

Course: World Cultures
Instructor: Dr. Pamela Smith

Course Description: Survey of the culture, history, and geography of the peoples of the world.

Course Description and Philosophy

The study of the world will provide an enlightened look at the kaleidoscope of the world's peoples. You will develop an understanding of the physical world in which humans live by learning the major physical features of the world and comparing the different types of map projection. You will explore the diversity of life among the world's peoples by comparing and contrasting cultures, comprehending the rise and fall of nations and civilizations, comparing significant philosophies of famous persons, and assessing the role of citizenship in different cultures. To accomplish these objectives, you will become familiar with the types of sources that archeologists, historians, geographers, political scientists, etc. use to develop a cultural perspective. Ultimately, by gaining a global perspective the students will be a more complete and competent citizens of the world.

Course Requirements

1. Test
2. Large 3-ring binder
3. Work done in blue or black pen
4. Materials for research project (poster board, for example)

Grading Procedure

Your trimester grade will be determined by the following combination of assessment measures.

Tests: 70%

Research Project: 20%

Homework: 10%

The mid-year cumulative exam will count as 10% of the final grade.

The final cumulative exam will count as 15% of the final grade.

The school's incomplete/late work policy will be strictly enforced.

Grading Scale

A- to A+	90-100
B- to B+	80-89
C- to C+	70-79
D- to D+	60-69
F	0- 59

Homework Policy

Homework is a very critical component of the learning process. You must observe the following policies to remain in good standing in this class.

1. There are usually daily homework (reading/writing) assignments.
2. The trimester research project is done in five parts over a period of approximately 5 weeks: topic selection, bibliography, outline, paper, and presentation with visual. You are responsible for making time in your schedule to prepare the research project. Directions for each component of the research project will be provided in a separate handout.
3. Whether working on a short-term or extended assignment, it is imperative that you do it on a daily basis.
4. Short-term assignments will be checked simply to see that they have been completed. Failure to do so results in assignment to Academic Help. A homework collection of these assignments should be stored in your 3-ring binder. This will be submitted for a more thorough evaluation after a test that covers the material. The school's grading policy regarding late or missing assignments, as outlined in the student handbook, will be strictly enforced.
5. Since class time is limited, all the material on the syllabus cannot be covered during lectures and class discussions. Students are responsible for all material assigned as textbook readings.
6. All submitted assignments must begin with the student's name, the date, the class title, and the period. Those assignments must be neat, complete, and written in blue or black ink. Of course, typed assignments are welcomed, but proper format must be followed. The research paper must be typed.
7. When returned, homework and tests are to be stored in your 3-ring binder.
8. Study groups can be effective. However, when a student submits an assignment, she is stating that the material submitted has been fully comprehended. Therefore, joint submissions and plagiarism are unacceptable.

Classroom Policies

1. Daily prepared attendance is necessary.
2. You are solely responsible for any material covered or announcements made during your absence.
3. The school's attendance policy will be strictly enforced.
4. Inappropriate, disrespectful, or dishonest behavior is unacceptable.
5. Cheating or plagiarism will result in a zero for that assignment.

Text: Ramirez, Susan; Stearns, Peter; and Wineburg, Sam. World History: Human Legacy. Austin, TX: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 2008.

Welcome to the classroom. Please do not hesitate to ask questions—regardless of how simple you may perceive them to be. Work hard and take pride in all that you do.

Tentative World Cultures Schedule

First Trimester

<u>Week</u>	<u>Chapters</u>	<u>Sections</u>	<u>Topics</u>
1	1	All	Beginnings of Civilization
2	2	All	Ancient Near East
3	2	All	Ancient Near East
4	3	All	Nile Civilizations
5	3	All	Nile Civilizations
6	4	All	Ancient India and China
7	4	All	Ancient India and China
8	5	All	Classical Greece
9	5	All	Classical Greece; Oral Presentations
10	6	All	Rome and Early Christianity
11	6	All	Rome and Early Christianity

Second Trimester

<u>Week</u>	<u>Chapters</u>	<u>Sections</u>	<u>Topics</u>
1	7	All	The Americas
			Thanksgiving Break
2	7	All	The Americas
3	8	All	Empires of China and India
4	8	All	Empires of China and India
			Winter Break
5	9	All	Muslim Civilization
6	9	All	Muslim Civilization
7	10	All	African Kingdoms
8	10	All	African Kingdoms
9			Review; Mid-Year Cumulative Exam
10	11	All	Cultures of East Asia
11	11	All	Cultures of East Asia; Oral Presentations
12	12	All	Kingdoms and Christianity

