

### **Class Information**

#### *Office Hours*

Tuesday 6:10-6:45, Cubicle 46, or by appointment.

#### *Email*

[historyprofe@gmail.com](mailto:historyprofe@gmail.com) By far the most convenient and fastest way to contact me.

#### *Phone*

818-364-7600 ext. 4215 (voicemail) Please leave name, phone number, and I will contact you as soon as I am able to.

#### *Website*

<http://www.lamission.edu/~jimenea> You will find valuable information, including syllabus and email link, for this class.

#### *Note*

A 20 minute break will be given at the professor's discretion, typically coming at the midway point.

### **Required Texts**

Both books purchased new at the campus bookstore will run you \$68.95.

<http://www.lamissionbookstore.com/>

- *The World, A History Volume I Penguin Academics Edition* by Felipe Fernandez-Armesto  
(ISBN: 978-0-205-75931-6)

Different editions are acceptable, however, the edition must include chapters 1-15, typically contained in Volume I editions.

- *Guns, Germs, and Steel* by Jared Diamond  
(ISBN: 978-0-393-31755-8)

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Critically analyze the political/diplomatic development of World Civilizations from their origins to the end of the Post-classical Era in the 15th century.
2. Critically analyze the economic development of World Civilizations from their origins to the end of the Post-classical Era in the 15th century.
3. Critically analyze the social/cultural development of World Civilizations from their origins to the end of the Post-classical Era in the 15th century.

### **Course Description**

This course traces the development and interrelationships of the major world civilizations and their cultural traditions and contributions from the earliest time to the beginning of the era of European Expansion in the sixteenth century. We will begin by exploring the pre-historical records of human development and explore how different societies throughout the world developed different cultures and societies.

### **Course Philosophy**

My a philosophy is simple: understanding the past. This is done not through endless facts, dates, and information, but through ideas. If we start seeing history as the study of ideas it will make it that much more relevant. In the past ancient societies were studied separately from one another. For example, one chapter would be dedicated to the Romans and the next to the Aztecs. Very little comparison was done in regards to similarities that these cultures shared. Instead the differences were overstated resulting in a disconnected history of the ancient world. This class, through lectures, discussions, and readings seeks to change that perception. Constant comparisons are fundamental to the analysis of historical developments. Topics will include typical historical ideas like war and politics, but also diverse topics, such as geography and food. Attention will also be paid to our current society. Global warming, for example, is not the only shift in climate humans have experienced. Europeans went through a similar climate shift in the 14th century. How can we connect the two and what lessons can we learn from them are

just two questions we can immediately ask. And once we can grasp the past, it is that much easier to understand the present. Students will find their own world opened up and placed in a global setting, letting them see clearly past national borders and cultural boundaries to the interconnected world in which they live.

There will be a very deliberate attempt to get you to like history. History isn't just dates and facts, but a living testament to the world we live in today. Hopefully, through the topics, readings, and lectures in this class you will be able to better appreciate all that history has to offer. Who knows? You might end up switching majors and making history your future career.

This class will also seek to make you a better college student. You will gain valuable knowledge, not just in your appreciation for history, but for the college experience as well. Becoming a disciplined student will mean becoming adept at writing, reading, and studying not just history, but other subjects as well. If at any point during the course of the class you find yourself overwhelmed, do not hesitate to contact so that we can work on a solution together. Do not wait until the last week of the course to tell me that you have problems, either academically or personal. By then it will be too late to salvage a desirable grade.

### **Course Outlines**

The class will be organized through lecture and class discussions focused on specific topics relevant to world history. The following is a tentative guideline on specific topics we will cover. Please keep in mind that through the course of the semester some topics and chapters will be changed. Due dates, quizzes, and exams may be change as well. Make sure to stay current by attending class on a weekly basis. All chapters are mandatory reading, unless stated. NOTE: Chapters are from the main text, *The World*.

#### Week 1-Aug 28

Introduction to World History

Discourse on human development and evolution.

Why farming beat foraging?

(*Chapter 1-optional, Chapter 2*)

#### Week 2-Sept 4

River valley civilizations: Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, and China

(*Chapter 3*)

#### Week 3-Sept 11

Emergence of civilizations in the Americas: Mesoamerica & Peru

(*Chapter 4*)

#### Week 4-Sept 18

Quiz 1: *Guns, Germs, & Steel*

Ancient Greece: Synthesizers of Antiquity

(*Chapter 5*)

#### Week 5-Sept 25

Video

Exam #1

#### Week 6-Oct 2

Philosophy in the ancient world-Eastern v. Western thought

Term paper/Presentation Prep Due

(*Chapter 6*)

Week 7-Oct 9

Empires in the ancient world: Persia, Alexander, Rome, Han China  
(Chapter 7, Chapter 8-optional)

Week 8-Oct 16

The Rise of World Religions: Christianity, Islam, and Buddhism  
(Chapter 9)

