HISTORY 104
WORLD HISTORY to 1000 C.E.
FALL 2009
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10 AM to 11:50 AM
Fifth Avenue Cinema, 192

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course, the first of a three-quarter survey, provides a narrative overview of major civilizations around the world, from the emergence of the first cities in Mesopotamia in the 4th millennium B.C.E. to approximately 1000 C.E. As we consider key events and transformations in the cultures of the Near East, Africa, Europe, South Asia, East Asia, and the Americas, we’ll also ask larger questions about the nature of civilization, cross-cultural influence, and the connections between the past and our evolving global present, with its unprecedented possibilities for interpenetration and exchange.

COURSE TEXTS AND ONLINE RESOURCES
• The Epic of Gilgamesh (Penguin)

Many of our readings this term will consist of primary sources found online at the websites indicated on the syllabus. Most are drawn from the archive of documents available at: www.fordham.edu/halsall/

There is a website associated with our textbook, Traditions and Encounters: A Brief Global History, at: highered.mcgraw-hill.com/sites/0073534536/information_center_view0/
We will using this resource for timelines, primary sources, and links to other websites. (NOTE: You can also get to this online resource by typing the name of your textbook into Google.)

We will also be using online material and videos from the website Bridging World History: www.learner.org/courses/worldhistory/

ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING

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<td>Midterm Exam</td>
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<td>Essay (5 pages)</td>
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In-Class Writings. Most class sessions, we’ll do a short In-Class Writing (c. 15-20 minutes) that asks you to consider a significant event, date, or theme from the day’s reading. I won’t
test you on trivia; the In-Class Writings are meant to reward you for completing the reading assignment for the day, and to break the ice for a discussion. The questions will be designed to help you identify the main points in our texts. NOTE: In-Class Writings cannot be made up for any reason. Even an excused absence will result in a missed writing.

**Midterm Exam.** Near the midpoint of the quarter, we’ll sit for an in-class Midterm Exam. The Midterm will give you a chance to demonstrate your mastery of some of the key terms and texts we’ve considered in the course so far. I’ll provide you with a sample midterm before the exam, so you’ll be well prepared for the kinds of questions you’ll be asked to respond to.

**Essay** Near the end of the term, you’ll be asked to address a larger interpretive question derived from our readings with a 5-page paper. Topics will be handed out well before the due date and we’ll have a chance to discuss them in class.

**Class Participation.** Our time together in class will consist of a blend of lecture and discussion. Typically participation takes the form of an engaged back-and-forth that involves the larger class; occasionally we may break into smaller groups as well for various exercises. In both cases, *active, engaged* participation in our discussions is the key to the course’s success.

**ATTENDANCE**
No more than *four (4)* absences are allowed in the term. If you know you are going to be absent, please email me or call me before the class you will miss. Should you reach four absences, each additional absence affects your grade in increments of half a grade each (e.g. A-→ B+→ B). *Eight absences will result in an automatic failure in this course.* There is no way to make up for missed In-Class Writings and Class Participation on days you are absent for any reason.

**TECHNOLOGY ETIQUETTE**
*Cell Phones:* There is a zero-tolerance policy for cell phone interruptions. When you enter the class, your phone must set on silent or turned off and put away.

*Laptops:* Laptops and other hand-held devices are not to be used during class. In Mentor sessions, there will be no checking of email or using the Internet unless you are instructed to do so by your Mentor. Failure to follow these rules will result in an automatic absence for the day. This strict policy is to ensure that the class stays focused on our project of learning from one another.

**PLAGARISM**
The writing that you do for this course must be your own work. You violate this ethic if you copy materials without acknowledging the source; present a slightly rearranged wording of source materials as your own; or submit a copy of a paper identical to that submitted by another student. Plagiarism will result in a zero grade for the assignment and possibly lead to more severe academic consequences. A second offence will earn you a failing grade for the class. If something is questionable, ask your mentor or professor.

**PSU CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT AND RESPONSIBILITY**
As with all your other classes at PSU, conduct not explicitly covered by this syllabus is covered by PSU’s Student Code. You can find this document at:
http://www.pdx.edu/dos/conductcode.html#GeneralPolicy

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**
*The Writing Center.* The staff at the PSU Writing Center is available to help with all variety of writing challenges, from first draft to final edit. You can find the full range of free services they offer on their website: www.writingcenter.pdx.edu/

*Disability Resource Center.* If you have a disability and require assistance obtaining resources at PSU, please see me. We will be happy to accommodate you as best we can. You will also need to register at the Disability Resource Center in Smith 435 (503-725-4150).

