

HIST 1050  
**World History to 1500**  
Fall 2009  
MWF 11:00-11:50  
University Hall 3800

**Instructor:** Roberto Padilla

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**Office Hours:** Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:00-4:00, or by appointment

**Course Description:** This is a survey of the world from the early emergence of human civilization to the beginning of the early modern period (1500). This course examines the political, economic and cultural interactions between peoples and states in the Americas, Europe, Africa, the Middle East and Asia.

**Texts:** Bulliet, Richard et al, The Earth and Its Peoples: A Global History. Volume I: to 1550. Houghton Mifflin Company, 2009.

Niane, D.T. Sundiata: An Epic of Old Mali. Revised edition, 2006.

Sherman, Dennis, World Civilizations: Sources, Images and Interpretations, Volume I. Fourth edition.

**Student Evaluation:**

1. Examinations (10 pts. each, 20 pts. total)

Students are required to take two in-class examinations during the term related to specific historical periods. Each examination will be essay in format and based upon the lectures and readings introduced for either the ancient or near ancient periods. Students will receive a study guide prior to the examination, which will consist of a sampling of possible questions that reflect the themes and issues introduced in class. The examination will consist of one question selected by the instructor.

2. Final Examination (30 pts.)

The Final Examination will follow a format similar to the examinations, but will be broader in scope including the entirety of the material presented in the course. Prior to the Final Examination, which is held during finals week, students will receive a study guide with possible questions. The Final Examination will consist of one or more of the questions on the study guide.

3. Book Assignment (20 pts.)

There is one essay based on D. T. Niane's classic Sundiata. Students will be given a prompt describing the assignment in detail. The essay will be based on Niane's book as

well as other course materials. The essay should be 4-5 pages in length. Late papers will lose 1 pt. (out of the possible 20 pts.) per class period the assignment is late.

#### 4. Analytical Essays (3 pts. each, 30 pts. total)

Throughout the term students will be handed assignments in class related to the primary documents in Dennis Sherman's World Civilizations. These essays should be no more than 2 pages in length and engage the specific historical issues outlined in the assignment. There will be 11 analytical essays throughout the term and 10 will count towards the student's grade. The student's lowest graded essay will be dropped from the total. Since these essays will be discussed in class I will not accept any late papers.

#### **Grading:**

All final course grades are based on the University of Toledo standard.

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|----|--------------|
| A  | 93-100       |
| A- | 90-92        |
| B+ | 87-89        |
| B  | 83-86        |
| B- | 80-82        |
| C+ | 77-79        |
| C  | 73-76        |
| C- | 70-72        |
| D+ | 67-69        |
| D  | 63-66        |
| D- | 60-62        |
| F  | 59 and below |

#### **Attendance and Class Conduct:**

Attendance is required and will be taken daily. Failure to attend class will lower your grade in this course, while perfect (or near perfect attendance) will help your grade. Please turn off all electronic and personal devices before entering class. Lastly, I encourage students to engage the course materials and lecture in class, this means speaking up in class is a necessity. I will freely call upon students to discuss issues related to assignments, readings and lecture topics, so please stay alert, stay awake and be eager to talk history.

#### **Plagiarism and Cheating:**

I do not tolerate plagiarism and academic misconduct in any form. Plagiarism is the representation of another's work as your own, and academic misconduct includes all types of cheating on written assignments and examinations. If I find you have engaged in either of these dishonest activities you will receive a zero for the assignment and I will refer the infraction to the proper administrative office for further disciplinary action.

#### **Instructor Meetings:**

I am eager to meet with you if you have any questions related to class assignments, materials or if you would just like to talk history. Please feel free to meet with me during

my office hours (T&TH 1:00-4:00), or schedule an appointment with me if these times do not fit your schedule. In addition, each student will have two mandatory instructor meetings during the term. These will be scheduled in class using a sign-up sheet and will take place early in the term and around the middle of the term.

### **Course Schedule:**

#### **The Ancient World**

Week #1 (Begin Chapter 1, Bulliet: 4-41)

Aug. 24 (Course Introduction), Aug. 26 (From Nomads to Domestication), Aug. 28 (Mesopotamia)

Week #2 (Finish Chapter 1 and begin Chapter 2, Bulliet: 43-68)

Aug. 31 (Egypt), Sept. 2 (Indus Valley), Sept. 4 (China: the Shang and Zhou periods)

Week #3 (Finish Chapter 2)

Sept. 9 (The Americas), Sept. 11 (Europe)

Week #4 (Read Chapters 3 & 4, Bulliet: 69-145)

Sept. 14 (Ancient Greece), Sept. 16 (Conflict with Persia), Sept. 18 (The Rise of Carthage)

Week #5 (Finish Chapter 4)

Sept. 21 (Indian Civilization: Buddhism and Hinduism), Sept. 23 (Imperial India), Sept. 25 (Review for Examination-receive study guide)

Week #6 (Begin Chapter 5, Bulliet: 146-173)

Sept. 28 (Examination of the Ancient World)

#### **The Near Ancient World**

Week #6 cont. (Finish Chapter 5)

Sept. 30 (Rome), Oct. 2 (Han China)

Week #7 (Read Chapters 6 & 7, Bulliet: 174-225)

Oct. 7 (Trade Networks), Oct. 9 (The Spread of Religion)

Week #8 (Read Chapter 8, Bulliet: 227-254)

Oct. 12 (Europe and the Church), Oct. 14 (Eastern Orthodoxy), Oct. 16 (Islam, Christianity and the Crusades)

Week #9 (Read Chapter #9, Bulliet: 255-280)

Oct. 19 (China: Sui and Tang periods), Oct. 21 (China: the Song period), Oct. 23 (A Sino-Centric World)

Week #10 (Read Chapter #10, Bulliet: 281-303)

Oct. 26 (The Maya & the Toltecs), Oct. 28 (The Aztecs and the Inca), Oct. 30 (Review for Examination-receive study guide)

Week #11

Nov. 2 (Examination of the Near Ancient World)

### **The Medieval World**

Week #11 cont. (Read Chapter #11, Bulliet: 310-338)

Nov. 4 (The Mongol Conquest of China), Nov. 6 (Impact of Mongol invasions on Europe, Japan and the Middle East)

Week #12 (Read Chapter #13, Bulliet: 362-384)

Nov. 9 (A Christian Europe), Nov. 13 (Warfare and Monarchies)

Week #13 (Read Chapter #12, Bulliet: 340-361)

Nov. 16 (The Black Death in Asia), Nov. 18 (The Black Death in Europe), Nov. 20 (Africa and India-trade)

Week #14 (Begin Chapter #14, Bulliet: 385-408)

Nov. 23 (Ming China)

Week #15 (Cont. Chapter #14)

Nov. 30 (Ming Maritime Expeditions), Dec. 2 (Regional Maritime Networks), Dec. 4 (Iberian Exploration)

Week #16 (Finish Chapter #14)

Dec. 7 (Europe and West Africa and the Americas), Dec. 9 (Europe and East Africa, India and Asia.), Dec. 11 (Review for Final Examination-receive study guide)