

HIST 1111 - 16
Introduction to World History/Pre-Modern
Semester: Spring 2019
Location: Social Sciences Room 1017
Meeting Time: Tuesday/Thursday 5:00 – 6:15 pm

Instructor: Victor L. Reesor

Office: Adjunct Office Social Sciences Building Room 4005

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 2:30-3:30 pm

Office Phone: 470-578-6294 (History Department – only available during business hours)

Email address: vreesor@kennesaw.edu

Communications: The University provides all KSU students with an “official” email account with the address “students.kennesaw.edu.” As a result of federal laws protecting educational information and other data, **this is the sole email account you should use to communicate with your instructor or other University officials.** Students may of course communicate with the instructor before or after scheduled classes or during referenced office hours. Students may leave a message for the instructor at the telephone number above. Keep in mind that the instructor is only on campus on Tuesdays and Thursdays, so there may be a slight delay with the response.

Course Description:

This course is a survey of early world history beginning approximately at 3,000 BCE to approximately 1500 CE. The course examines the political, economic, social, and cultural history of the world with a focus on connections and interactions. Special emphasis will be placed on cause and effect and the meaning and significance of how these civilizations developed.

Learning Objectives:

HIST 1111 satisfies one of Kennesaw State University’s general education program requirements. It addresses the **SOCIAL SCIENCES** general education learning outcome(s). The learning outcome states: Students analyze the complexity of human behavior and how social, historical, economic, political, or spatial relationships develop, persist, or change. For more information about KSU’s General Education program requirements and associated learning outcomes, please visit [the course catalog](#).

Required Reading:

A History of World Societies, Volume 1 Eleventh Edition, Value Edition

McKay, Ebrey, Beck, Crowston, Wiesner-Hanks and Davila

Bedford St. Martins (Macmillan Education)

Make sure and get a textbook that comes with an access code to the Macmillan software platform called LaunchPad. You will have to access this platform in order to complete the course. You may purchase the access code by itself and utilize the eBook inside LaunchPad.

Attendance Policy:

Students are solely responsible for managing their enrollment status in a class; nonattendance does not constitute a withdrawal. I will take attendance for each class via a sign-in sheet. Students who at the end of the semester are within 2 points of reaching a higher grade will be rewarded with that higher grade if their attendance record is 90% or higher.

It will be the student’s responsibility to keep up to date with what is going on in class. Each student will be responsible for class discussions and all announcements regarding assignments, class schedule, etc.

Electronic Devices Policy:

Though I recognized the growing importance computers play in everyday life, no electronic devices, except voice recorders, are allowed in the classroom. This includes laptop computers, iPods, cell phones, etc. These devices have shown themselves to be sources of distraction and disruption of class time.

Course Assessments/Assignments:

Each student's grade will be based upon five parts:

- Exams:
There will be four exams this semester. These will take place in class via use of scantrons (which you will need to purchase ahead of time). Exams will cover information from class discussions.
- Critical Thinking Assignments:
There will be several assignments this semester designed to emphasize critical thinking skills. These may include analysis of a primary source document or a summary of information regarding certain civilizations or aspects of a civilization as well as some designed to introduce characteristics of critical thinking analysis and argumentative writing. There will be a 3-5 page argumentative essay for the second half of the semester.
- Reading Assessments:
You will complete chapter reading assignments in LaunchPad. They will consist of a series of multiple-choice questions for which you may have more than one attempt to answer. Depending on how many times it takes you to select the correct answer, you will earn an amount of points. You continue taking the reading assignment until you accumulate the designated minimum number of points. If you continue until you accumulate this amount of points, thereby completing the assignment, you will earn 100 points. You must complete the assignment in order to receive any points. You will find links in the assignments to the pages in the eBook related to the questions you are answering if you need them. The assignment will have a designated due date/time, which will be by the beginning of the class in which we will discuss the topic of the applicable chapter.
- Summative Quizzes
At some point after you complete a reading assignment, you will have a follow-up Summative Quiz for the applicable chapter. It will be a short, timed multiple-choice quiz to test how well you absorbed the information from the previous week's chapter reading.
- Geography Assignment:
For each continent covered this semester, students will identify the location of list items related to the countries of that continent as well as selective landmarks (rivers, oceans, seas, mountains, regions, etc). Answers will be submitted via both Countries and Landmarks Submission lists for each continent. Students will have two completion attempts per submission list. We will go over this in class on more than one occasion. **These assignments will be due the last class day of the semester.**

Please note: Since I do not want students getting ahead of our class schedule with assignments, many of these assignments will not become available until their predecessor has come due. Reading Assignments become available when the previous reading assignment has come due and Summative Quizzes will not be available until the chapter reading assignment to which they are associated has come due.

