

## HISTORY 1111-20 - A HISTORY OF THE WORLD TO ABOUT 1500



**Empress Theodora and her court, Basilica San Vitale, Ravenna (ca. 547 CE) (Wikipedia Commons)**

**Fall Semester 2019  
MW 3:30-4:45  
Social Science Building 2035**

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[pdover@kennesaw.edu](mailto:pdover@kennesaw.edu) (please communicate with the instructor using the D2L mail system for questions regarding class content and conduct). Please note that I will only exchange emails with addresses with the students.kennesaw.edu suffix, and not with private email addresses.**

**Office Hours: MW 9-11, 1:15-3:30, and by appointment**

**PLEASE READ THIS SYLLABUS CAREFULLY, AS YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ENTIRETY OF ITS CONTENTS.**

**Description from Course Catalog**

This course is a survey of world history to early modern times. The course examines the political, economic, social, and cultural history of the world with a focus on connections and interactions.

## **Overview**

This course offers a basic introduction to the history of humankind until about the year 1500. It can act only as an overview of human history, and is designed to be general in its coverage, but with detailed examination of particular episodes and subjects that highlight particularly interesting or provocative questions for consideration. While there are countless ways of approaching the history of the world, the dual themes of this course are 1) how humankind's development has been shaped by its interface as a species with its material surroundings and 2) what happens when the various world cultures intersect and how they end up influencing each other. My hope is that along the way, we can see through to enjoying ourselves as fellow time travelers, as we speed through space and time.

It is the view of Kennesaw State University (and of this instructor) that an educated person should be acquainted with the discipline of history and should have a general familiarity of the outlines of the world's past. This is why this course has been included in the General Education curriculum. The stated, basic objectives of the Department of History for History 1111 are as follows:

1. Acquaint the student with the broad sweep of world history from the Neolithic period to ca. 1700.
2. Introduce the student to the nature and sources of historical knowledge.
3. Introduce the student to diverse cultural traditions and norms that have developed in different civilizations and different eras.
4. Familiarize the student with geographical knowledge relevant to world history and contemporary affairs.
5. Contribute to developing the student's ability to write clear, coherent prose.

## **Texts**

1. *The Letters of Abelard and Heloise* (Penguin Random House, ISBN 9780140448993)
2. *Ramayana* (Penguin Random House, ISBN 9780143039679)
3. Hansen and Curtis, *Voyages in World History in Mindtap* (Cengage, 9781305673083). **NB This is a digital textbook.** All students must use the digital version, as it is linked directly to the D2L site for this

course, and you are required to take a series of reading quizzes that appear on the digital platform. Hard copies are not an acceptable option. Students purchase an access code to use the textbook for the duration of the semester.

### **D2L - Brightspace**

This course is supported by DESIRE2LEARN Brightspace (hereafter D2L), and students should consult the course's D2L site regularly. This syllabus is available at the course's site, as are outlines for lectures, additional readings and assignment guidelines. Please access the material there and print it out for your own use. D2L also host dropboxes at which you will hand in all of your written assignments. I will also post your grades on D2L. From time to time, I will post additional materials of interest to the class on the site. I will announce when we do this in class, but please also check the class D2L site regularly. If you are not familiar with the D2L course management program, please spend some time getting to know it.

D2L may be accessed at <http://d2l.kennesaw.edu/>

### **Required Work**

- 2 in-class exams, on September 25 and November 4 (30%)
- Final exam on December 11 (20%)
- 2 one-page essay assignments on *Ramayana* and *The Letters of Abelard and Heloise*, due September 23 and November 22 (20%)
- Quizzes on *Ramayana* and *Abelard and Heloise* (5%)
- All of the "Check Your Understanding" quizzes and "Test Yourself" assessments in the chapters assigned in the *Voyages in World History* textbook (25%). You take these quizzes as you read, and your grade immediately populates the D2L gradebook.

Other considerations:

- I do not give extra credit assignments
- All written assignments must be submitted in the D2L-BS dropbox. An assignment is not considered turned in until this has been done. All files submitted should be in Word, in 12-pt font and double spaced, with your name clearly indicated.
- Assignments are due on the day indicated in this syllabus. Late work will be penalized one full grade for each class day it is late. Exceptions will be made only with a signed note from a physician or lawyer and these must be submitted within one week of the missed due date. Work that is more than one week late will not be accepted for credit, nor will a note of excuse be accepted after more than a week.
- Missed exams and assignments will be scored as a '0'.

