Nomads and Empires: Minoans and Mycenaeans**

* *WT*: Chapter 3 pg. 110 – 121

***Week Three (Oct. 9 – 13)***

**Monday – October 9** – **Collapse and Rebirth in the Mediterranean and Near East**

* *WT*: Chapter 4 pg. 122 - 145

**Wednesday – October 11 – Vedic Culture and the Early Zhou Empire**

* *WT*: Chapter 4 pg. 145 – 160
* Study for Midterm

**Friday – October 13 – New Ideas in Zhou China**

* *WT*: Chapter 5 pg. 160 – 171

***Week Four (Oct. 16 – 20)***

**Monday – October 16 – South Asia, the Americas, and Sub-Saharan Africa**

* *WT*: Chapter 5 pg. 171 - 190

**Wednesday – October 18 – Greece and the Mediterranean Milieu**

* *WT*: Chapter 5 pg. 190 – 200
* Study for Midterm

**Friday – October 20 – MIDTERM #1!**

***Week Five (Oct. 23 – 27)***

**Monday – October 23 – Alexander and the Mediterranean/Asian Cosmopolis**

* *WT*: Chapter 6 pg. 200 – 222
* Plutarch *Life of Alexander* – **WRITING ASSIGNMENT**

**Wednesday – October 25 – Buddhism and the Silk Road: Interstate of Ideas**

* *WT*: Chapter 6 pg. 222 – 237

**Friday – October 27 – Unifying Empires: Han Dynasty China**

* *WT*: Chapter 7 pg. 238 – 256
* Selections from the Theodosian Code, etc.

***Week Six (Oct. 30 – Nov. 3)***

**Monday – October 30 – Unifying Empires: The Roman Republic**

* *WT*: Chapter 7 pg. 256 – 262
* Selections from Cicero

**Wednesday – November 1 – Unifying Empires: The Roman Empire**

* *WT*: Chapter 7 pg. 262 - 277

**Friday – November 3 – Universal Religions: Rome, Christianity, and the Byzantine Empire**

* *WT*: Chapter 8 pg. 278 - 296

***Week Seven (Nov. 6 – 10)***

**Monday – November 6 – Universal Religions: Buddhism and Hinduism**

* *WT*: Chapter 8 pg. 296 – 307

**Wednesday – November 8 – Faith and Culture in Mesoamerica and Sub-Saharan Africa**

* *WT*: Chapter 8 pg. 307 – 317
* Study for Midterm

**Friday – November 10 – MIDTERM #2!**

***Week Eight (Nov. 13 – 17)***

**Monday – November 13 – Islam and a New Mediterranean Milieu**

* *WT*: Chapter 9 pg. 318 – 333

**Wednesday – November 15 – New Formations in the East: Tang China, Japan, and Korea**

* *WT*: Chapter 9 pg. 333 – 347

**Friday – November 17 – Towards a New Christian Empire**

* *WT*: Chapter 9 pg. 347 – 357

***Week Nine (Nov. 20 – 24)***

**Monday – November 20 – Africa, Islam, and India: New Connections**

* *WT*: Chapter 10 pg. 358 – 376

**Wednesday – November 22 –Song China, Japan, and the Americas**

* *WT*: Chapter 10 pg. 376 – 383, 389 – 394

**Friday – November 24 – NO CLASS! Happy Thanksgiving!**

***Week Ten (Nov. 27 – Dec. 1)***

**Monday – November 27 – Europe: Collapse, Recovery, and Religious Strife**

* *WT*: Chapter 10 pg. 383 – 389, Chapter 11 pg. 404 – 407, pg. 420 to 430

**Wednesday – November 29 – Islamic Kingdoms in the Wake of the Mongol Conquest**

* *WT*: Chapter 10 pg. 394 – 403, Chapter 11 pg. 407 – 420

**Friday – December 1 – Ming China and the History of the World!**

* *WT*: Chapter 11 pg. 430 – 439

**FINAL EXAM IS WEDNESDAY, DEC. 6TH AT 10:15!**