

LAKES REGION COMMUNITY COLLEGE
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379 Belmont Road  
Laconia, NH 03246 (603)  
524-3207

COURSE OUTLINE/SYLLABUS SHEET
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COURSE NO:	HIST 210L
COURSE TITLE:	World History I
CREDIT HOURS:	3 Semester Hours
SEMESTER:	Spring, 2022
CLASS TIMES:	Online
INSTRUCTOR:	E. Scott Cracraft
EMAIL ADDRESS:	ecracraft@ccsnh.edu
OFFICE LOCATION:	Room # 209 C.A.T Building
CONFERENCE HOURS:	Mondays, 10-3 p. m. Wednesdays, 11-1 p. m. Or, by appointment
PREREQUISITES:	None

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This survey course covers the historical development of various representative world cultures and civilization until approximately 1500. Areas covered include: human evolution and migration out of Africa, prehistoric human cultures, the Agricultural Revolutions in the Old and New Worlds, the major "Cradles of Civilization" Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, China, Meso-America, and the Andes, human technical developments, the develop of political and legal systems, Ancient Europe, Medieval Europe, contact between Asia and Europe, and other topics. Students will understand history as not only WHO, WHAT, WHERE, and WHEN but will also understand the "WHY."

**TEXT/INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT NEEDED:**

**Textbook:** We will be using a free Online Educational Resource (OER)

[World History: Cultures, States, and Societies to 1500 \(ung.edu\)](http://ung.edu)

**Other Books:** One “outside” book that is related to your final paper and can be used as one source for your paper. Your book and paper prospectus needs to be submitted and approved by the end of the fifth week.

**Other materials:** readings other than text, videos, internet resources, primary historical documents and other materials as determined by the instructor/

**GRADING:**

**Grades will be assigned based on a percentage of points earned:**

Weekly Assignments (13 of 14 at up to 25 pts. ea.):	325 points
Weekly Discussion Board Questions (14 of 15, up to 25 pts. ea.):	350 points
Book Review:	50 points
Research Prospectus:	25 points
Final Paper:	100 points
<b>Total:</b>	<b>950 points</b>

**Grading Scale:**

A 93-100	B 83-86	C 73-76	D 63-66
A- 90-92	B- 80-82	C- 70-72	D- 60-62
B+ 87-89	C+ 77-79	D+ 67-69	F 0-59

**NOTE:** Grades will be posted on an electronic grade book on Canvas which class members can access.

## **COURSE OUTCOMES/COMPETENCIES**

**At the conclusion of the course, the student will be able to:**

1. Recognize the cause and effect relationship of the historical process in the period in world history prior to 1500
2. Discuss the philosophy religion, art, science, literature, history, politics and military aspects of hist period from various representative world cultures and civilization.
3. Discuss and evaluate assigned readings.
4. Analyze the historical relationship between individuals and their societal framework.
5. To evaluate historical societies' treatment of those who deviate from the cultural norms.
6. Describe why different cultures have developed differently in world history and why some societies have been able to dominate others.
7. Research a fairly narrow historical topic and present that research in the form of a scholarly paper and/or presentation.

## **COLLEGE IN THE TIME OF COVID**

Although this is an online course, if you do come to the Lakes Region Community College campus, it is imperative that you follow the COVID health and safety measures in place. These sometimes change and to keep up to date, read the information on the College's website.

## **ACADEMIC HONESTY**

Class members are expected to adhere to the highest standards of *academic honesty*. Other people can take your house, your money, your car, or even your freedom. Time will certainly take your youth, health, and good looks. Only *you*, however, can give up your integrity. Examples of academic dishonesty include cheating on exams and other assignments as well as plagiarism, which means presenting someone else's work as your own.

Proven cases of academic dishonesty may result in an "F" for the course as well as other disciplinary action per NHCTC policy. When in doubt, the instructor reserves the right to investigate suspected cases of academic dishonesty, such as by ascertaining independently the student's knowledge of the material.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Students should be aware that since all work is submitted online, I will be using Turnitin, an app that shows the percentage of how much of what you write can be found elsewhere. A small percentage is to be expected but if it comes up with a high percentage of things that can be found elsewhere, that is not good and will be reflected in your grade for the assignment.

Even if I know where you got it and you cite it but quote it verbatim, it might not be true plagiarism but here is the problem: if you copy something directly from a source, all the instructor knows is that you are good at copying! He will not be sure that you really understand the question or the course material. Make sure you put your answers into your own words as much as possible so I will know you know what you are talking about!

