

*Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall. –Confucius (c. 551-479 BCE)*

**World History 103  
Fall Semester, 2004**

Professor: Dr. Shuck-Hall  
Office: 407 Roberts Hall  
Email: shucks@uah.edu  
Office Hours: T, R, 12:30-2:35; M, W, 11:15-1:45, or by appointment  
Class Meeting: T, R, 8:00-9:20

**Course Description:** Major World Cultures to 1550

**General Course Objectives:**

This course will survey World History from pre-history to 1550. A special effort will be made throughout:

- To portray events from the viewpoints of various peoples and their cultures.
- To give students a sense of the political, social, cultural, economic, and intellectual developments
- To provide students with a broader understanding of how these past events have influenced world history.

**Specific Objectives and Requirements:**

- 1). To understand the development of human society, from the beginning of societal development to the increasing complexity of world civilizations through time. This goal will be achieved through lectures, assigned reading, and class discussion.
- 2). To examine the origins of human events and ideas, such as the establishment of community, government, and culture, the impact of technology, the status of women, the role of religions, the idea of sovereignty, rise and fall of empires, the contact of cultures, globalization and trade, relationships between minority and majority peoples, etc. All societies throughout history and the contemporary world deal with such issues, no matter their differences. This study will provide you with a better understanding of the past and present. Such examination will occur in class lectures, discussions, and readings.
- 3). To broaden students' knowledge of world cultures in order to better understand the world in which we live. This goal will be achieved with lectures, assigned reading, and class discussion.
- 4). To test and evaluate assumptions believed to be true of historical events or cultures, and to discard assumptions that do not stand up to critical examination. This re-evaluation is critical to gaining a full appreciation of history and the human condition. This examination will take place by examining primary documents in class and in your reading assignments. Remember to keep an open mind and always bring your critical thinking skills to the test.
- 5). To build students' analytical, writing, and verbal skills. This goal will be achieved by discussing primary documents and reading material, researching and writing term papers, and writing essays on exams.
- 6). As a proposed contract, you will be expected to **attend** lectures, read all assignments carefully, and think critically about all the material presented. You will be expected to **discuss**, both verbally and in writing, significant issues raised in lecture and reading assignments (see required texts above). Because this course has a discussion component, I am depending on you to keep up with the readings.

**Required Texts:**

**Jerry Bentley and Herbert Zeigler**, eds. *Traditions and Encounters: A Global Perspective on the Past*, Vol. 1, 2nd edition, 2003.

**Course Grade:**

Your grade will be based on a standard 10% grading scale (90-100% = A, 80-89% = B, 70-79% = C, 60-69% = D, 59- below = F). The course will be divided as follows:

Hour exams	2@ 20% each =40%	400 pts.
Final exam	30%	300 pts.
Research paper	20%	200 pts.
Class Participation	10%	100 pts
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Totals	100%	1000 pts.

The hourly exams will consist of a section of objective questions (e.g., multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank), identifications, and essays. Material from the assigned readings, lectures, and in-class discussion will be included in these tests. The final exam will include essays that will require you to consider the course material in its entirety, but the objective portion (id's and multiple choice) will cover only material presented following Exam II.

### **Make-up Policy:**

All make-ups will **require** an acceptable written excuse from a **credible source**, i.e. a doctor, lawyer, law enforcement official. Any unexcused absence on test day will result in an automatic zero for the exam. **ALL MAKEUPS WILL BE GIVEN ON December 10, NO EXCEPTIONS.**

### **Policies:**

*Attendance:* Attendance to all classes is required and will be taken every day. If you fail to attend, it is **your** responsibility to get the lecture notes you missed. Do not ask me for the notes! Four unexcused absences are without penalty; Five or more unexcused absences will adversely affect your grade. An excused absence must be documented on official letterhead and shown to me the next day you return to class. No exceptions. Remember, **discussion is worth 10%** of your grade. If you are absent, you will not be able to participate and you will not get credit toward your class participation grade.

*Honor:* Whispering, reading a magazine, studying for another class, passing notes, sleeping, talking during lecture, leaving class early without informing me in advance, and any other rude behaviors are not acceptable. Remember, this is not high school! This behavior will not be tolerated and will lower your grade.

*Tardiness:* I expect you to come to class on time. The doors will be closed after roll is called. You will be allowed into class once during the semester after the door is closed. If you have a problem coming to class on time, please inform me immediately. If you come into class after roll has been taken, it is **your** responsibility to see me directly after class in order to remove the absence mark. No exceptions.

*Other:* If your cell phone goes off during my lecture, pray for mercy! Please turn them off before you come to class. If you need it for an emergency, let me know in advance, and sit close to the door. Also, no tape recording during class.

### **Class Participation:**

We will devote time to class discussion on the assigned documents that I give you in advance. It is important that you keep up with the reading assignments and participate in class; it will help your final grade in the end. Remember that I will be grading you as you discuss the documents.

