

History 305.01E
WORLD HISTORY
Origins Through the Seventeenth Century
Fall 2014

Instructor: Dr. Judy Ann Ford
Office Location: SS 113
Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday 11:00 – 12:15; Tuesday 9:30-12:00 noon or by appointment
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COURSE INFORMATION

Materials--Required:

Peter N. Stearns, *World History in Brief*, Combined Volume, 8th ed. ISBN-10: 0-205-93920-1

Maureen G. Kovacs, trans., *The Epic of Gilgamesh*. ISBN-10: 0-8047-1711-7

R. K. Narayan, *The Ramayana: A Shortened Modern Prose Version*. ISBN-10: 0-14-303967-9

Seamus Heaney, trans., *Beowulf: A New Verse Translation*. ISBN-10: 0-393-32097-9

Any additional materials, such as brief articles, videos, or primary documents, will be supplied by the instructor through e-college.

Course Description:

World History differs from traditional Western Civilization not only in its greater geographic scale but also its longer chronological scope. This course begins with the earliest human tribal organizations. Consideration of the ancient period will also include the development of cradles of civilization, the growth and decline of classical cultures, interactions among classical and nomadic peoples, and the establishment of great world religions. The study of the medieval period will include varieties of rebuilding after the collapse of classical empires, the roles played by great world religions in medieval cultures, the development of technologies of communication and transportation, and the interactions among settled and nomadic peoples. Topics considered in the early modern period include the voyages of exploration and early colonization efforts by China and Europe, and the impact of emerging globalization.

Prerequisite and/or Corequisite Majors: Hist 253. Non-Majors: may enroll with consent of instructor.

Student Learning Outcome:

- Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the interconnectedness of global dynamics (issues, processes, trends, and systems).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional / Methods / Activities / Assessments

I. Attendance and Participation

Attendance at all class meetings is strongly encouraged. You are responsible for all material covered in our class meetings, regardless of your physical presence in the room. Although the Stearns book will be taught primarily through lectures, there will be periodic questions put to the class. The other books will be taught through class discussion and team work.

II. Assessments

1) Exams

- There will be two exams. Neither will be cumulative. Each will consist of three parts: multiple choice questions, short answer questions, and brief essay questions. The exams will draw upon the lectures and all assigned reading material. Answers must be written in ink either in a blue book or on stapled paper. No work in pencil will be accepted.
- Students who miss either exam, for any reason, may make it up at the end of the semester on the designated make-up day.

2) Reading Quizzes

- Each assigned epic will form the basis of a quiz consisting of short answers. Quizzes will be administered at the start of class.
- Students who miss any of the three reading quizzes, for any reason, may make it up at the end of the semester on the designated make-up day.

3) Participation

- Each assigned epic will form the basis of a group exercise in which each group of students will be given a question and will produce a written and oral answer. The groups will then discuss each other's results.

4) Comparative Paper

- Each student will write a comparative paper about **one** aspect of two of the assigned epics. Similarities and differences must be considered. The thesis should make a statement evaluating those similarities and differences. Footnotes or endnotes in Turabian format, please.
- The paper must consist of the following:
 - a title page,
 - a body,
 - a bibliography.
- The title page must include: the student's name, a title for the assignment, the course title, and the date. Again, please note: your title should tell the reader something about what he or she is about to read. Use the content of your writing to compose your title. If you do not give your work a title, or if you copy the title of the book, or if you use a title like "History Paper," expect a grade penalty. **The title page is not to be numbered, nor does it count towards enumerating the other pages.**
- The body should be about seven pages, in a type-sized font, double-spaced, with one inch margins all around. Again, the most important aspect of your work is your accuracy and the quality of your analysis, but grammar and mechanics will be considered in the grade as well.
- The bibliography must include only peer-reviewed articles, scholarly books, and reputable websites. The bibliography must include a minimum of eight sources, of which two must be assigned epics and the other six must be secondary. No more than one source may be a reference work (for example, textbooks or encyclopedias); and no more than one may be a website. By way of clarification, a journal article that appears in print and is later reproduced full-text on the Internet does not count as a website; by "website" I mean material written for an internet site, not merely reproduced there. **The bibliography is paginated, but it does not count towards the six pages required for the body of the paper.**

5) Global Connections Essay

- Each student will write an essay concerning some aspect of the growing interconnectedness of global dynamics during the period c. 1500 to c. 1700, manifested as issues, processes, trends, and systems, discussed in the last two chapters of Stearns. Only Stearns should be used—no external sources please. If exact quotations are employed, please use Turabian format for footnotes or endnotes.
- The paper must consist of the following:
 - a title page,
 - a body.