Third Trimester

<u>Week</u>	<u>Chapters</u>	<u>Sections</u>	<u>Topics</u>
1	17	All	New Asian Empires
2	23	All	Reforms, Revolutions, and War
			Spring Break
3	25	All	Age of Imperialism
4	25	All	Age of Imperialism
			Easter Break Friday 4/2 – Monday 4/5
5	27	All	Interwar Years
6	30	All	Asia, 1945-Present
7	30	All	Asia, 1945-Present
8	31	All	Africa and the Middle East, 1945-Present
9	32	All	Latin America, 1945-Present; Orals Presentations
10	33	All	Today's World
11	NA	NA	Catch-Up; Review
12			Review; Final Cumulative Exam

World Cultures Outline

I. The Dawn of Civilization

- A. The Beginnings of Civilization, Preliminary - 1000 B.C.
 - 1. The First People
 - 2. The Beginnings of Agriculture
 - 3. Foundations of Civilization
- B. The Ancient Near East, 4000 B.C. - 550 B.C.
 - 1. Mesopotamia and Sumer
 - 2. Fertile Crescent Empires
 - 3. The Hebrews and Judaism
 - 4. The Persian Empire
- C. Nile Civilizations, 5000 B.C. – A.D. 300
 - 1. The Kingdom of Egypt
 - 2. Egyptian Culture
 - 3. The Nubian Kingdoms
- D. Ancient India and China, 2500 B.C. – 250B.C.
 - 1. Early India
 - 2. Hinduism
 - 3. Buddhism
 - 4. China's First Dynasties

II. The Growth of Civilizations

- A. Classical Greece, 2100 B.C. - 150 B.C.
 - 1. Early Greece
 - 2. The Classical Age
 - 3. Greek Achievements
 - 4. Alexander the Greek
- B. Rome and Early Christianity, 750 B.C. – A.D. 500
 - 1. The Foundations of Rome
 - 2. From Republic to Empire
 - 3. Roman Society and Culture
 - 4. The Rise of Christianity
 - 5. The Fall of Rome
- C. The Americas, 1000 B.C. - A.D. 1500
 - 1. North America
 - 2. Mesoamerica
 - 3. South America
- D. Empires of China and India, 350 B.C. – A.D. 600
 - 1. The Growth of China
 - 2. Chinese Society and Culture
 - 3. Indian Dynasties
 - 4. Indian Society and Culture

III. Cultures in Contact

- A. Muslim Civilization, 550 – 1250
 - 1. The Origins of Islam
 - 2. The Spread of Islam
 - 3. Society and Culture
- B. African Kingdoms, 100 – 1500
 - 1. Early Civilizations of Africa
 - 2. Trading States of East Africa
 - 3. Kingdoms of West Africa
- C. Cultures of East Asia, 550 – 1400
 - 1. Chinese Empires
 - 2. The Mongol Empire
 - 3. Japan and Korea
 - 4. Civilizations of Southwest Asia
- D. Kingdoms and Christianity, 300 – 1250
 - 1. The Byzantine Empire
 - 2. The Rise of Russia
 - 3. Christianity in Western Europe
- E. New Asian Empires, 1200 – 1800
 - 1. The Ottoman and Safavid Empires
 - 2. The Mughal Empire
 - 3. The Ming and Qing Dynasties
 - 4. Medieval Japan and Korea

IV. Industrialization and Nationalism

- A. Reforms, Revolutions, and War, 1800 – 1900
 - 1. Reforms in the British Empire
 - 2. Revolution and Change in France
 - 3. Independence in Latin America
 - 4. Expansion and War in the United States
- B. The Age of Imperialism, 1800 – 1920
 - 1. The British in India
 - 2. East Asia and the West
 - 3. The Scramble for Africa
 - 4. Imperialism in Latin America
- C. The Interwar Years, 1919 – 1939
 - 1. Unrest in Asia and Africa
 - 2. The Great Depression
 - 3. Japanese Imperialism
 - 4. Dictators in Europe

V. The Contemporary World

- A. Asia, 1945 – Present
 - 1. South Asia after Empire
 - 2. Independence Struggles in Southeast Asia
 - 3. China Changes Courses

4. The Rise of Pacific Rim Economies
- B. Africa and the Middle East. 1945 – Present
 1. African Independence Movements
 2. Post-Colonial Africa
 3. Nationalism in the Middle East and North Africa
 4. Conflicts in the Middle East
- C. Latin America, 1945 – Present
 1. Revolution and Intervention
 2. The Rise of Dictatorships
 3. Democratic and Economic Reforms
- D. Today's World
 1. Trade and Globalization
 2. Social Challenges
 3. Threats to World Security
 4. Environment and Technology