World Civilizations I
HIST 2321-001

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Office: LAN 343
Office Hours: Tuesdays 11:00am to 12:15pm, Wednesday 11:00am-12:45pm
Tea-time with Dr. Towns- Tuesdays 2:00-3:00pm, Wed. 4:00-5:00pm

Department: History
Class meeting time and place: MW 1:00-2:15, LAN 102

Course Description:
Surveys major developments in world history until 1500. Centers on themes and topics such as cross-cultural interactions, migratory movements, ideologies, and social/political/economic change and development.

Texts and Materials:


Course Requirements:
**Historical Engagement**: As you move through the course materials (the history under study), you will have several ways to interact with the materials, instructor, and your fellow students through a variety of assignments. (The Instructor reserves the right to adjust the number of assignments as the semester progresses) There are three types of Historical Engagement exercises:

- **Quizzes**: Throughout the semester you will have online quizzes and in-class assignments that measure your recall ability (memory) of key facts, themes, chronology, etc., of the course materials. Worth 20% of the final grade.

- **Participation (Historical Engagement)**: Active participation with the material and in class is key to success, class attendance and participation will be a factor of your semester grade. In addition, there will be a variety of “participation assignments” throughout the semester that will allow you to engage with the historical material and practice being an historian. These will include; primary source activities, reaction papers, and other group activities based on the material in the weekly folders. These assignments are designed to enhance the student’s teamwork skills, actively engage the students with the material, enhance analytical and critical thinking and encourage class participation and attendance. The lowest three grades for this section will be dropped. Worth 25% of the final grade.

- **Historical Essays**: The semester will be divided into three units, (Pre-Classic, Classic, Post-Classic) at the end of each unit you will be given two journal questions, you must choose one of the two to answer. These questions will require you to think comparatively about what we have learned and construct an evidence-based argument using macro and micro reasoning. Each essay should be 2.5-3 pages and will require the use of Primary and Secondary sources. Unit Essays are worth a total of 35% of your final grade.

  - **Silk Road Essay**: This will be a 2-3 page book review assessing the content of the book and placing it within the broader themes of our course. Worth 5% of the final grade.

  - **Final Essay**: The final assignment for this course will be a cumulative essay. This essay will require the use of both primary and secondary sources and will be worth 5% of the final grade.

**Critical Thinking Skills**

- In addition to your historical engagement assignments there will be a series of Critical Thinking assignments at the beginning of the semester to help you prepare for our written assignments and to understand how historical research is conducted. Worth 10% of the final grade.

**Tea-time with Dr. Towns**: During afternoon office hours I will offer an optional “tea time” everyone is encouraged to come by whenever they want to visit. In addition, each individual will receive up to 1 extra credit historical engagement for attending a “tea time” during the semester. (This is subject to change according to changes in Covid.)
**Course Calendar:**
*I reserve the right to modify this schedule at any time when in the best interest of the class—Dr. Towns*

| Week 1 - August 23-27 | Intro to History  
|                       | Critical Thinking Folder  
|                       | Ch. 1 (pp. 24-56)  
|                       | Syllabus Quiz, Critical Thinking 1 & 2 due Wednesday  
|                       | Critical Thinking 3 & 4, Week 1 folder due Friday  
| Week 2- Aug.30- Sept. 3 | Rivers, Cities, and First States  
|                       | Ch. 2  
|                       | Week 2 Folder Due Friday  
|                       | Quiz 1 due Friday  
| Week 3- Sept. 6-10 | Nomads, Territorial States, and Microsocieties  
|                       | Ch. 3  
|                       | Week 3 Folder Due Friday  
| Week 4, Sept. 13-17 | Nomads part 2, First Empires and Common Cultures  
|                       | Ch. 4 pp. 165-187  
|                       | Week 4 Folder Due Friday  
|                       | Quiz 2 due Friday  
| Week 5, Sept. 20-24 | Common Cultures  
|                       | Ch. 4 pp. 188-212, Ch. 5 pp. 213-229.  
|                       | UNIT 1 ESSAY DUE MONDAY  
|                       | Week 5 Folder Due Friday  
| Week 6, Sept. 27 - Oct. 1 | Worlds Turned Inside Out  
|                       | Ch. 5 pp. 230-262  
|                       | Week 6 Folder Due Quiz 3 Due  
|                       | Begin reading *Silk Road* ch. 1  
| Week 7, Oct. 4-8 | Shrinking the Afro-Eurasian World  
|                       | Ch. 6  
|                       | Week 7 Folder  

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading Material</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 8 Oct. 11-15</td>
<td>Empire Ch. 7</td>
<td><em>Silk Roads</em> ch. 2</td>
<td>Week 8 Folder and Quiz 4 Due Friday</td>
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<td>Week 9, Oct. 18-22</td>
<td>Universalizing Religions Ch. 8</td>
<td><em>Silk Roads</em> ch.3-4</td>
<td>Week 9 Folder Due Friday</td>
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<td>Week 10, Oct. 25-29</td>
<td>New Empires Ch. 9</td>
<td>UNIT 2 ESSAY DUE MONDAY</td>
<td>Week 10 Folder Due Friday</td>
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<td>Week 11, Nov. 1-5</td>
<td>“Becoming the World” Ch. 10 pp. 473-493</td>
<td><em>Silk Roads</em> ch.5-6</td>
<td>Week 11 Folder Due Friday Quiz 5 Due Friday</td>
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<td>Week 12, Nov. 8-12</td>
<td>“Becoming the World” Ch. 10 pp. 494-530</td>
<td><em>Silk Roads</em> essay due Monday</td>
<td>Week 12 Folder Due Friday</td>
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<td>Week 13, Nov. 15-19</td>
<td>Crisis and Recovery Part 1 Ch. 11</td>
<td>Week 13 Folder</td>
<td>UNIT 3 ESSAY DUE FRIDAY!!</td>
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<td>Week 14, Nov. 22-26</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Break!!!</td>
<td>THANKSGIVING BREAK, no weekly folder due!</td>
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<td>Week 15, Nov. 29- Dec. 3</td>
<td>Crisis and Recovery Part 2 Ch. 11</td>
<td>Quiz 6 Due Friday</td>
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<td>Week 16, Dec. 6-10</td>
<td>FINALS WEEK</td>
<td>Final Essay due Dec. 8</td>
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**Grading Policy:**
Letter grades are assigned as follows
Grades can be broken down into the different assignment categories as follows:

