

Lincoln University
World History (HIST 10) Fall 2011
Prof. Eric Bergerud 510-525-0930 rickt2@prodigy.net
3 Units = 45 Lecture Hours Wednesday 3:30 – 6:15 PM

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is a survey of the development of the world's largest and most influential cultures. While many civilizations will appear, the major emphasis will be on China, Islamic Middle East, India and Europe. The first half of the course will cover the formative stages of the great civilizations. The second half will survey the enormous economic, political and social impact of industrialization. Throughout the course, where appropriate, a comparative approach will be used to illustrate the relative degree of continuity and change in the major cultures.

PURPOSE: To understand the world's present it is necessary to understand its historical foundation. This is more true than ever at present because of the growing connections between once distant cultures. A basic knowledge of the social, political and economic background of different and unfamiliar cultures will prepare students to act in today's global society. In addition, this course, in common with all history courses, will help the students improve their analytical skills. Also, because the lectures and the exams essay are very important, students will improve their English language skills.

SCOPE: This course is a survey of the development of the world's largest and most influential cultures. While many civilizations will appear, the major emphasis will be on China, Islamic Middle East, India and the European West. The first half of the course will cover the formative stages of the great civilizations. The second half will survey the enormous economic, political and social impact of what historians call "modernization". Throughout the course, where appropriate, a comparative approach will be used to illustrate the relative degree of continuity and change in the major cultures.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES: There are no prerequisites for this class. Attendance is mandatory. Students are urged to complete the appropriate reading assignments before the lectures. It is very important that students be attentive in lecture and take notes as the lectures will have a different emphasis than the readings. Questions and discussions in class are strongly encouraged. It is very important to have an orderly atmosphere during lectures. Therefore cell phones should be turned off and conversation between students is discouraged.

The text is *A World History* by William H. McNeil. I will show students where to buy an inexpensive used copy of this book. There will also be several copies on reserve in the library. Text assignments are listed below.

FORMAT AND GRADES: This course will be based on a standard lecture format. The grades will be based on the outcome of one midterm and a final exam and class attendance. Both exams are based on identifications and a choice of essay questions. All identifications will be written on the board during lecture. The essays will be very broad and I will discuss their scope prior to exams. We shall also discuss the basic techniques of building a historical argument. The Standard A-F grades will be given. Approximately 1/3 of the grade is based on the midterm and 2/3 on the final. However, I do take into consideration a favorable trajectory between the midterm and final when deciding the course grade. Bad attendance results in a grade penalty.

CONTACT BETWEEN INSTRUCTOR AND STUDENTS: I will have office hours between 3:00-3:30 and 6:15-6:45 on Monday at a room to be arranged. If you would like to arrange a different time on Monday or Wednesday afternoon we can arrange it. At the top of the page is my home office phone number: if something comes up you are welcome to give me a call. If I am not in, leave your name and phone number (please speak clearly) on the answering machine and I will reach you as soon as possible. I ask that you use my home email address (rickt2@prodigy.net). My school email is bergerud@lincolnuca.edu but this will be forwarded and it is easier to go direct.

SCHEDULE: (Chapter assignments given in [])

August 22: Introduction & Assessment: Prehistory
August 29: Early Civilization, Greece [Ch 2, Ch 3, Ch5]
September 12: Rome and Feudal Europe [Ch 7, Ch 9, Ch 12, Ch 16]
September 19: Classical China and East Asia [Ch 6, Ch 10, Ch14]
September 26: Hindu Civilization; Buddhism [Ch 4, Ch 11]
October 3: Rise of Islam [Ch 13]
October 10: Traditional Islamic World; Midterm [Ch 15]
October 17: Renaissance and Early Modern Europe [Ch 18, 19]
October 24: European Imperialism: Phase I [Ch 25]
October 31: Scientific & Industrial Revolution [Ch 23]
November 7: Western Political Revolution [Ch 26]
November 14: Imperialism: Phase II [Ch 27, 28]
November 21: Western Civil Wars & End of Empires [Ch 29]
November 28: Contemporary Global Civilization [Ch 30]
December 5-10: Final Exams

Syllabus Revised: 8/22/2011