Instructor

Mark D. Vickrey, Senior Lecturer in History
E-mail: mvickrey@spsu.edu
Phone: 678-915-7325
Office Location: Southern Polytechnic State University, J-314
Office Hours: Monday/Wednesday/Friday: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Tuesday/Thursday: 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm
other times by appointment
Virtual Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday: 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

You may contact me via GeorgiaVIEW D2L or university e-mail anytime. I will respond as soon as I receive and read your e-mail, or within 24 hours, whichever comes first. Please use the D2L email account for all course-related correspondence.

Course Description

This course is a survey of world civilization from the beginning of human societies through 1500. It is an introduction to the study of history and an overview of the civilization, ideas, religions, and technological developments that have appeared within, and stimulated the development of, world civilizations.

Outcomes:
By the end of this course, you should be able to:
1. Identify the main materials and sources that historians use to construct the histories of past civilizations.
2. Recognize the central beliefs of the world's major religions.
3. Explain how internal and external factors, including technological change, influence the development of civilization.
4. Describe how civilizations of the past continue to influence human society.


Technical Requirements: You will need headphones with a microphone for live group meetings in Wimba Classroom.
**Grading**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Syllabus Quiz</strong></td>
<td>10 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Introductory Post</strong></td>
<td>10 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wimba Classroom Sessions (8 – 1 miss allowed)</strong></td>
<td>5 points each = 35 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Quizzes (3)</strong></td>
<td>15 points each = 45 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Exam I</strong></td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Group Project 1</strong></td>
<td>50 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Exam II</strong></td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Group Project 2</strong></td>
<td>50 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Exam III/Final</strong></td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total (points possible)</strong></td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course grades will be calculated by dividing the number of points each student earns during the semester by 500. All three exams must be taken to pass the class. More information is available in the "Course Content" heading inside the "Start Here" module in GeorgiaVIEW D2L. Exam III/Final is not a comprehensive final, it is an examination of the materials from Module 11 through Module 15.

Detailed grading criteria for how discussions and group projects will be graded are available in GeorgiaVIEW Vista under the "Course Content" heading.

**Course Outline**

*Note: all reading assignments noted below are from the Adler and Pouwels text. Any additional podcasts, lectures, readings and/or film assignments are made in the unit modules.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Modules</strong></th>
<th><strong>Content/Activities</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction/Orientation</td>
<td>Complete orientation activities and complete syllabus quiz.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Introduction to the study of history; the first human societies and the agricultural revolution</td>
<td>Readings: pp. 1-5, Chapter 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 2. The First Civilizations: A. Sumerians and Mesopotamia; B. Egypt                   | Readings: Chapters 2 and 3                                                        
  *Quiz 1*                                                                            |
<p>| 3. Near Eastern Peoples through the Hebrews                                         | Readings: Chapter 5                                                              |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 5. Ancient India: Hinduism and Buddhism | Readings: Chapters 4 and 12  
*First Group Project assigned* |
| 6. Ancient China - Civilization, Ideas, and Emperors | Readings: Chapters 6 and 13 |
| 7. The Greeks: From the Minoans through Alexander | Readings: Chapters 8 and 9  
*Quiz 2* |
| 8. Rome I: From the founding through the fall of the Republic | Readings: pp. 119-125  
*First Group Projects Due* |
| 9. Rome II: The *pax Romana*, the rise of Christianity, and the Fall | Readings: pp. 125-134 and 136-144 |
*Exam II* |
| 11. Islam | Readings: Chapters 15 and 16  
*Second Group Project assigned* |
| 12. The Mongols/ Ancient Africa | Readings: Chapter 18; review pp. 30-33, read Chapter 17 |
| 13. The Americas through 1491 | Readings: Chapters 7 and 14  
*Quiz 3*  
*Second Group Project Due* |
| 14. Medieval Europe | Readings: Chapter 20 |
| 15. The Renaissance and the Age of Discovery through 1500 | Readings: Chapter 21, pp. 303 and 304-308  
*Exam III (Final)* |

---

**Course Expectations and GeorgiaVIEW D2L**

**Expectations/Class Participation:** For this online class, you should expect to spend six to seven hours each week on coursework. Logging in at least three-four times each week is minimally necessary to be productive, keep up with course information, and to interact with your peers (there are 2 group projects that require extensive collaboration). Attendance at Wimba Classroom Sessions is required (you may miss 1 of the 8 without penalty; you will lose 5 points for each additional miss).

**Student Responsibility:** Distance learning requires more individual discipline than traditional classes, and requires that you have at least some control over your time and schedule. It is neither easier nor will it take less time than face-to-face courses.