Grading:

Grade Calculations

The final grade will be based upon the following formula:

Exams: 40%

Critical Thinking – 30%

 Exercises – 25% of category grade

 Argumentative Essay – 75% of category grade

Reading Assessments: 10%

Summative Quizzes: 10%

Geographical Assignment: 10%

Do not trust any overall grade calculations you see in either D2L or Launchpad. Students may use the following formula to determine the status of their grade at any point in the semester:

Exams – 40% of final grade

After dropping the lowest grade (except the Final Exam), calculate an average (including the Final Exam grade). Multiply the average by .4 and save the answer.

Critical Thinking – 30% of final grade

After dropping the lowest grade of the critical thinking exercises, calculate the average and multiply that average by .25 (25%). Save the answer. Now multiply your argumentative essay grade by .75 (75%) and save the answer. Add the two saved answers for the category grade. Multiply this category grade by .3 (30%) and save the answer.

Reading Assignments – 10% of final grade

After dropping the lowest grade, calculate an average. Multiply the average by .1 and save the answer.

Summary Quizzes – 10% of final grade

After dropping the lowest grade, calculate an average. Multiply the average by .1 and save the answer.

Geography Assignments – 10% of final grade

After dropping the lowest grade, calculate an average. Multiply the average by .1 and save the answer.

Now add up all the saved answers and you will have an idea where your overall grade stands in a scale of 100%.

Extra Credit:

I do not offer extra credit opportunities. These are not found in real life experiences, so I choose not to deviate from this reality in my classes. It is the responsibility of each student to monitor the progress of his/her grade and to contact the instructor if concerns begin to develop. I will be glad to work with any student in any way that I can to help them improve their grade.

Makeup Work:

There will be no makeup work allowed. **In D2L there will be a Assignments Due Dates Schedule which will list all assignments and exams students will do this semester along with their due dates/times.** A missed assignment or exam will result in a zero. It is the student's responsibility to manage their personal/work schedules in a manner that allows them to complete all assignments on time. I will drop the lowest grade from each category at the end of the semester when computing final grades, except for the Final Exam which by policy may not be dropped.

Note about technology: For each assignment, you will have several days in which to complete it. It is recommended that students start their assignments and exams far enough ahead of the end date/time to allow for any potential technical issues. There will be a technical support telephone number students may use to get assistance with these technical issues. **It is important that students contact LaunchPad technical support immediately upon encountering a technical issue of any kind so that the technical support representative may have a better chance to help the student with the issue and complete the assignment or exam.** If a student waits until the very end of the accessibility period, he/she is assuming responsibility for potential technical issues that could keep the student from completing the assignment or exam. **Technology will not be a valid excuse for missing deadlines.**

Should you encounter a technical situation that threatens your ability to get an assignment due on time, please use the following LaunchPad Technical Support procedure:

1. You must contact LaunchPad Technical Support at 800-936-6899 and explain the situation to them as the issue is happening. Hopefully they will be able to resolve the situation with you so that you may complete your work on time. If they cannot, you need to request that they contact me via email with a report of the incident and what they discovered
2. If you are not able to resolve the issue with LaunchPad Technical Support, contact me and report the situation. If you contact LaunchPad and/or me after the due date, you void all consideration.
3. If LaunchPad reports to me that the situation was unavoidable for you, then I will allow you to make up the work, otherwise the above no makeup work policy will apply.