**SCHEDULE OF READINGS (subject to change)**

**WEEK 1: The First Migrations**
**Tuesday, 9/29:** Introductions

**Thursday, 10/1**
READINGS: *Traditions and Encounters*, Chapter 1, pp. 2-8

*Bridging World History, Unit 3: Human Migrations*  
(www.learner.org/courses/worldhistory/unit_main_3.html)


**View:** Unit 3 video (30 minutes)
**FILM:** Nova, “How We Became Human”

**WEEK 2: Mesopotamia and the Ancient Near East**
**Tuesday, 10/6**
READINGS: *Traditions and Encounters*, Chapter 1, pp. 8-19

*The Epic of Gilgamesh*, Introduction, pp. xiii-xvi, xxxi-xxxii + Tablets I-III, V

**Thursday, 10/8**
READINGS: *The Epic of Gilgamesh*, Tablets VII, IX-XI  
*Traditions and Encounters*, Chapter 1, pp. 19-23

**FILM:** Joseph Campbell, Mythos “From Goddess to God,” Season 1, Episode 4

**WEEK 3: Egypt and Early African Societies**
**Tuesday, 10/13**
READINGS: *Traditions and Encounters*, Chapter 2, pp. 25-36
*The Precepts of Ptah-Hotep, c. 2200 BCE*
www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/ptahhotep.html
*Hymn to the Nile, c. 2100 BCE*
www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/hymn-nile.html

**Thursday, 10/15**
READINGS: *Traditions and Encounters*, Chapter 2, pp. 36-41
*The Osirian Cycle*
www.theologywebsite.com/etext/egypt/osiris.shtml
*Amenhotep IV, Hymn to Aten, c. 1370 BCE*
www.mircea-eliade.com/from-primitives-to-zen/020.html
*The Tale of Two Brothers, c. 1185 BCE*
www.perankhgroup.com/brothers.htm

FILM: “Egypt, Beyond the Pyramids” Vol. 2, Episode 1 (2001)

**WEEK 4: South and East Asia**
**Tuesday, 10/20**
READINGS: *Traditions and Encounters*, Chapter 3, pp. 43-51
*Hymns from the Rig Veda*
www.wsu.edu:8080/~wldciv/world_civ_reader/world_civ_reader_1/rig_veda.html
*Vedas and Upanishads*
http://san.beck.org/EC7-Vedas.html

**Thursday, 10/22**
READINGS: *Traditions and Encounters*, Chapter 3, pp. 51-59
Selections from *The Shû King, Shih King and Hsião King*
www.sacred-texts.com/cfu/sbe03/index.htm#section_007

**WEEK 5**
**Tuesday, 10/27**
****MIDTERM EXAM**

**Thursday, 10/29**
NO CLASS

**WEEK 6: The Americas**
**Tuesday, 11/3**
READINGS: *Traditions and Encounters*, Chapter 4, pp. 63-74
Selections from *The Popol Vuh*
www.meta-religion.com/World_Religions/Ancient_religions/Central_america/popol_vuh.htm
FILM: “Nova: Cracking the Maya Code”

**Thursday, 11/5**
READINGS: *Traditions and Encounters*, Chapter 5, pp. 80-97
Herodotus, *On the Customs of the Persians*, c. 430 BCE
www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/herodotus-persians.html
Kurash (Cyrus) the Great, *The Decree of Return for the Jews, 539 BCE*
WEEK 7: China and India
Tuesday, 11/10
READINGS: *Traditions and Encounters*, Chapter 6, pp. 99-113
Selections from *The Analects of Confucius*
academic.brooklyn.cuny.edu/core9/phalsall/texts/analects.html
Selections from the *Dao De Jing*
academic.brooklyn.cuny.edu/core9/phalsall/texts/taote-ex.html
FILM: “First Emperor of China” (IMAX, 1989) narrated by Christopher Plummer

Thursday, 11/12
READINGS: *Traditions and Encounters*, Chapter 7, pp. 115-129
*The Edicts of King Ashoka*
www.cs.colostate.edu/~malaiya/ashoka.html
Krishna’s Dilemma (from the *Bhagavad-Gita*)

WEEK 8: Greece and Rome
Tuesday, 11/17
READINGS: *Traditions and Encounters*, Chapter 8, pp. 131-144
*Herodotus, Xerxes Invades Greece*
www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/herodotus-xerxes.html
*Thucydides, Pericles’ Funeral Oration*
www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/pericles-funeralspeech.html

Thursday, 11/19
READINGS: *Traditions and Encounters*, Chapter 8, pp. 144-153
*Acts of the Divine Augustus*
classics.mit.edu/Augustus/deeds.html
*Josephus, The Roman Army in the First Century CE*
www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/josephus-warb.html

WEEK 9: Byzantium
Tuesday, 11/24
READINGS: *Traditions and Encounters*, Chapter 10, pp. 177-193
*Sozomen, Constantine Founds Constantinople, 324 CE*
www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/sozomen-constantinople1.html
*Procopius, On Justinian*
www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/procop-anec1.html
*The Easter Sermon of John Chrysostom*
www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/chrysostom-easter.html

Thursday, 11/26: THANKSGIVING BREAK (NO CLASS)
WEEK 10: Islam and the Early Middle Ages
Tuesday, 12/1
READINGS: Traditions and Encounters, Chapter 11, pp. 195-209
The Qur'an, Surahs 1, 47
www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/koran-sel.html

Hadith Selections
www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/misc-hadith.html

Thursday, 12/3
READINGS: Traditions and Encounters, Chapter 14, pp. 249-262
The Conversion of Clovis: Two Accounts
www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/496clovis.html
Einhard, Life of Charlemagne
www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/einhard1.html

**FINAL EXAM: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 10:15 AM -12:05 PM**
NOTE: Please save this date early. No alternate exam times will be offered.