*Students will be expected to:*
• read all assignments in the Adler and Pouwels text.
• watch any video materials and complete any additional reading assignments presented within the learning modules.
• listen to all podcasts and watch/listen to all video podcast lectures.
• attend all Wimba classroom discussions.
• actively participate in the group projects.
• complete all group projects, quizzes, and exams by their due date.

Late Assignments: All assignments must be submitted in GeorgiaVIEW D2L by the due dates. Do not submit work via email. All due dates for activities are in Eastern Daylight and/or Eastern Standard Time and are posted in the GeorgiaVIEW D2L Calendar. Late assignments will not be accepted.

Quizzes and Exams: Quizzes and exams are closed-book. Quizzes are timed (20 minutes) and may be taken anywhere. Exams are timed (1 hour, 30 minutes), and must be taken at SPSU-approved testing locations.

Submission of Assignments: All assignments must be submitted online in GeorgiaVIEW D2L. Due dates for assignments are found in the Course Schedule located in the Course Information folder. Exams must be taken on campus (a time and location will be provided) or at a testing center approved by SPSU. Note that there may be a fee charged at some testing centers for monitoring your exams. All SPSU extension centers are free, but other centers could charge $25.00 or more. Please locate a center you're comfortable with long before the exams are scheduled (or plan to come to campus for the exam which I'll monitor on a Saturday morning). You can find the approved test site list at: https://ecore.usg.edu/exams/sites.php

Professor Vickrey's role will be to provide course content, facilitate student interaction, conduct scheduled Wimba classroom sessions, and assess student work. He will not be responding directly to every discussion comment, but will be looking in frequently during the week. Discussion posts will be graded primarily for analytical quality and timeliness.

Feedback: All exercises – quizzes, group projects, and exams will all be graded by no later than seven days after their due date unless Prof. Vickrey contacts the class and announces that additional time will be required.

Contacts to get Help:
For Vista Technical Support, go to http://help8.view.usg.edu or call 678-915-HELP
For Wimba Technical Support, go to http://www.wimba.com/services/support/

Resources:
Remote access to Library Resources http://www.spsu.edu/library/Dl/dl.html

In case of an emergency or extraordinary circumstances, please contact Prof. Vickrey at his university email (mvickrey@spsu.edu) or office phone as soon as possible.
Arrangements can be made to deal with the unexpected. You may be asked for documentation regarding the emergency.

"Netiquette"/Communication Rules

"Netiquette" – Network Etiquette – has its own specific rules. Please read and observe the following:

▪ Be sensitive to what others are saying.
▪ Reflect on the comments others make before responding.
▪ Always assume good intent and respond accordingly. If you are unsure of or annoyed by a message, wait 24 hours before responding.
▪ Don't flame - These are outbursts of extreme emotion or opinion.
▪ Think before you hit the post (enter/reply) button. You can't take it back!
▪ Disagree respectfully.
▪ Don't type in all capitals because it is considered the electronic version of 'shouting.'
▪ Don't use offensive language.
▪ Use clear subject lines.
▪ Don't use abbreviations or acronyms unless the entire class knows them.
▪ Be forgiving. Anyone can make a mistake.
▪ Keep dialog collegial and professional.
▪ When posting a message or emailing the professor or a colleague choose your words carefully to communicate what you intend. It is difficult to convey subtle meaning and humor in online communications. Consider rewording your message if you think there is a chance that others will misunderstand your message.

University Policies

Academic Honesty:

Southern Polytechnic State University established an honor code during the 2010-2011 academic year. This code is binding on all students and faculty. Faculty members expect that all students will both respect and behave according to the spirit of the honor code. Cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic misconduct can never be tolerated and can have very serious consequences for the person guilty of the misconduct (including dismissal from the university). All students should become familiar with the honor code and the policies and procedures that accompany it (http://facweb.spsu.edu/aa/honorcode).

All work submitted in this online class must be the unique work of the student that submits it. Students may not use materials from the textbook in any group projects,
including the language, ideas, or themes presented by the authors. While students may discuss the materials in discussion posts or email, quizzes and exams are to be completed by each student with no outside assistance. Group projects do require student collaboration, but the project submissions must be the unique work of each group and each group member.

In addition, “a faculty member reserves the right to remove any student from his or her course if the student’s behavior is of a disruptive nature or if there is evidence of academic dishonesty.” (SPSU Catalog)

**Disability Statement:**

“A student at Southern Polytechnic State University who has a disabling condition and needs academic accommodations has a responsibility to voluntarily identify him/herself as having a disability by scheduling an appointment with the Disability Services Coordinator as soon as possible.” (SPSU Catalog). The coordinator can be contacted at 678-915-7244.