- The title page must include: the student's name, a title for the assignment, the course title, and the date. Again, please note: your title should tell the reader something about what he or she is about to read. Use the content of your writing to compose your title. If you do not give your work a title, or if you copy the title of the book, or if you use a title like "History Paper," expect a grade penalty. **The title page is not to be numbered, nor does it count towards enumerating the other pages.**
- The body should be about four pages, in a type-sized font, double-spaced, with one inch margins all around. Again, the most important aspect of your work is your accuracy and the quality of your analysis, but grammar and mechanics will be considered in the grade as well.

Grading

Exams (200 points each)	400 points
Reading Quizzes (50 points each)	150
Participation	50
Comparative Paper	300
Global Connections Essay	100
	Total: 1000 points

The grading scale used for this course is as follows:

900-1000	=	A
800-899.9	=	B
700-799.9	=	C
600-699.9	=	D
599.9 or less	=	F

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS, ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

Word Processing:

You will need access to a word processor and printer to prepare the proposal and research paper. You should be able to insert footnotes in your papers.

eCollege:

This course is enhanced through eCollege, the Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To access eCollege you will need an internet connection, preferably high speed, and your CWID and password. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, please contact Technology Services at 903-468-6000 or helpdesk@tamu-commerce.edu. To get started with the course, go to: <https://leo.tamu-commerce.edu/login.aspx>. eCollege will be used to send you announcements and reminders, to post grades, and to provide access to course materials (except required readings) such as handouts and assignments. Be sure that you can access the email account the university has on record for you.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you cannot see me during office hours, please send me an email so that we can make an appointment. I am quite happy to see students at any time as long as I don't have a prior commitment.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Classroom Behavior

All students are expected to observe basic tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment (See Student's Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct).

Academic Honesty

In all courses, I expect that all work that you do and turn in is your own. It is the policy of the University, the History Department, and myself that no form of plagiarism, cheating, collusion, or any other form of academic dishonesty will be tolerated. Plagiarism is defined as deliberately taking the words or ideas of someone else and passing them off as your own. Cheating is obtaining unauthorized assistance on any assignment. Collusion is the selling of academic products with the intention that they be submitted to satisfy an academic requirement. Students are expected to uphold and support the highest academic standards at all times. Any student found guilty of academic dishonesty will automatically fail the assignment in question, will likely fail the entire course, and will be subject to disciplinary action by the University (See Texas A&M University-Commerce Code of Student Conduct 5.b[1,2,3]). Further information on the History Department plagiarism policy can be found on the History Department web page. If you are even unclear about what constitutes plagiarism or academic dishonesty, please ask me.

Writing Center

Students are encouraged to take advantage of the resources of the Writing Center for assistance with drafting their papers. The Writing Center is a resource for you. They will not write your paper; they will help you improve your writing skills. If you use the Writing Center, please plan ahead. They can only help you if you see them in advance and have time to incorporate their suggestions into the final paper. More information can be found at <http://www.tamu-commerce.edu/litlang/CSC/>.

ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu
[Student Disability Resources & Services](#)

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook).

Course Schedule

Monday, 8/25	Review syllabus, discuss course
Wednesday, 8/27	Stearns, ch. 1
Monday, 9/2	Stearns, chs. 2 & 3
Wednesday, 9/4	Stearns, ch. 2, "The Use of Culture"
Monday, 9/9	Kovacs, <i>Gilgamesh</i> : reading quiz, group exercise
Wednesday, 9/11	Kovacs, <i>Gilgamesh</i> : group exercise
Monday, 9/16	Stearns, ch. 4
Wednesday, 9/18	Stearns, ch. 5
Monday, 9/23	Narayan, <i>Ramayana</i> : reading quiz, group exercise
Wednesday, 9/25	Narayan, <i>Ramayana</i> : group exercise
Monday, 9/30	Stearns, ch. 6
Wednesday, 10/2	Stearns, ch. 7
Monday, 10/7	Exam One
Wednesday, 10/9	Stearns, ch. 8
Monday, 10/14	Stearns, chs. 9 & 10
Wednesday, 10/16	Stearns, ch. 11
Monday, 10/21	Stearns, ch. 12
Wednesday, 10/23	Heaney, <i>Beowulf</i> : reading quiz, group exercise
Monday, 10/28	Heaney, <i>Beowulf</i> : group exercise
Wednesday, 10/30	Stearns, ch. 13
Monday, 11/4	Stearns, ch. 14
Wednesday, 11/6	Stearns, ch. 15

Monday, 11/11	Exam Two
Wednesday, 11/13	Stearns, ch. 16
Monday, 11/18	Stearns, ch. 16; comparative paper due
Wednesday, 11/20	Stearns, ch. 17
Monday, 11/25	Stearns, ch. 17
Wednesday, 11/27	No class meeting
Monday, 12/2	Stearns, ch. 17; course evaluation
Wednesday, 12/4	Make up day
Final Exam Week	Global Connections Essay due during final exam period