

Course Outline

World Civilizations I

(32712) HIS K121

Tuesdays and Thursdays: 2:30 – 3:45 p.m.

Three Rivers Community College

Norwich, CT 06360

Instructor: Peter Patsouris

Email Address: [ppatsouris@threerivers.edu](mailto:ppatsouris@threerivers.edu)

Office: C108

Phone: (860) 215-9462

Office Hours:

Mondays: 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:30 -2:30 p.m.; 6:00-6:30 p.m.

Or by appointment

Fall 2015

### Course Description:

This course is a survey of world cultures that have contributed importantly to the development of Western and Eastern thought. Consideration is given to institutions and ideas from prehistoric times through the evolution of ancient civilizations to the formation of empires. Major economic, political, and social forces are examined for their influence upon modern society.

### LEARNING OUTCOMES

A. Knowledge outcomes. Students will learn to:

1. Distinguish and characterize significant periods of historical experience in multiple societies from different parts of the globe.
2. Describe events and developments in the history of multiple societies in terms of continuity, change, and causation.
3. Understand interpretive debates about the past.
4. Appreciate the complexities involved in interpreting societies and social change: for example, the local and the global, particular and general, contingent and structural.
5. Identify different kinds of historical evidence and understand their role in the production of historical knowledge.

B. Skills outcomes. Students will be able to:

1. Recall factual claims about the past and synthesize them into coherent interpretive arguments.
2. Read documents closely and critically.
3. Formulate a well-organized, well-supported argument.
4. Demonstrate clear writing in the form of essays of varying lengths.
5. Make cogent oral arguments about reading assignments
6. Conduct original research with primary sources.
7. Locate good, relevant secondary scholarship, and distinguish good from poor scholarship.
8. Observe ethical practices of citation and intellectual self-presentation.

Required Texts:

- TITLE: Crossroads and Cultures: A History of the World's Peoples
- AUTHOR: Smith, Bonnie G. et al.
- EDITION: First
- COPYRIGHT YEAR: 2012
- PUBLISHER: Bedford Saint Martin's

- TITLE: Pocket Guide to Writing in History
- AUTHOR: Rampolla
- EDITION: 8th
- COPYRIGHT YEAR: 2015
- PUBLISHER: Bedford Saint Martin's
- ISBN: 9781457690884

Tentative Schedule:

<u>Week</u>	<u>Class Content</u>	<u>Text Reading and Homework Assignments</u>
September 1 <sup>st</sup>	Intro to Course; Peopling the World, to 4000 B.C.E.	Chapter 1 STP: pg. 21 Lives and Livelihoods: pg. 30
September 8 <sup>th</sup>	Peopling the World, to 4000 B.C.E.	Chapter 1 STP: pg. 21 Lives and Livelihoods: pg. 30
September 8 <sup>th</sup>	Temples and Palaces: Birth of the City	Chapter 2 STP: pg. 46 STP: pg. 64
September 15 <sup>th</sup>	Settlers and Migrants: The Creation of States	Chapter 3 RTP: pg. 90 RTP: pg. 98

	in Asia, 5000-500 B.C.E.	
September 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Creation of Empire: North Africa and Southwest Asia, 1550-330 B.C.E.	Chapter 4 RTP: pg. 111 RTP: pg. 134
September 29 <sup>th</sup>	The Greeks and the Wider World, 1200-30 B.C.E.	Chapter 5 RTP: pg. 147 RTP: pg. 158
October 6 <sup>th</sup>	Peoples and World Empires: Classical India, the Kushan Empire, and China, 500 B.C.E. – 500 C.E.	Chapter 6 STP: pg. 187 RTP: pg. 196
October 13 <sup>th</sup>	The Unification of Western Eurasia, 500 B.C.E. – 500 C.E.	Chapter 7 Lives and Livelihoods: pg. 215 STP: pg. 217
October 20 <sup>th</sup>	Midterm exam; first half homework assignments due  Reading the Unwritten Record: Peoples of Africa, the Americas, and the Pacific Islands, 3000 B.C.E. – 500 C.E.	Chapter 8 RTP: pg. 250 STP: pg. 252