## **ACADEMIC FREEDOM, COURTESY, AND RESPECT**

History is hardly “neutral” topic The social sciences are different from the “hard” or “natural” sciences. Opinions matter and everyone, including the instructor, has one! We will be having weekly discussions and debates in this course on discussion boards.

The instructor is dedicated to *academic freedom*. All opinions and viewpoints are welcome in this class. A class member will never be graded based on his or her opinion or ideology but only on performance on such measures as exams and other activities.

The only rule is that all members of the class should conduct themselves as mature members of an academic community. This means *listening* to the positions of people with whom one disagrees. It is always O.K. to express one’s one opinion but respect should be shown to those of opposing opinions, no matter how unpopular they may be at a given time. Debate and argument—even *intense* debate and argument—are welcome but disagreement should never descend to *personal* attacks.

After all, one can learn more about her or his own viewpoint when there is an understanding of, and even grudging respect for, the “other” point of view.

## **CANVAS AND COLLEGE EMAIL**

Since this is a completely online class, we will be doing everything on Canvas. That is where you will learn the material and submit your work. If you are not familiar with Canvas, I expect you to be before the class starts. If you have problems, there is a Canvas help desk or you can contact me. The Canvas site for this course will be available in advance of when the class actually starts and that will give you time to familiarize yourselves.

Since some of you may be at another college or taking this course in high school, you should contact someone at your school who is familiar with Canvas such as your IT person, a teacher, or a librarian. Not being functional in Canvas is not an excuse for not submitting your work on time! You should be checking the Canvas site for this course regularly

When I communicate with you, it will be through your COLLEGE email and not your personal email account like Gmail, Hotmail, or Yahoo. So, you should also be checking your college email regularly. Typically, when I have something to say to the entire class, I will post an announcement on Canvas and send it to everyone

## **CANVAS MODULES**

The Canvas site for this course will be divided into weekly Modules. To make it easy for you, everything will be accessible to you in the Canvas Modules. I will be posting your OER readings and other material for that week as well as the assignments and discussion board questions.

The assignments and discussion boards as well as the material for that week will be posted no later than the Monday beginning that week. Assignments and Discussions should be completed and submitted the following Sunday by 5 p. m.

I will likely be putting things up in the modules in advance so that even though something is not yet due, you can “study ahead.”

## **WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS**

There will be 14 assignments (almost every week) during the semester. These assignments can vary. They could be an essay, a couple of short essays, a test with short answer questions, definitions and I.D. tests, or a combination. They are due by 11: 59 on the Saturday ending the week in which they were assigned.

Each assignment will count for up to 25 points toward the final grade. Only the highest 3 scores will be counted BUT if you do all 14, your lowest score will be added as extra credit points!

## **WEEKLY DISCUSSION BOARDS**

Throughout the semester, there will be a discussion board every week where I will post one or more questions for discussion and debate. Each discussion board discussion is worth up to 25 points toward your final grade. Your lowest grade will be dropped but if you do them all, your lowest grade will count as extra credit! You should start posting no later than the Wednesday in which it is assigned and have your posts completed by 11:59 p . m. on the Saturday ending the week. Your grade will depend on how much you contribute to the discussion and interaction with your classmates. More information on the Discussion Boards will be provided on Canvas.

## **REVIEW BOOK AND FINAL PAPER PROSPECTUS**

By the end of the fifth week of class, you should submit a prospectus or proposal for your “outside” book to review and your final paper. Your book should be one you can use for your final paper. This assignment is worth up to 25 points toward your final grade.

## **BOOK REVIEW**

Each student will choose, in collaboration with me and with my approval, one monographic work (not a textbook) that deals with a topic in world history prior to 1500 C. E. It should also relate to your final paper topic and you can use it as ONE source for your paper. The instructor needs your possible books submitted by the end of the fifth week along with a prospectus for your final paper

Once your book has been approved, you will write a review of the book. Book reviews should be 2-3 double-spaced pages in . based on a #12 font. If you use a larger font, you must compensate in the page length. The book review should also be carefully *proofread* for errors in spelling, punctuation, grammar, usage, and style.

Your book review should contain the following: the title of the book, the name of the author, the place and date of publication (e.g. New York, 2015) a bit of information about the author (you may find this in the book itself or you may have to google it) and a brief synopsis of the book and its main points or theses. You should conclude the book review with a critical conclusion. Did the author make his or her point? What did you think of the book? Would you recommend it?