- Grading scale:
 

90-100	A
80.89	B
70.79	C
60.69	D
<60	F
- Grade appeals must be submitted to me in writing and within two weeks of receiving the grade.
- Please read carefully the information on academic integrity included in this syllabus

### **Attendance**

Attendance is essential for success in this course. All the material that we discuss in class meetings will be tested. Should you miss class, you remain responsible for all handouts, notes and announcements about schedules and assignments. I am contractually bound by the federal government (for real) to keep track of who does and does not come to class. While I do not particularly like taking attendance, I am required to do so, and will circulate a sign-in sheet. You are permitted 8 absences in the course of the semester (that's nearly 3 weeks of classes): I do not distinguish between excused and unexcused absences. I will deduct 5% from your final calculated grade for each absence beyond 6. Please note that this policy is non-negotiable. In the case of exams, only documented medical or legal absences will be excused - car trouble, romantic entanglements and working an extra shift at your job don't count, so don't ask.

Please be on time to class - if you are more than 15 minutes late, you will be considered absent. In his autobiography, Nelson Mandela wrote that he always sought to be on time, as tardiness was indicative of a lack of respect for the other individual - words to live by. Nelson Mandela, as far as I know, said nothing about leaving class to go to the bathroom or talk on one's cellphone. But don't do that either - take care of it before class.

### **Leaving the Classroom**

This is a 75-minute class period - every healthy adult should be able to sit in one place for 75 minutes. If you leave the room during the class period, do not return to the room. Wait until the class is dismissed. Go to the bathroom before class. If you have a medical condition that requires that you leave the room, please let me know, and sit close to the door.

### **Electronic Devices in Class:**

Tape recording of class sessions is permitted, but beepers and cell phones are to be turned off in class. If such devices are needed for emergency use,

please let the instructors know before class and set them to silent or pulse. If your cell phone rings or beeps during class, you will be asked to leave. In the course of the semester, I will give you one warning regarding the unauthorized use of smart devices. The second time you will be asked to leave for the remainder of the class period.

You may use laptop computers during class time, but under no circumstances use them to send e-mail, update your Facebook status, check your fantasy team, gamble, or try your luck with Match.com. If I find you using them for any non-scholarly purposes, or if you are an exceptionally loud typist, I reserve the right to rescind your laptop privileges.

### Class schedule

DATE	SUBJECT	READING/ONLINE WORK	WORK DUE
M, Aug 19	The Past, History & Historians		
W, Aug 21	Earth: the First 4.5395 Billion Years		
M, Aug 26	The Original Affluent Society?	<i>Voyages</i> , Chapter 1: “The Peopling of the World”	Textbook quizzes (close Sep 6)
W, Aug 28	Welcome to the Holocene		
M, Sep 2	<b>LABOR DAY</b>	<b>NO CLASS</b>	
W, Sep 4	Cities, Civilization, & Culture	<i>Voyages</i> , Chapter 2: “The First Complex Societies”	Textbook quizzes (close Sep 11)
M, Sep 9	The Importance of Being Written		
W, Sep 11	Empires and Hierarchies	<i>Voyages</i> , Chapter 3: “Ancient India and the Rise of Buddhism”	Textbook quizzes (close Sep 20)
M, Sep 16	Dharma & the <i>Ramayana</i>	<i>Ramayana</i> , pp. 1-89	Reading quiz
W, Sep 18	<i>Ramayana</i>	<i>Ramayana</i> , pp. 90-158	Reading quiz
M, Sep 23	The Axial Age I		1-page essay on <i>Ramayana</i> due
W, Sep 25	<b>EXAM #1</b>		
M, Sep 30	The Axial Age II	<i>Voyages</i> , Chapter 4: “Blueprint for Empire: China”	Textbook quizzes (close Oct 7)
W, Oct 2	The Making of China		

