

BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY  
College of Arts and Science  
History 110, World Civilization to 1600  
Fall 2010  
3 Credit Hours

Instructor: Dr. Fenyo

Office Hours: Mondays  
Tuesdays  
Wednesdays  
Thursdays  
Fridays

OR by appointment

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I. COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course surveys world history from the earliest times until the early modern period. It traces the role of women and men in the economic, political, social, and cultural development of the major civilizations of the world.

II. TEXTS: Duiker and Spielvogel, The Essential World History Vol. I, latest edition.  
Also required: excerpts from *The Arabian Tales*

Furthermore, members of the class are expected to keep abreast of the international and national news, through the daily newspaper of your choice. The paper should be read at least once a week, preferably on Sunday.

Honors students are also expected to do an oral presentation in class.

III. CURRICULUM THEMES

Academic Scholar  
Effective Practitioner  
Technological applications  
Multiple forms of Assessment  
Special Populations Perspectives  
Reflective Practitioner  
Personal and Interpersonal Perspectives

General Education Competencies

1. Written and Oral communication
2. Critical Analysis and Reasoning
3. Technological Competency
4. Information Literacy

#### Emerging Issues

Issues concerning the natural or physical environment, including “global warming”  
Issues concerning the social environment, such as social justice

#### IV. TEACHING MODES

Cooperative learning  
Audio-visual materials  
Discussion  
etc.

Lectures and minilectures  
Quizzes and assignments  
Guest speakers

#### V. **OUTCOMES/OBJECTIVES**

- a. Avoid boredom, become enthusiastic.
- b. To improve our skills in critical and analytical thinking through the analysis of events and of their interpretations, including the interpretations presented in the text and by the instructor. (Competency ii)
- c. To improve our ability to think logically and use common sense; for instance, through the analysis of cause and effect relationships. (competency II)
- d. To enhance our social consciousness, our awareness of what is socially just. (competency IV)
- e. To enable us to better understand and appreciate the contributions of Africans and Asians, both to the development of their own civilizations, and to the world at large. (competency IV)
- f. To examine the status and emphasize the contributions of women to all civilizations. (competency IV)
- g. To familiarize ourselves with the main currents of change, with events and periods, from the beginnings of humankind to about 1500. (competency IV)
- h. To acquire the broad, general, humanistic knowledge that may be expected of a college graduate in our country.(competency IV)

- i. To enable us to orient ourselves in space (by means of basic geographical knowledge), and in time (by means of an understanding of chronological sequences).(competency I)
- j. To enable us to acquire a better understanding of our identity as individuals and our identity as members of a culture, through the study of other cultures, and with reference to our own (American, African-American, etc.)(competency II)
- k. To gain a better understanding of the image we project as Americans to the world.(competency I)
- l. To enhance a taste for reading, thanks to interesting reading materials.(competency IV)
- m. To become globally conscious and better aware of world events, through reading and viewing international news.(competency IV)
- n. To develop our skills in oral communication, by means of participation in discussions and the presentation of oral reports.(competency I)
- o. To develop our skills in written communication through the writing of essays and a careful review of these assignments.(competency I)
- p. To establish the relation of the past to our present, and our present to the past.(competency II)
- q. To seek practical applications for our computer skills. (competency III)

## VI. REQUIREMENTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- a. Members of the class are expected to keep abreast of the topics to be discussed in class, in order to participate more effectively. The textbook will be "covered" at the rate of about one chapter a week.
- b. Members are expected to attend and participate in class discussions. Failure to attend regularly may result in a lower grade, as stipulated in the Handbook.
- c. Members of the class are expected to take all tests and quizzes, and complete all other assignments. There will be occasional quizzes ( usually announced in advance). No makeup test will be offered, even if the test was missed for legitimate reasons.
- d. Punctuality is expected. Roll is usually taken at the beginning of the class; persons arriving late run the risk of being reported absent. When tests or the final examination are administered all are expected to report on time as well; no one may be admitted after any

member of the class has finished taking the test or the examination.