The book review is worth up to 50 points toward the final grade. More information on the book review will be provided on Canvas.

## **FINAL PAPER**

Each student will pick a topic of interest to the student that deals with World History prior to 1500 C.E. Your topic should be narrowed down. You must submit a prospectus for this by the end of the fifth week. This so I can help you narrow down your topic and otherwise help you.

You need to use at least five sources and these sources need to be CITED using the MLA or Chicago format. It should also include an ANNOTATED bibliography or works-cited page. The book you read for review should relate to your topic and can be used as ONE source.

Your paper should be 4-5 double-spaced pages in length (not counting any cover or works-cited pages). It should be carefully proofread for errors in spelling, punctuation, grammar, usage and style. The final paper is worth up to 100 points toward the final grade. More information on the Final paper will be provided on Canvas.

## **EXTRA CREDIT**

The instructor *may* provide opportunities for extra credit. This is at the sole discretion of the instructor. It should be remembered that any extra credit offered will not be “substitute” credit. In other words, it will only be offered to all members of the class and not just to individual students who have done poorly on other assignments and exams.

## **DUE DATES/MAKEUP AND LATE WORK**

Students are expected to turn in their work on time. All work should be submitted by 11:59 p. m. on the Saturday ending the week in which it was assigned. The instructor will consider make up and late work for good reasons and on a case-by-case basis. It is up to YOU to contact the instructor if this is the case. In non-emergency situations, you should contact the instructor by email BEFORE the deadline and in emergency situations, as soon as possible. If you do not submit the work on time and have not contacted the instructor, you will get a “zero” on the assignment.

## **NEED HELP?**

Every student sometimes needs additional help. That is part of the instructor’s job. Student’s experiencing difficulty with the course material or any other difficulties or issues should contact the instructor as soon as possible.

If the student has an issue, problem, question. or needs help the instructor cannot help him or her with, he will do his best to refer the student to resources that can help!

The instructor is not a psychic or a mind reader. He does not know if a student is having difficulty unless the student makes him aware!

## **DEPARTMENT CHAIR INFORMATION:**

It is my hope that this course meets your every expectation as a challenging, engaging, and respectful learning experience. If you find this not to be the case, I would welcome the opportunity to address your concerns. This is not only a courtesy, it is a matter of process and procedure. Should be fail to arrive at a mutually satisfactory understanding, you should take the matter to my immediate supervisor, Professor Stephen Freeborn, [sfreeborn@ccsnh.edu](mailto:sfreeborn@ccsnh.edu).

<b>Wk. Ending</b>	<b>Tentative Topics</b>	<b>OER Readings</b>
Jan 22	Introductions; Read Syllabus and Other Posted Materials: What is history?: Why do Some Cultures "Advance" Faster than Others?	
Jan 29	"History" and "Prehistory": "Out of Africa" and Human Migration; The Neolithic Agricultural Revolution; Four Old World "Cradles of Civilization"	Ch. 1
Feb 5	Ancient Civilizations of the Middle East; Mesopotamian Civilizations, The Israelites	Ch. 2
Feb 12	Civilizations of the Mediterranean and North Africa; Ancient Egypt; The Minoan Civilization	Ch. 2
Feb 19	Bronze Age Cultures on "The Fringes of Civilization": "Old Europeans"; The Indo-Europeans; Ancient and Early Medieval India; The "Bronze Age Collapse"; <b>Review Book and Final Paper Prospectus Due</b>	Ch. 2
Feb 26	Ancient China and East Asia Through the Ming Dynasty	Ch. 4
Mar 5	Ancient Greek History; Hellenization and Hellenic Culture	Ch. 5
Mar 12	Roman and Greco-Roman Civilization	Ch. 6
Mar 19	<b>Happy Spring Break! No Work!</b>	
Mar 26	Early Medieval Europe and the Byzantine Empire	Ch. 7
Apr 2	The Rise of Islamic Civilization	Ch. 8
Apr 9	African History Until 1500 C. E.	Ch. 9
Apr 16	The Americas; Mesoamerican Civilizations; Andean Civilizations in South America	Ch. 10
Apr 23	Central Asia: <b>Book Review Due</b>	Ch. 11
Apr 30	Western Europe and the Byzantine Empire, 1000-1500 C.E.	Ch. 12
May 7	Wrap Up; <b>Final Papers Due</b>	