Grading Scale

Students are evaluated on the following scale:

A – 90-100

B – 80 - 89

C – 70 - 79

D – 60 - 69

F – Below 60

I—Indicates an incomplete grade for the course, and will be awarded only when the student has done satisfactory work up to the last two weeks of the semester, but for nonacademic reasons beyond his/her control is unable to meet the full requirements of the course. Incomplete grades are only valid after submission of the Incomplete Grade form (signed by both the instructor and student) to the Department Chair's office.

Academic Integrity Statement:

Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section 5. C of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the university's policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to university materials, misrepresentation/falsification of university records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious/intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the Department of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity (SCAI), which includes either an "informal" resolution by a faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct's minimum one semester suspension requirement. See also <https://web.kennesaw.edu/scai/content/ksu-student-code-conduct>.

Examples of Plagiarism Avoidance websites:

<http://plagiarism.org/>

<http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml>

<http://www.library.arizona.edu/help/tutorials/plagiarism/index.html>

Violations of this policy in our class may incur consequences up to and including receiving a grade of F for the course. Make sure you are completely familiar with the information both in the Student Code of Conduct linked above as well as the links involving definition of plagiarism. Contact me if you have any questions.

ADA Compliance:

Students with qualifying disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act who require "reasonable accommodation(s)" to complete the course may request those from Department of Student Success Services. Students requiring such accommodations are required to work with the University's Department of Student Success Services rather than engaging in this discussion with individual faculty members or academic departments. If, after reviewing the course syllabus, a student anticipates or should have anticipated a need for accommodation, he or she must submit documentation requesting an accommodation and permitting time for a determination prior to submitting assignments or taking course quizzes or exams. Students may not request retroactive accommodation for needs that were or should have been foreseeable. Students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations. For more information please visit their website, <http://sds.kennesaw.edu/>

Contact information is as follows:

SDS Email: sds@kennesaw.edu

Primary number for Kennesaw campus: [470-578-2666](tel:470-578-2666)

Primary number for Marietta campus: [470-578-7361](tel:470-578-7361)

Additional [Student Rights and Responsibilities](#) can be found in the [Student Handbook](#).

Course Schedule:

Week	Date	Chapter(s)	Topic
1	8/19/2019		Introduction
	8/21/2019	2	Mesopotamia
2	8/26/2019	2	Mesopotamia
	8/28/2019	2	Ancient Egypt
3	9/2/2019		Labor Day Holiday - No class
	9/4/2019	3	Ancient India
4	9/9/2019	3	Ancient India
	9/11/2019	4	Ancient China
5	9/16/2019		Exam 1 - Mesopotamia through Ancient China
	9/18/2019	5	Ancient Greece
6	9/23/2019	5	Ancient Greece
	9/25/2019	5	Ancient Greece
7	9/30/2019	6	Ancient Rome
	10/2/2019	6	Ancient Rome
8	10/7/2019	6	Ancient Rome
	10/9/2019	9	Early Japan NOTE: LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW W/O ACADEMIC PENALTY
9	10/14/2019		Exam 2 - Ancient Greece and Rome
	10/16/2019	9	Early Islam
10	10/21/2019	10, 11	Ancient Africa/Pre-Columbian Americas
	10/23/2019	11	Pre-Columbian Americas
11	10/28/2019	7, 13	Qin to Mongol Conquest
	10/30/2019	7, 12	Qin to Mongol Conquest/Gupta India
12	11/4/2019	13	Early Japan
	11/6/2019		Exam 3 - Early Islam, Africa, Americas, China II, Gupta India and Early Japan
13	11/11/2019	8, 14	European Middle Ages
	11/13/2019	14	European Middle Ages
14	11/18/2019	14	European High Middle Ages
	11/20/2019	15	European Renaissance
15	11/25/2019		Thanksgiving Holiday - No class
	11/27/2019		Thanksgiving Holiday - No class
16	12/2/2019	15	European Renaissance
	12/4/2019	15	European Reformation
	12/9/2019	15	European Reformation

Final Exam: Wednesday, December 11 in Social Sciences Room 1017 from 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Changes to this syllabus: The instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus. Any substantive changes which impact grade calculations or grading will be announced in writing using D2L and will be emailed to the class. If you have concerns about announced changes, please contact the instructor and ask for clarification before the end of the semester.