## VII. EVALUATION

Evaluation will be based mainly on the results of three classroom tests (a full period each) and the final examination. The three tests will count as 20% of the total grade each, the final examination will count as 30%. The final examination may focus on the last part of the course, but questions from earlier tests will be repeated.

Quizzes and other assignments count for 10% of the total grade.

The tests usually consist of "multiple choice" and essay type questions. The criteria for evaluating essays, stated briefly, include

- a) whether the essay is to the point--whether it pertains to the subject that is supposed to be discussed;
- b) whether it has the proper length, as stipulated in the instructions to the test;
- c) whether the facts are stated clearly and correctly;
- d) whether the arguments are logical and consistent;
- e) whether the mode of the expression--English grammar, syntax, spelling--is adequate
- f) whether the essay is well organized, i.e. with an introduction, main body and conclusion, each paragraph introduced by a "lead" or "topic" sentence, etc.

The Marking Scheme is as follows:

A score of 90 to 100% is the equivalent of A

80 to 89%	B
70 to 79%	C
60 to 69%	D

The final mark is strictly a matter of computation. Nevertheless those who show a marked improvement or progress during the term--in other words if the result of each test or examination exceeds the preceding one--will receive the benefit of a doubt. In other words, competing with one's self, striving to improve one's self, is more important than competing against others in this class. A "linear regression" formula is applied to determine the final (overall) grade.

Please note that many of the activities in class will take place in groups, including some, or all, quizzes. "Team effort" is encouraged, except at testing and examination time. Competing against one-self, improving one's own performance, is more important than

competing against others in this class.

## VIII. OUTLINE AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

The following is a list of the assignments and topics for each class. Please read the assignments before coming to class. You should refer to the chronological tables and maps at the beginning and end of the text.

### CL #   TEXT   TOPIC

- 1.                    Prologue: discussion of syllabus or "contract."
- 2-3.    Ch. 3-4    Historical methods.    Diversity exercise.
- 4-7.                                    Nile Valley and the Ancient Near East.

#### **Test I** (class 8)

- 9-12    Ch.7,8    Daughters of Egypt and Mesopotamia; ancient Greece and Rome
- 13      Ch.5     The Asian way of life
- 14-16   Ch.8     The city of God
- 17-19   Ch.12    Islam

#### **Test II** (class 20)

- 21      Ch.10,11    India, China, Japan
- 22      Ch.13     Nations in the Making
- 23-25   Ch.15     The African way of life

#### **Test III** (class 26)

- 27-28   Ch.13    Medieval Religion and Ideas
- 29-30   Ch.13    The Protestant Reformation
- 31      Ch.12    The Renaissance
- 32-35   Ch.16    The Expansion of Europe

**Final Examination**, May 2010.

## **IX. Bibliography to be distributed separately**

One or more feature-length films will be presented, in class or at a time convenient to all participants.

Members of the class are also expected to attend a certain number of cultural or academic events on campus or within reasonable distance. Such participation may be considered an integral part of our course, or may earn you extra points.

## **NOTES**

### **English proficiency examination:**

After completing ENGL 101 and 102, Composition and Literature I & II, students must take and pass the Bowie State University English Proficiency Examination. Transfer students who completed their English composition requirements at another university should take the English Proficiency Examination during the first semester of enrollment at the University.

### **ADA Accommodations**

Students who have a disability and who would like accommodations should report immediately to Disability Support Services (DSS), located in Room 1328 in the Business and Graduate Studies Building, or call Dr. Michael S. Hughes, DSS Coordinator at 301-860-4067.

### **Inclement Weather**

During inclement weather tune in to a local radio or television station. Local Media will announce whether the university will open late or be closed, depending on the degree of weather severity. Many of these sources will begin announcing late openings and closings by 6:00 a.m.

**Please note:** CELL PHONES MAY NOT BE USED IN CLASS