

# WORLD HISTORY TO 1500:

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HIST 2301 / CRN: 13029

Class Time: T & R 10:30–11:50 am

Office Hours: T 1:30–4:30 pm

Professor Joshua Fan

Location: UGLC 220

Office: LART 337

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Assistant Instructor: Jessica Martinez

Office Hours: W 12:00–1:00 & R 12–2:00 pm

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## Course Description:

This course focuses on the early historical developments and cultural traditions from all parts of the world from human origins to 1500 CE. Lectures, readings, assignments, and discussions are designed to offer insights into the cultural, economic, political, religious, and social aspects of human experiences; special attention will be given to cross-cultural interactions and exchanges.

## Course Objectives:

Students will emerge from this course with a greater appreciation and understanding of the world's culture traditions and the process in which these traditions have changed and interacted over time. Students will have the necessary background for more specialized and advanced history courses on various areas and periods in the world. Students will gain an enhanced ability to analyze and evaluate primary and secondary materials, in order to view history not as a single and fixed narrative but as diverse and shifting narratives based on different perspectives and sources.

## Required Texts:

- Bentley, *Traditions & Encounters: A Brief Global History*, Vol. 1, 4<sup>th</sup> ed. (978-1259277276). Older edition is fine, however the page number listed in the “Lecture and Reading Schedule” will be slightly different.
- Fan ed., *Primary Source Reader*, a PDF version will be provided to you via Blackboard. If you prefer a printed copy, you can ask **University Print Shop** [located in the Carl Hertzog Building, to the right of the library; (915) 747-5135] to print the reader for you for about \$15.

## Assignments:

◆ Response Papers (here after just RPs) are based on “Questions for Response Paper” in the *Primary Source Reader*. The main purposes of the RPs are 1) to ensure that you do the assigned readings, 2) to introduce primary sources, 3) to enhance your analytical skills, and 4) to promote in-class discussion.

All RPs will be graded as either pass or fail, meaning you will get 20 points or 0 point. Done correctly, you just need to submit a total of **EIGHT** RPs throughout the semester to earn a **maximum** of 160 points. However, if you got a 0 for one of your RPs, you could submit additional RP to replace the 0. Basically, RPs are effort-based assignments, if you want to get 160 points, you can get 160 points. There are **19** chances to submit a RP throughout the term, you should start with the RP for Class #3.

Before you ask any questions, here is a bullet list of dos and don'ts:

- All of the RPs will be submitted as a **word format attachment (NOT PDF)** via Blackboard.
  - Each RP should be about one **FULL** page in length and must be in standard format (**Times New Roman, 12-point font, double space, & 1-inch margin**).
  - Each RP must include your full name and must be labelled properly with the title of primary reading, for example: "Epic or Gilgamesh." Since your PR is submitted through BlackBoard, we do not need any additional information.
  - You should not copy the questions from the reader, just answer them in your RPs.
  - Each RP must employ **at least one quote** from the *Primary Source Reader* **followed by analysis**.
  - The deadline to submit each RP is before class time on the date the reading is assigned. For example, according to your "Lecture and Reading Schedule," there are two assigned readings for Aug. 31 from *Primary Source Reader*: 1. Epic of Gilgamesh & 2. The Law Code of Hammurabi, each with its own set of "Questions for Response Paper" on page 7 & 11, respectively. You should certainly read **BOTH** pieces, but your RP will be the answers to **ONE SET** of these questions, **NOT** both. You must submit your RP before 10:30 am, **by 10:35 am your RP is late and will not be accepted**.
  - All of the information you need to answer the questions are within the *Primary Source Reader*. There is no reason for you to consult any outside source or websites. Those who commit **plagiarism** will receive an automatic 0 on the first offense. For the second offense, you will face discipline action from the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution.
  - To replace a 0 RP, you are not doing a rewrite. Simply submit an additional RP for a future class to earn 20 points. Remember you have a total of 19 chances throughout the semester to earn up to a total of 160 points.
  - Finally, you are allowed to submit **ONLY ONE RP per class, NO EXCEPTION!** Do not wait until the end of the semester to submit all of your RPs, you will not get all 160 points.
- ◆ Geography Quiz: this is an **easy** quiz. I will provide a study guide with study maps and a list of places you need to be able to locate on the maps, in order to make sure that you know where in the world we are studying.
- ◆ Exams: There will be a total of three exams, and they are not cumulative. Instead of taking the exam in class, you will be taking the exams via BlackBoard. You must install and use **Respondus Lock Down Browser** in order to take these exams. Exam II only covers lectures and reading material after Exam I, and Exam III / Final only covers material after Exam II. All three exams will consist of matching, identification, and essay questions, and you will have a study guide for all three exams.