### **Research Paper Requirements:**

- 1). Every student will be required to turn in a typed, 6-7 page research paper. **Topics may be selected from Bentley part 1 to 1550: NO EXCEPTIONS. If you need an idea, please see me.**
- 2). Select something that interests you and see me about your topic **before September 16**. On this date, your topic and at least 3 sources must be submitted (typed) by the beginning of class. Failure to do so will result in a zero for the paper. **NO EXCEPTIONS.** *Note: you cannot select a topic that has already been chosen First come first serve applies here.*
- 3). A one page, typed progress report describing your paper's thesis and major themes must be submitted on **October 14**. Failure to do so will result in a 20-point reduction (out of 100) in your paper grade.
- 4). Your paper must be typed, double-spaced, 12pt. Font in Times New Roman with **1" margins on all sides.**
- 5). At least 4 scholarly sources from the Library are required for your paper. Encyclopedias, textbooks, and "popular" summaries (such as Time-Life Books) are not acceptable sources. **You may not use internet sources with the exception of e-books or e-journal articles; please see me if you have any questions.**

- 6). Papers must follow the Chicago Manual of Style Guidelines. Substantial reduction of your paper grade will result if your sources are not cited correctly.
- 7). Papers must be turned in on the due date by the beginning of class period. Any late papers will result in a 10 point grade reduction per day, including the day it is late.
- 8). You must turn in your research notes. Papers with insufficient notes will not be accepted.
- 9). Plagiarized papers will be given a 0; plagiarism is not tolerated in this course.
- 10). You must have a separate title page with your name, date, class hour, and title of your paper. You must also include a separate bibliography at the end of your paper.
- 11). Your paper will be evaluated based on its content and form. You must demonstrate your ability to research your topic and to organize the historical material in a thoughtful, logical manner. If you are having problems, please make an appointment with me or contact the UAH Writing Center in Morton Hall.
- 12). You must upload your paper to turnitin.com by the paper deadline in order to receive credit for your work.

#### **Submitting your paper to Turnitin.com:**

Along with a hard copy submitted to the professor on the due date, every student is required to submit his/her final research papers to turnitin.com. **You must upload your paper to the turnitin.com website in order to receive credit for your research paper.** Please see handout for instructions on how to upload your paper. If you do not submit a digital paper, you will receive a zero on your paper. Moreover, papers submitted to Turnitin.com and hard copies must match, or you will receive no credit for your paper.

UAH is committed to the fundamental values of preserving academic honesty as defined in the Student Handbook (7.III.A). The instructor reserves the right to utilize electronic means to help prevent plagiarism. Students agree that by taking this course all assignments are subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com. Assignments submitted to Turnitin.com will be included as source documents in Turnitin.com's restricted access database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism in such documents. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service, as well as additional information about the company, are described at <http://www.uah.edu/library/turnitin>.

#### **Academic Honesty:**

Academic dishonesty is an offense that will be reported to the university's Student Affairs. In other words, DON'T CHEAT! Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Cheating is considered an academic crime and will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of university regulations. See your student handbook for further details.

#### **Students with Disabilities:**

Any student needing special accommodations in the class should contact the Student Disabilities Office for appropriate documentation.

#### **Where to get help:**

If you are having trouble in this class or with assignments, please do not hesitate to see me as soon as possible. Do not do so at the last minute or the day before the exam or paper deadline. We also have a department tutor that will be available throughout the semester. The UAH Writing Center is also available to give you advice on your papers.

## Tentative Class Schedule\*

*\*Note: lecture material on given dates are subject to change*

### **August 31-September 2: Introduction and Course Requirements**

#### **Neolithic Revolution and Indo-European Migration**

Readings: Bentley, Chapter 1-2

### **September 7-9 : Early African Societies**

Readings: Bentley, Chapter 3

### **September 14-16: Ancient South and East Asia**

Readings: Bentley, Chap 4

**\*September 16<sup>th</sup>: Deadline for research paper topics NO EXCEPTIONS\***

### **September 21-23 :Ancient Latin America**

Readings: Bentley, Chapter 5

### **September 28: Empires of Persia**

Readings: Bentley, Chap 7

**\*\*Exam I: October 5\*\***

**No Class: October 7—Fall Break**

### **September 30-October 12: The Unification of China: The Han Dynasty**

Readings: Bentley, Chapter 8

**\*October 14<sup>th</sup>: Progress Reports Due\***

### **October 14: Classical India**

Readings: Bentley, Chapter 9

### **October 19-21: Mediterranean Society: Greece**

Readings: Bentley, Chap 10

### **October 26-28: Mediterranean Society: Rome**

Readings: Bentley, Chapter 11

### **November 2 : Cross-Cultural Exchanges-The Silk Roads**

Readings: Bentley, Chapter 12

**\*\*Exam II: November 4\*\***

### **November 9: Byzantium**

Readings: Bentley, Chapter 13

### **Nov 11: The Islamic World**

Readings: Bentley, Chapter 14

### **Nov 16-18: Empire in East Asia**

Readings: Bentley, Chapter 15

**\*\*Research Paper Due: Tuesday, November 23\*\***

**November 24-7: Thanksgiving Break**

### **Nov 23: India**

Readings: Bentley, Chapter 16

### **November 30: Western Europe**

Readings: Bentley, Chapter 17;

### **December 2: The Mongols**

Readings: Bentley, Chapter 18

### **December 7: The Americas**

Readings: Bentley, Chapter 21

### **December 9: Cross-Cultural Interactions**

Readings: Bentley, Chap 22

**December 10: Makeup Exams**

**Final Exam: Thursday December 16, 8:00-10:30 am**