



THE UNIVERSITY *of* NORTH CAROLINA  
**GREENSBORO**

**PRE-MODERN WORLD HISTORY**  
**HIS-206-05 / 05D --- SPRING 2016**

**Instructor:** Rick Shelton  
**Email:** rashelto@uncg.edu

**Location:** Online

**Required Texts and Materials:** None. Required readings will be found on the Canvas course site.

**Hardware and Software Requirements:** Writing assignments must be submitted in Microsoft Word.

**Course Description:**

This course introduces world history from the dawn of civilization to the early modern era. Topics include Eurasian, African, American, and Greco-Roman civilizations and Christian, Islamic and Byzantine cultures. Upon completion, students should be able to analyze significant political, socioeconomic, and cultural developments in pre-modern world civilizations.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Explain significant political, socioeconomic, and cultural developments in early world history.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of worldwide cultures and their contributions to the modern world.
3. Examine historical documents and other sources in order to analyze them for information about past cultures.
4. Compare and contrast the development of early human societies around the world.

**Course Interaction:**

This is a college course and I will expect college-level participation. I will expect academic participation addressed in a courteous and professional manner. Judging inappropriate behavior (cyber bullying, offensive language, etc) will be at the discretion of the instructor. If it becomes an issue, the student will be warned; if it continues, the student may be dropped from the course.

**Areas of Evaluation:**

- Mid-Term Exam – 15 points
- Final Exam – 15 points
- Research paper – 20 points
- Discussion forums – 50 points

**Grading Scale:**

A: 93-100	A-: 90-92.99	B+: 87-89.99	B: 83-86.99
B-: 80-82.99	C+: 77-79.99	C: 73-76.99	C-: 70-72.99
D+: 67-69.99	D: 63-66.99	D+: 60-62.99	F: <60

**Attendance / Withdrawal Policy:**

Regular attendance in this class is vital to your success in the course. Your forum, test, and writing grades will be highly dependent upon your ability to come online and successfully complete assignments by the assigned due dates. Last day to withdraw with a “W” is March 4.

**Policies on Missed and Late Work:**

No late work will be accepted. All deadlines are listed on this syllabus and in Canvas. Failure to turn in work on time will result in a grade of zero (0).

**Participation Policy (Forums):**

Students are expected to actively participate in all Discussion Forums. For each Forum, in-depth initial posts will be required no later than 8pm on Thursday evening of the assigned week; substantial follow-up posts which extend the discourse will be due no later than midnight on Sunday evenings of the assigned week.

**Submission Policy (Research Paper):**

Writing assignments must be submitted through Canvas using Microsoft Word or a compatible program approved in advance by the instructor. Files submitted in unreadable formats will be scored a 0.

**Academic Honesty Statement:**

Academic integrity will be practiced in this class when compiling discussion forum posts, taking tests, and preparing research papers and written assignments. Plagiarism will not be tolerated. If a student in this class is suspected of cheating, plagiarism, or any act of academic dishonesty, they are subject to the following disciplinary actions; at the discretion of the instructor, the student may receive a zero for the assignment, receive an “F” for the course, and/or be referred to the Dean of Student Affairs for disciplinary action.

**Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):**

Under the FERPA Act, a college instructor cannot discuss grades or class work with anyone other than the student.

**COURSE SCHEDULE** (*Schedule is subject to change over the course of the term.*)  
**For more specific details and due dates, see individual Canvas modules.**

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic(s)</u>	<u>Discussion Forum</u>	<u>Reading Assignment</u>	<u>Quiz/Assignment</u>
<u>Week 1:</u> Jan 11 - 17	Getting Started  Origins of Human Society	Icebreaker  Forum 1	Syllabus  Rubrics  Creation Stories	
<u>Week 2:</u> Jan 18 - 24	Bronze Age Mediterranean Civilizations  Mediterranean Influences	Forum 2	Hammurabi's Code  Monotheism & Mosaic Law	
<u>Week 3:</u> Jan 25 - 31	Indian & Chinese Civilizations  Early African & American Civilizations	Forum 3	Laws of Manu  Mandate of Heaven	
<u>Week 4:</u> Feb 1 - 7	Classical Africa & America  Classical Persia	Forum 4	Accounts of Meroe & Axum  Cyrus Returns the Jews	
<u>Week 5:</u> Feb 8 - 14	Classical South Asia  Classical China	Forum 5	Teachings of Buddha  Legalism of Han Fei	
<u>Week 6:</u> Feb 15 - 21	Classical Greece	Forum 6	Allegory of the Cave  Speech of Alexander the Great	
<u>Week 7:</u> Feb 22 - 28	Classical Rome  Transforming an Empire	Forum 7	Rape of Lucretia  Martyrdom of Vibia Perpetua	Mid-Term Exam: The Ancient World & Classical Civilizations
<u>Week 8:</u> Feb 29 – Mar 6	Byzantine Empire  Islamic World	Forum 8	Christianization of the Kievan Rus  Biography of Muhammad	Writing Assignment: Classical Civilizations

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic(s)</u>	<u>Discussion Forum</u>	<u>Reading Assignment</u>	<u>Quiz/Assignment</u>
Week 9: Mar 7 - 13	SPRING BREAK			
Week 10: Mar 14 - 20	Post-Classical Africa & America South Asia	Forum 9	The Zanj Kingdom of Ghana Da Gama in India	
Week 11: Mar 21- 27	Post-Classical China East Asia The Mongols	Forum 10	Zheng He Way of the Warrior Marco Polo Travels	
Week 12: Mar 28 – Apr 3	Early Medieval Europe	Forum 11	Conversion of Clovis Charlemagne's Capitulary to Missi	
Week 13: Apr 4 - 10	High Middle Ages	Forum 12	Abelard's Misfortunes Battle of Hastings	
Week 14: Apr 11 - 17	Religious Impulses of the High Middle Ages	Forum 13	Council of Clermont 4 <sup>th</sup> Lateran Council	
Week 15: Apr 18 - 24	Crisis & Chaos of the Late Middle Ages  A New World Emerges	Forum 14	Wat Tyler's Revolt  Demographic Catastrophe  Two Worlds Collide	
Week 16: Apr 25 – May 1	Final Exam			Final Exam: Post-Classical World