◆ **Attendance:** You are allowed three absences per semester; **no excuse needed!** However, each additional absence will lower your grade by 5 points, up to a total of 20 points. Students who will be absent while representing the University in officially recognized University activities (sports, band, professional conferences, etc.) must provide the letter of excuse for the professor. University excused absences will not count towards the three absences per semester.

**Grading:**

There will be **8** response papers, **1** geography quiz, **3** exams, and points awarded for discussion:

Response Papers	20 points each	160 points total
Geography Quiz	20 points	20 points total
Exams	100 points each	300 points total
<u>Attendance</u>	<u>20 points</u>	<u>20 points total</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>500 points</b>

Final grade is determined by the overall accumulation of points, according to the following scale:

450–500 pts = **A**      400–449 pts = **B**      350–399 pts = **C**      300–349 pts = **D**      ≤ 299 pts = **F**

It is your responsibility to check regularly that your assignments, quizzes, and exams have been graded and recorded correctly via Blackboard. You will lose the right to challenge any grade without undisputed evidence **one week** after the grade has been posted on Blackboard.

**Plagiarism:**

Plagiarism is using information or original wording in a paper without giving credit to the source of that information or wording. Plagiarism is NOT acceptable. Do not submit work under your name that you did not do yourself. You may not submit work for this class that you did for another class. If you are found to be cheating or plagiarizing, you will be subject to disciplinary action. [How to avoid Plagiarism.](#)

**For History Majors and Minors:**

Borderlands history Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/BorderlandsHistory/>

Career Advising, contact Dr. Leyva for more information

Phi Alpha Theta (History Honor Society), contact Dr. Stanfield or Dr. Veloz for more information

MA in History, contact Dr. Fan for more information

PhD in History, contact Dr. Martinez for more information

**Accommodation and Support for student:**

Students requesting an accommodation based on a disability must register with the UTEP [Center for Accommodations and Support Services \(CASS\)](#). Contact CASS at 915-747-5148, or email them at [cass@utep.edu](mailto:cass@utep.edu), or apply for accommodations online via the [CASS portal](#).

