Purpose of this course

This course is an exploration of areas and themes in world history which are important to the contemporary world. We will develop a clearer understanding of what a civilization is and how it functions as a complex system, looking at components of all civilizations and factors unique to the specific civilizations we study. We will expand our knowledge of civilizations, times, and cultures different from our own in the quest to better understand the place of our culture in the world today. This course will involve study of text, primary sources, and art of various kinds, through which we will extend our imaginations and examine the way we build ideas.

Topics of study

Working Outline of Topics:

Fall

Human Origins
Prehistoric cultures
Neolithic transition.
Mesopotamia

Winter

The Islamic World
India.

Spring
- China
- Africa

Required Texts

Traditions and Encounters: A Global Perspective on the Past by Bentley and Ziegler
Notebooks

You are required to keep a notebook. Notebooks will be used for lecture notes as well as writing exercises where you will be asked to express your own ideas. Small projects and handouts will also be incorporated in your notebook. It will be collected twice each trimester for a grade.

Expectations

The Student Handbook policies will be enforced at all times.
Be on time to class. This means you are in your seat, ready to learn. If you arrive to class, and the door is closed - you are late!
On most days as you enter the classroom you will have a writing/discussion prompt to consider. You should begin the task as you take your seat. Do not wait for the teacher to tell you what to do.
Laptops are not permitted, unless an arrangement is made between the student and teacher. There are stipulations involved to this privilege and it can be revoked if you do not follow the terms of the arrangement.
Respect the learning environment. Each student should feel safe asking questions, responding to questions, or stating opinions and ideas.

Bring your notebook to class everyday. We will use them each class period.
Ask for help when you need it. I make myself available during study block, as well as some nights that I am on duty for extra help.
Check email and Schoology on a regular basis.

Plagiarism and Cheating

Please read the handbook’s policy concerning plagiarism. You will be held accountable for knowing what plagiarism is and how you can avoid being accused of it.

Examples of cheating: Giving help to another student on a test or quiz, Copying someone’s work, Allowing someone to copy your work, Using text from the internet or a book without using the proper citation

These are serious violations and will lead to a Fundamental Rule Violation and the earning of a failing grade!

Grading Procedures

Grades will be based on a point system. You will earn your final grade by putting forth your best effort on tests, quizzes, notebook assignments, notebook checks, projects, and participation.
Trimester Grading Policy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework and Class Participation</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tests</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essays/ Projects</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
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</tbody>
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Assignments are due when asked for in class. Any assignment received a day late will be awarded no grade higher than a 70. After two days, assignments will receive a zero.

If you plan on printing an assignment, you MUST print it before class. **If you arrive late to class because you were in the computer lab printing, you and the assignment is late.**

**Extensions**

Extensions will be granted on a need basis. You must ask in advance for an extra day or two on a long-term project. The day an assignment is due is NOT the day to ask for an extension. From time to time, we have bad days, and I understand the need for extra time to do quality work. I do however recognize patterns of procrastination and will not be generous with giving an extra day or two on each project or assignment.