Week 9-Oct 23

Quiz #2: *Guns, Germs & Steel*  
Environment and impact on state building: Maya & Japan  
Collapse: Why societies succeed and fail?  
(Chapter 10)

Week 10-Oct 30

Video  
Exam #2

Week 11-Nov 6

VOTE - Your Vote Matters!  
The emergence of the Middle Age & Crusades: Consequences of Holy War  
(Chapter 12)

Week 12-Nov 13

The Mongol World: The creation of the modern world  
(Chapter 13)

Week 13-Nov 20

Plague, Destruction, & Rebirth  
(Chapter 14)

Week 14-Nov 27

Hemispheres Collide: Empires in America and the arrival of European Conquerors  
Term Papers Due  
(Chapter 15)

Week 15- Dec 4

Quiz #3 *Guns, Germs, & Steel*  
Topic Presentations  
Final Review

Week 16- Dec 11

Exam #3 8:00-10:00

**Important Dates**

SEPT 7            Add Deadline  
SEPT 9            Last day to DROP classes, without a "W"  
NOV 18            Last day to drop with a "W"

## **Evaluation**

### **PARTICIPATION (10%)**

This will be evaluated primarily through class conduct. This includes participation in class discussion, courtesy to professor and students, and attendance. The following will be reasons for losing vital percentage points: sleeping during class, texting, mobiles not silenced, tardiness, leaving mid-lecture, not returning promptly from breaks, not returning from breaks, missing class. **In addition, pop quizzes will be given at the professor's discretion. The quizzes will take place during the first 5 minutes of class AND/OR the first 5 minutes after the break.**

### **INFORMAL WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS (10%)**

Anywhere from 3-5 written assignments will be given throughout the course of the semester. These are expected to be about half to one page in length (about 150-300 words) and should contain a brief analysis of the issues under consideration relative to the assigned reading material or class discussions. These should not be a recitation of facts, but should instead be a discussion of the issues at hand. If you refer to outside material, be sure to cite your sources, whether or not you directly quote the material. Assignments must be typed, 12-point font, and double spaced. Assignments are due in class, no emailed assignments will be accepted, late assignments will be deducted 10%.

### **TERM PAPER OR PRESENTATION (15%)**

A research paper will be required on a topic appropriate to world history. If you feel that a talking, rather than writing, is your better strength, a 7-10 minute class presentation is perfectly acceptable in lieu of the term paper. I will start accepting topics as early as Feb 29. Only 2 students per similar topic; I don't want to have to read 10 papers on Cleopatra. A 1-paragraph paper/presentation prep will be due on Week 6 in which you will summarize what you plan to research. Make sure you tell me whether you are doing a presentation or paper. The term papers will then be due Nov 27 and the presentations will take place on Dec 4. No emailed papers will be accepted and late papers will be deducted 15%. The topic you choose should be something that you will enjoy researching. If you enjoy drinking red wine for example, then a paper or presentation on the role that wine played in Ancient Greece would be best. If you enjoy soccer, then a paper or presentation on the rubber ball game of Mesoamerica would suit your interest. If you enjoy music, then perhaps researching the role music played during ancient ceremonies.

#### **• PAPER REQUIREMENTS:**

1. 5-Pages (or about 1500 words). Must include a separate Title Page and Source Page in addition to the 5-pages.
2. 4 outside secondary sources. Two of the sources must be books, the other 2 can be websites.
3. 1 primary source.
4. Typed, 12-point font, double spaced.

#### **• PRESENTATION REQUIREMENTS:**

1. 7-10 minute presentation. You must utilize a audio/video aid in your presentation. Powerpoint, large, poster boards, handouts, slides, music, samples, and others are appropriate.
2. 1-Page summary or outline of your research. Must also include a separate Title Page and Source Page in addition to the outline and summary.
3. 4 outside secondary sources. Two of the sources must be books, the other 2 can be websites.
4. 1 primary source.
5. Typed, 12-point font, double spaced

Finally, for help writing a term paper do not hesitate to contact me regarding any questions you may have. Do not wait until a week before the paper is due to start working on it. Here is a helpful website to guide you along:

<http://www.suite101.com/content/how-to-write-a-college-term-paper-a11196>

## QUIZZES (20%)

There will be 3 reading quizzes given throughout the course of the semester. All the questions are taken from the the *Guns, Germs, & Steel* reading guide that you can find on my website (<http://www.lamission.edu/~jimenea>). There are no make-ups available for the reading quizzes. The quizzes will be given at the start of class. If you are late, you will have less time available to take the quiz. The quizzes are as follow:

Quiz 1: Prologue, Chapters 1-6

Quiz 2: Chapters 7-13

Quiz 3: Chapters 14-19, Epilogue

## EXAMS (45%)

The exams given will be a combination of subjective questions (short/long response) and objective questions (identifications, multiple choice, true/false). There will also be a geography component in which you will have to identify key world regions. You will need a blue book and scantron for each exam (3 blue books and 3 scantrons in total). The objective questions will be drawn strictly from the main text, *The World*. Subjective questions will be drawn from the main text and lectures. No make-up exams or pre-exams will be given. Since this class meets only once a week, giving you an extra week to prepare for an exam is unfair to the other students who have worked hard to prepare for the exam on time. Preparing for exams means taking good notes in class and doing the assigned reading. Things to concentrate on in the main text will be the Focus Questions at the beginning of each chapter, the Problems and Parallels questions at the end of each chapter, and the bold-type words in each chapter. As far as in class notes are concerned make sure you take them! One day after lecture you will have forgotten 62% of what was said. This is where note-taking comes in. You need to develop a note-taking method that works for you, pay close attention to content (and not write down everything you hear), and finally (and this is by far the most important), review and edit your notes. Here are some helpful sites to help you along with your note-taking:

<http://www.collegeboard.com/student/plan/college-success/955.html>

<http://www.suite101.com/content/how-to-take-effective-class-notes-a16974>

## EXTRA CREDIT

Throughout the semester there will be opportunities for you to earn extra credit. There is no specific point or grading system for extra credit assignments. Extra credit assignments will not replace assignments, exams, quizzes, or term papers. Instead, e.c. assignments will be taken into consideration if you find yourself on the cusp of a higher grade. If you end up with an 89% and I see that you have done several extra credit assignments, then I will give you a 90%. If you would like to suggest an extra credit assignment make sure you come to me before completing it. All extra credit assignments must be typed. Percentage points added to final over grade can range from 1% to 3%. Extra credit assignments may include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Museum exhibits relating to class material
- Films or t.v. shows dealing with topics discussed in class
- Turning in completed Focus Questions and Problems and Parallels questions on the day of the exam.
- Turning in completed *Guns, Germs, & Steel* reading questions on the day of the quiz.

## GRADING SCALE

I use the following grading scale to determine your grades and final grade. Since you will be getting back completed work from me with a percentage please refer to the following scale for specific letter grade:

90%-100%	A
80%-89%	B
70%-79%	C
60%-69%	D
Below 60%	FAIL

Rubrics for exams, quizzes, papers, and presentations are available online:

<http://www.lamission.edu/~jimenea>

## **LAMC SOCIAL SCIENCE POLICIES**

**Cheating**- unauthorized material used during an examination (including electronic devices), changing answers after work has been graded, taking an exam for another student, forging or altering attendance sheets or other documents in the course, looking at another student's paper/scantron/essay/computer or exam with or without their approval is considered cheating. Any student caught cheating will receive a zero for the assignment/exam and be referred to the Department chair and/or Student Services for further disciplinary action.

**Plagiarism**- Plagiarism is defined as the act of using the ideas, words, or work of another person or persons as if they were one's own, without giving proper credit to the original sources. This includes definitions found online on Wikipedia, materials from blogs, twitter, or other similar electronic resources. The following examples are intended to be representative, but not all-inclusive:

- Failing to give credit by proper citations for others' ideas and concepts, data and information, statements and phrases, and/or interpretations and conclusions
- Failing to use quotation marks when quoting directly from another, **whether it be a paragraph, a sentence, or a part thereof**
- Paraphrasing the expressions or thought by others without appropriate quotation marks or attribution
- Representing another's artistic/scholarly works (such as essays, computer programs, photographs, paintings, drawings, sculptures) or similar works as one's own.

***For a first offense, you will receive a zero for the assignment in question. Any further offenses may result in expulsion from the class, as determined by the disciplinary action of the Office of Student Services.***

**Recording devices** in the classroom: Section 78907 of the California Education Code prohibits the use of any electronic audio or video recording devices, without prior consent of the instructor. (This includes cell phones, laptops, MP3 players, cameras, and other recording devices)

**Reasonable Accommodations**: If you are a student with a disability who qualifies for accommodations through DSP&S, please contact me privately. The sooner I am aware of your eligibility for accommodations, the quicker I will be able to assist the DSP&S Office in providing them. For students with disabilities, the DSP&S Office at Mission College provides special assistance in areas like: registering for courses, specialized tutoring, note-taking, mobility assistance, special instruction, testing assistance, special equipment, special materials, instructor liaisons, community referrals and job placement. If you have not done so already, you may also wish to contact the DSP&S Office in Instructional Building 1018 (phone 818/364-7732 TTD 818/364-7861) and bring me a letter indicating what accommodations are needed.

**Medical conditions**: If you have and conditions that I need to know about, please notify me immediately by email.

**Emergencies**: Please program the Campus Sheriff's phone number in your cell: 818 364-7843

**Student Portal**: update your email address, view your schedule and grades from past semesters through the portal. [www.lamission.edu](http://www.lamission.edu) – "students" – "My Mission student portal access" If you have not yet changed your pin it's your birthdate (MMDD)