M, Oct 7	Pre-Columbian America	<i>Voyages</i> , Chapter 5: “The Americas and the Islands of the Pacific”	Textbook quizzes (close Oct 14)
W, Oct 9	Monotheism		<b>Last day to withdraw without academic penalty</b>
M, Oct 14	Life in the Greek Polis	<i>Voyages</i> , Chapter 6: “New Empires in Persia and Greece”	Textbook quizzes (close Oct 21) <b>CHANGE DATE</b>
W, Oct 16	When in Rome		
M, Oct 21	Christ and Christianities	<i>Voyages</i> , Chapter 7: “The Roman Empire and the Rise of Christianity”	Textbook quizzes (close Oct 28) <b>CHANGE DATE</b>
W, Oct 23	Migration and the Fate of Empires		
M, Oct 28	The Chinese Accomplishment	<i>Voyages</i> , Chapter 8: “Hindu and Buddhist States” and Chapter 12: “China’s Commercial Revolution”	Textbook quizzes (close Nov 4)
W, Oct 30	<b>NO CLASS</b>		
M, Nov 4	<b>EXAM #2</b>		
W, Nov 6	The Seal of the Prophet	<i>Voyages</i> , Chapter 9: “Islamic Empires of Western Asia”	Textbook quizzes (close Nov 13)
M, Nov 11	A New Kind of Society: Medieval Europe	<i>Voyages</i> , Chapter 10: “The Multiple Centers of Europe”	Textbook quizzes (close Nov 18)
W, Nov 13	Europe’s Vast Protection Racket	<i>Voyages</i> , Chapter 13: “Europe’s Commercial Revolution”	Textbook quizzes (close Nov 22)
M, Nov 19	What Cathedrals Tell Us; Abelard and Heloise	<i>The Letters of Abelard and Heloise</i> , 1-43	Reading Quiz
W, Nov 20	Abelard and Heloise	<i>The Letters of Abelard and Heloise</i> , 47-89	Reading Quiz
	<b>THANKSGIVING</b>	<b>BREAK</b>	
M, Dec 2	Africa and the Indian Ocean System	<i>Voyages</i> , Chapter 11: “Expanding Trade Networks”	1-page essay on <i>The Letters of Abelard and Heloise</i> Textbook quizzes (close Dec 9) <b>Last day to withdraw with a WF</b>
W, Dec 4	The Mongols	<i>Voyages</i> , Chapter 14: “The Mongols”	Textbook quizzes (close Dec 11)
M, Dec 9	The World the		



	Mongols Made		
W, Dec 16	<b>FINAL EXAM @3:30PM</b>		

### Student Services

KSU provides a variety of services to foster and support student success. To learn more, click here: <http://studentsuccess.kennesaw.edu/>

The resource guide for KSU students undertaking on-line learning can be found here: [http://learnonline.kennesaw.edu/how-it-works/online\\_student\\_resource\\_guide.php](http://learnonline.kennesaw.edu/how-it-works/online_student_resource_guide.php)

**Academic Integrity Statement** Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section 5. C of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the university’s policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to university materials, misrepresentation/falsification of university records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious/intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the Department of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity (SCAI), which includes either an “informal” resolution by a faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct’s minimum one semester suspension requirement. See also <https://web.kennesaw.edu/scai/content/ksu-student-code-conduct>.

I take instances of plagiarism very seriously. If I have questions about the integrity of your work, I will ask to meet with you. If outstanding questions remain, I will adhere to the policies above. **Please note: the penalty for cheating and/or plagiarism in this course is a failing grade for the semester. I will report all incidents of plagiarism to the Office of Student Affairs, and the incident will become part of your official record. Cheating is simply not worth it - it jeopardizes your good name and academic standing, is an insult to me, and is not fair to your classmates who do not cheat.**

### **ADA Compliance:**

Students with qualifying disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act who require “reasonable accommodation(s)” to complete the course may request those from Department of Student Success Services. Students requiring such accommodations are required to work with the University’s Department of Student Success Services rather than engaging in this discussion with individual faculty members or academic departments. If, after reviewing the course syllabus, a student anticipates or should have

anticipated a need for accommodation, he or she must submit documentation requesting an accommodation and permitting time for a determination prior to submitting assignments or taking course quizzes or exams. Students may not request retroactive accommodation for needs that were or should have been foreseeable. Students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations. For more information please visit their website, [sss.kennesaw.edu/sds](http://sss.kennesaw.edu/sds).

Contact information is as follows:

SDS Email: [sds@kennesaw.edu](mailto:sds@kennesaw.edu)

Primary number for Kennesaw campus: [470-578-2666](tel:470-578-2666)

Primary number for Marietta campus: [678-915-7244](tel:678-915-7244)