- Critical Thinking: 10%
- Quizzes: 20%
- Participation: 25%
- Unit Essays: 35%
- Book Review: 5%
- Final: 5%

**Attendance Policy:**
Class attendance is considered a part of the grade for this class and is mandatory for success. Students should make every effort to attend every class meeting. Sometimes a student misses class due to circumstances beyond his or her control. In such a situation the student MUST contact the instructor as soon as possible. The student is responsible for notifying the instructor and providing documentation of excused absences. If at all possible, this documentation should be in the form of an email and should be delivered in advance of the absence. If advance documentation is not possible, the student should provide documentation on the first day that the student returns to class.

**Late Assignment Policy**
No late work will be accepted for in-class assignments for unexcused absences. If a student misses an in-class assignment due to illness, family emergency, or school obligation, he or she may submit that assignment at the next class meeting. All online assignments will allow submission one day past the due date and will be docked a letter grade.

**Program Learning Outcomes:**
This is a general education core curriculum course and no specific program learning outcomes for this major are addressed in this course.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**
HIST 2322 is part of the university’s Core Curriculum and as such strives toward both the general goals of the core and the specific objectives for classes designated for inclusion in the Language, Philosophy, and Culture Foundational Component Area as defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Courses in this Foundational Component Area of the Core focus on the ideas, values, beliefs, and other aspects of culture that express and affect human experience. Courses involve the exploration of ideas that foster aesthetic and intellectual creation in order to understand the human condition across cultures.
In addition to learning the above, students in HIST 2321 will demonstrate the more general ability to:

- Think critically, which includes the ability to analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information about this period of history.
- Communicate effectively by developing and expressing ideas through written communication.
- Gain intercultural competence, a knowledge of civic responsibility, and an awareness of past human engagements in regional, national, and global communities.
- Understand the role that personal responsibility has played throughout history and gain the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to the making of ethical decisions.

**Explanation of credit hours awarded for course:**
HIST 2321 (World Civilizations I) meets for 2,250 minutes (37.5 hours), including examination times, during the course of a semester. Students typically have weekly reading assignments from a combination of textbooks, primary document collections, and supplemental materials (biographies, historical novels, memoirs, etc). Typical sections of the course require students to take 2-3 exams per semester, in addition to the final exam. Many also require students to take quizzes. Course instructors are required to hold regular scheduled office hours to make themselves available to consult with students as needed. Combined, studying for quizzes/exams, doing the required reading, completing writing assignments, and consulting with course instructors average two hours of work outside the classroom for every hour spent in the classroom. Online sections of the course contain extensive written content within modules, and instructors hold "electronic office hours" to consult with students as needed, generally responding to student inquiries within twenty-four hours. Online course content includes the same information students in a face-to-face lecture course receive, requiring students to engage the online modules for at least 2,250 minutes per term. Besides engaging the material in the modules, online students have outside reading assignments similar to those mentioned above for face-to-face students. Thus, for every hour an online student spends engaging the content in the modules, he/she spends at least two hours completing associated activities and assessments.

**General Education Core Curriculum**

This course has been selected to be part of Stephen F. Austin State University’s core curriculum. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has identified six objectives for all core courses: Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Empirical and Quantitative Skills, Teamwork, Personal Responsibility, and Social Responsibility. SFA is committed to the improvement of its general education core curriculum by regular assessment of student performance on these six objectives.
By enrolling in HIST 2322, you are enrolling in a Core Curriculum Course that fulfills the Critical Thinking, Written Communication, Personal Responsibility, and Social Responsibility requirements.

The chart below indicates: (a) The core objectives that are required to be taught in this course per the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), and (b) How the required core objectives will be addressed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Objective</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>How the Core Objective Will be Addressed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Critical Thinking Skills</td>
<td>To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communication Skills</td>
<td>To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas though written, oral, and visual communication.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Empirical and Quantitative Skills</td>
<td>To include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.</td>
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<td>Teamwork</td>
<td>To include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Personal Responsibility</td>
<td>To include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Responsibility</td>
<td>To include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.</td>
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**Academic Integrity (Student Academic Dishonesty, Policy 4.1)**

Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

**Definition of Academic Dishonesty**

Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.
Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student-academic-dishonesty-4.1.pdf

In addition, you may include your own guidelines for academic integrity as appropriate.

**Withheld Grades (Course Grades, Policy 5.5)**
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

**Students with Disabilities**
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/

**Mental Health Statement**
SFASU values students’ mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. SFA provides a variety of resources to support students’ mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

On-campus Resources:
SFASU Counseling Services
www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices
3rd Floor Rusk Building
936-468-2401

SFASU Human Services Counseling Clinic
www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp
Human Services Room 202
936-468-1041

Crisis Resources:
Burke 24-hour crisis line 1(800) 392-8343
Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1(800) 273-TALK (8255)
Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741