October 27 <sup>th</sup>	The Worlds of Christianity and Islam, 400-1000	Chapter 9 STP: pg. 277 RTP: pg. 291
November 3 <sup>rd</sup>  Note: Topic proposals due today	Societies and Networks in the Americas and the Pacific, 300 – 1200	Chapter 11 RTP: pg. 348 STP: pg. 355
November 10 <sup>th</sup>	Centers of Learning and the Transmission of Culture, 900-1300	Chapter 13 Lives and Livelihoods: pg. 413 RTP: pg. 434
November 17 <sup>th</sup>	Crusaders, Mongols, and Eurasian Integration, 1050-1350	Chapter 14 RTP: 449 Lives and Livelihoods: 457
November 24 <sup>th</sup>  Note: No class on the 26 <sup>th</sup> - Thanksgiving break	Collapse and Revival in Afro-Eurasia, 1300-1450	Chapter 15 Lives and Livelihoods: pg. 497 STP: pg. 502
December 1 <sup>st</sup>	Empires and Alternatives in the Americas, 1430-1530	Chapter 16 STP: pg. 521 RTP: pg. 533
December 8 <sup>th</sup>  Final Projects Due December 8 <sup>th</sup>	None	In Class Presentations

December 15 <sup>th</sup>	Final exam; 2 <sup>nd</sup> half homework assignments due	
---------------------------	---	--

Method of Evaluation:

Homework Assignments – You will be responsible for reading the chapters in the textbook, as well as answering either the Reading the Past (RTP), Seeing the Past (STP) or Lives and Livelihoods questions in each chapter (see above for those you are responsible for). All assignments must be clearly labeled, typed, and handed in during class the day they are due. Homework assignments will be collected halfway through the semester the date of the midterm exam, and again at the end of the semester on the day of the final exam. The homework assignments will be worth 25% of your total grade. I will not accept any late homework assignments.

Written Assignments – During the course of the semester, you will be given a few research and writing exercises that are designed to enhance your understanding of the material. They will be taken from material learned in class, as well as other readings, writings, etc. The written assignments will be worth 25% of your total grade. I will not accept any late writing assignments.

Quizzes and Exams: You will have a few short unannounced quizzes throughout the semester to ensure that you are following along with the readings and presentations. There will also be a midterm and final exam in this course. The quizzes and exams will make up 25% of your total grade. Quizzes will not be made up; Exams will not be made up unless there is a legitimate reason.

Research Project– At the end of the semester, you will be required to complete a research project that covers an important topic related to the course. I will allow students to have a certain amount of freedom to choose how to complete the assignment and what topic they choose (even if I do not cover it in class), but here is a list of *possible* ways to fulfill the assignment:

1. A 5-10 page paper.
2. A 10-15 minute formal in-class presentation.
3. An art project.

A topic proposal will be due on November 10<sup>th</sup>. I will go into more detail on the assignment as the semester progresses, but you should begin your thought process as soon as possible. The paper will be worth 25% of your total grade. I will not accept any late research projects.

Note: I will not accept any email assignments this semester

Grading System:

A = 94-100	C = 74-77
A- = 90-93	C- = 70-73
B+ = 88-89	D+ = 68-70
B = 80-83	D = 64-67
B- = 80-83	D- = 60-62
C+ = 78-79	F = Below 60

Paper Information

All written materials that are handed in must be typed, double-spaced and follow the writing rubric that is at the end of this syllabus. If you have any trouble with writing, I strongly advise you visit the writing and tutoring center. Furthermore, the following web site will help answer many, if not all of your questions on writing:

[http://www.trcc.commnet.edu/Div\\_academics/TASC/WritingCenter/WritingCenter.shtml](http://www.trcc.commnet.edu/Div_academics/TASC/WritingCenter/WritingCenter.shtml)

#### Attendance:

Please look at the student handbook regarding the college's attendance policies.

#### Late Assignments

All homework and journal assignments are due at the beginning of class on the due date. My policy on late assignments for this course is as follows: I will accept the first late writing assignment within a day that it is due, and give you partial credit. The second and subsequent late assignment will be given minimal credit if handed in late.

Final papers are to be handed in on or before the due date – no exceptions.

#### Disabilities Statement:

If you have a hidden or visible disability, which may require classroom or assignment modifications, you are obligated to come see me as soon as possible.

#### Academic Dishonesty:

Any form of cheating or plagiarism will be reported to the college immediately, and may result in the failure of an assignment or the course itself.