**Lecture and Reading Schedule:**

1. Aug. 24 (T):       **INTRODUCTION:**  
Read the syllabus before coming to class...***Seriously*** read it.
2. Aug. 26 (R):       **FROM PREHISTORY TO CIVILIZATION:**  
Bentley: 2–8. [Page numbers correspond to the 4<sup>th</sup> ed. of Bentley]
3. Aug. 31 (T):       **MESOPOTAMIA—THE LAND BETWEEN THE RIVERS:**  
Bentley: 8–25; *Primary Source Reader*: 1. Epic of Gilgamesh & 2. The Law Code of Hammurabi.  
*(5 bonus points for turning a RP for this class!)*
4. Sep. 2 (R):        **EGYPT—THE GIFT OF NILE:**  
Bentley: 26–43.  
**Geography Quiz!**
5. Sep. 7 (T):        **INDO-EUROPEANS IN INDUS VALLEY:**  
Bentley: 44–52; *Primary Source Reader*: 3. Creation story from Ancient India.
6. Sep. 9 (R):        **ANCIENT CHINA:**  
Bentley: 52–61; *Primary Source Reader*: 4. The Mandate of Heaven.
7. Sep. 14 (T):       **PERSIA AND ZOROASTRIANISM:**  
Bentley: 80–99; *Primary Source Reader*: 5. Zoroastrianism.
8. Sep. 16 (R):       **CHINESE-ISMS & UNIFICATION OF CHINA:**  
Bentley: 100–106; *Primary Source Reader*: 6. Confucianism, 7. Daoism, & 8. Legalism.
9. Sep. 21 (T):       **EARLY AMERICAS AND OCEANIA & REVIEW:**  
Bentley: 62–78.
10. Sep. 23 (R):      **EXAM I:**  
The window to take this exam will close on Sep. 24 (F) at 11:59 pm.
11. Sep. 28 (T):      **SPARTAN, ATHENIAN, AND ALEXANDER:**  
Bentley: 134–147; *Primary Source Reader*: 9. Hoplite Warfare in Ancient Greece & 10. Athenians and Democracy.
12. Sep. 30 (R):      **SALVATION FROM INDIA:**  
Bentley: 118–133; *Primary Source Reader*: 11. Buddhism, 12. Classical Hinduism & 13. Ashoka the Great.
13. Oct. 5 (T):        **THE RISE OF ROME & CHRISTIANITY:**  
Bentley: 147–157; *Primary Source Reader*: 14. Caesar Augustus & 15. Early Christianity & Paul of Tarsus.
14. Oct. 7 (R):        **EXCHANGE ALONG THE SILK ROADS:**  
Bentley: 106–117 & 158–174; *Primary Source Reader*: 16. The Spread of Mahayana Buddhism in China.
15. Oct. 12 (T):      **WOMEN IN PRE-MODERN HISTORY—EXTENDED DISCUSSION:**

*Primary Source Reader*: 17. Women in the Ancient World—the Roman Republic, 18. Women in the Ancient World—Confucian China, 19. Women in the Ancient World—Empowerment through Religion, & 20. Women in the Ancient World—India.  
(5 bonus points for turning a RP for this class!)

16. Oct. 14

**BYZANTIUM:**Bentley: 176–197; *Primary Source Reader*: 21. The Conversion of Vladimir I.

17. Oct. 19 (T):

**EXPANSION OF ISLAM:**Bentley: 198–215; *Primary Source Reader*: 22. Islam.

18. Oct. 21 (R):

**RESURGENCE IN CHINA:**

Bentley: 216–228.

19. Oct. 26 (T):

**EARLY JAPAN & REVIEW:**Bentley: 228–233; *Primary Source Reader*: 23. The Constitution of Prince Shōtoku in Early Japan.

20. Oct. 28 (R):

**EXAM II:**

The window to take this exam will close on Oct. 29 (F) at 11:59 pm.

21. Nov. 2 (T):

**INDIA AND SOUTH EAST ASIA:**

Bentley: 234–249.

22. Nov. 4 (R):

**FORMATION OF CHRISTIAN EUROPE:**Bentley: 288–303. (A special RP on Blackboard!)

23. Nov. 9 (T):

**THE MONGOL EMPIRE:**Bentley: 250–271; *Primary Source Reader*: 24. The Mongol Empire.

24. Nov. 11 (R):

**MONGOL:**

A film by Sergei Bodrov, 120 min, 2007.

25. Nov. 16 (T):

**MONGOL (CONTINUE) & DISCUSSION:**

26. Nov. 18 (R):

**THE CRUSADES:**Bentley: 303–307; *Primary Source Reader*: 25. The Crusades.

27. Nov. 23 (T):

**SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA:**Bentley: 272–287; *Primary Source Reader*: 26. The Empire of Ghana and Mali.

☺ Nov. 25:

**THANKSGIVING: NO CLASS**

28. Nov. 30 (T):

**WORLD TRAVELERS:**Bentley: 326–247; *Primary Source Reader*: 27. Marco Polo—Travelling along the Silk Roads & 28. The Travels of Ibn Battuta.

29. Dec. 2 (R):

**WORLD TRAVELERS & REVIEW:***Primary Source Reader*: 29. Zheng He's Voyages.**EXAM III / FINAL:**

The window to take this exam will open on Dec. 6 and close on Dec. 9 at 11:59 pm