HIS 101  World Civilization I  3 credits

I. Course Description:
Offers an overview of world civilization from the beginning of the historical record to 1600 CE. Covers Europe, Near East, China, Japan, and Africa, as well as pre- and post-contact Americas.

II. Prerequisite:
None

III. Rationale for Course Level:
This is a beginning level history course offering historical perspectives on events, people, places, and cultures to broaden student knowledge of world history and their ability to interpret the contemporary world.

IV. Suggested:

V. Other Requirements and/or Materials for the Course:

VI. Student Learning Course Objectives:
- Demonstrate ability to write in more complex academic genres, and apply proper writing and citation formatting.
- Cultivate and retain comprehension of both the physical and cultural history of the world from the beginning of the historical record to 1600.
- Demonstrate the ability to knowledgably participate in academic discussion.
- Students will evaluate a broad spectrum of political and economic systems, the rise and fall of various empires in history, as well as migrations of various peoples.

VII. Suggested Course Outline:
The sample course syllabus below is a proposed method of teaching the course. However, each instructor may select assignments and coursework to meet the above stated learning outcomes:

Week 1:
Syllabus, Course Overview, & The Earliest Beginnings (Chapter 1: pp.3-26)

Week 2:
Mesopotamian Civilization (Chapter 2: pp.27-50) (Topics Due for Research Paper)

Week 3:
Ancient Egypt (Chapter 3: pp.51-71) & The Rest of Africa (Chapter 11: pp.343-351; Chami Chapter 3: pp.22-29)

Week 4:
Ancient India to Vedic to Magadha (Chapter 5, pp.99-124) and Statecraft and Sexuality in Early India (Mehta, Chapter 1: pp.1-15; Kama Sutra Chapter 3-5: pp.45-85) (Source Lists for Research Paper Due)

Week 5:
The Greeks to Alexander the Great (Chapter 4: pp.88-97; Chapter 7: pp.155-173) and The Persian (Achaemenid) Empire (Chapter 8: pp.194-199)
Week 6:
The Rise of Rome (Chapter 9: pp.219-255) and The Fall of Rome (Chapter 10: pp.257-289)
Week 7:
Xia Dynasty to the Hundred Schools of Thought (Chapter 6, pp.125-147) and The Qin to the Tang
(Chapter 11: pp.306-333)
Week 8:
Peopling of the Americas and North America (Indian Country Today: “Bering Strait Theory Pt.1 through Pt.6” & “How Linguists are Pulling Apart the Bering Strait Theory”) and Early Mesoamerica and South America (“The Yaya-Mama Religious Tradition as an Antecedent of Tiwanaku”)
Week 9:
Review & Midterm
Week 10:
Early Islam (Sicker, Chapter 1 & 2: pp.7-28) and the Expansion to the Ottoman Empire (Chapter 12: pp.384-392). (Research Paper Rough Draft Due)
Week 11:
Early Russia (Riasanovsky: pp.23-51) and (Riasanovsky: pp.77-87 & 143-156)
Week 12:
Mongol Empire and China: Song to Ming (Chapter 16: pp.552-574)
Week 13:
Japan (Chapter 11: pp.333-343; Chapter 16: pp.574-582) and Medieval Africa and Mali (Chapter 17: pp.598-618)
Week 14:
Medieval Europe (Chapter 13: pp.407-444) and the European Renaissance (Chapter 18: pp.625-665)
Week 15:
The Americas and Contact (Chapter 17: pp.585-598) and Research Paper Final Due and Presentations.
Week 16:
Exam Week

VIII.  Suggested Course Evaluation:
Based on a total score of 1,000 points
- Exams (Midterm and Final): 400 points
- Research Paper: 400 points
- Reading Response Papers: 100 points
- Attendance and Participation: 100 points

Grading Scale:
Grades will be given as letter grades. Letter grades and numerical equivalents are given below.

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<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>95-100%</td>
<td>A</td>
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<td>90-94%</td>
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<td>86-89%</td>
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<td>83-85%</td>
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Components of Student Evaluation
Your grade will be the result of your performance in the following areas:

Exams: 40%
In this course, reading is one of the most important elements. While we will discuss chapter/article topics in class, I still expect you to have a general knowledge of the topic being discussed each class period. We will have 2 exams throughout the semester, each covering approximately 8 chapters in the course textbook. Exams will account for 40% of your final grade. If you keep up with the reading, you should have no issues. Please keep in mind that if you miss an exam due to an unexcused absence, there will be no make-ups offered, also, missing an exam will affect your attendance and participation grade. If you are unable to attend a class period for a valid reason, please let me know ahead of time.

Research Paper: 40%
Students will be required to research and write a historical paper on a topic of their own choosing, related to the course curriculum, and approved by the instructor. Students will be encouraged to pursue a research topic that interests them. The final research paper will be 8-10 pages in length and must be cited using Chicago style format. During week 15 of the semester, students will be required to present their work to the class via a PowerPoint (or comparable software) presentation. Grading on the overall project will be done throughout the semester at various points of the research/writing process.

**Reading Responses: 10%**
During each half of the semester, students will be required to write two response papers to specific assigned readings (two papers prior to the midterm and two paper following; each being worth 25 points). Papers must be a minimum of 500 words and turned in on the due date of the assigned reading. Reading response papers will be assigned to the students in a fair and random manner.

**Attendance and Participation: 10%**
This course is centered primarily on lecture and discussion. Therefore, preparation, participation and attendance are key requirements. Students will be allowed 3 absences without penalty. Any absence beyond the allotted 3 will forfeit the entire 10% from the final grade. So please, let me know ahead of time if you have a legitimate reason for absence.

**IX. Bibliography:**
Calloway, Colin G. *First Peoples: A Documentary of American Indian History* (Bedford/St. Martin’s, 1999).
Chami, Felix A. *The Unity of African History: 3,000 BC to AD 500* (E&D Limited, 2006).
Moseley, Michael E. *The Incas and Their Ancestors: the Archeology of Peru* (Thames and Hudson Ltd., 2001).
Zenkovsky, Sergei A. ed. *Medieval Russia’s Epics, Chronicles, and Tales*.

Syllabus Prepared By:

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