Student Learning Objectives

Essential
○ Students will gain a basic understanding of the Western world (especially Europe), including factual knowledge, methods, principles, generalizations, and theories.

  Students will be expected to pay attention in class, take good notes in class and while reading, and retain this information.

○ Students will develop knowledge and understanding of diverse perspectives, global awareness, and other Western cultures

  Students will be expected to begin to analyze historical events and processes.

○ Students will gain a broader understanding and appreciation of Western (especially European) intellectual and cultural activity, including (but not limited to) music, science, art, and literature.

○ Students will develop skills in expressing themselves orally or in writing.

  Students will be expected to achieve a high degree of written fluency during the course of the semester.

Required Reading

I may recommend further reading (as indicated on your class schedule) but this will be your starting point for all class preparation. All assigned readings must be completed before each corresponding class.


These will be available at the campus bookstore and can also be bought online (Amazon, AbeBooks, etc.).
Grade Information

Grades and Definitions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>(90%-100%)</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>Exceptional work, excellent analysis and fluent writing skills, excellent knowledge of facts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+, B</td>
<td>(80%-89%)</td>
<td>Very good</td>
<td>Very good analysis but less fluid writing skills etc., solid grasp of facts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+, C</td>
<td>(70%-79%)</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Good analysis and standard writing skills, solid knowledge of facts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+, D</td>
<td>(60%-69%)</td>
<td>Satisfactory</td>
<td>Some issues with analysis and writing, basic knowledge of facts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt;60%</td>
<td>Not satisfactory</td>
<td>Issues with analysis and written expression, lack of factual knowledge</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Composition of Total Grade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Read below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>September 19th, October 5th, October 26th, November 16th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper Thesis, Plan and Bibliography</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>October 10th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>November 21st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>TBC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mid-term grades will be calculated based on the results of the first two quizzes and the paper prep assignment.

Course Requirements and Policies

In class
- Please be respectful. Be attentive to me and to your classmates during lectures and class discussions. Do not interrupt either myself or other students.
- Do not arrive late or leave early. Students are expected to be seated by the time class is scheduled to begin. **Students who arrive late will be penalized 0.5% for each incident. Students who arrive over 15 minutes late will be marked as absent.**
- **Switch off** your phones. If you are found using your phone during class for any reason, **you lose 1% from your participation grade for each incident.**
- Students should not consume any tobacco products (including dipping, chewing, or snuff) or chew gum during class.
- Students should not wear hats or hoods while taking tests or exams unless for specified religious or cultural reasons.
- **Take notes.** Slides will be posted online after class but will not be detailed.
- Bathroom breaks are not permitted except in cases of illness. As this class lasts for 1 hour and 15 minutes, a short break will be given in the middle of class.
○ I would advise you to bring your textbook with you to class. If I post additional material online, please print it out and bring it to class as well.
○ Taking notes on a laptop computer or other electronic devices will only be permitted in certain circumstances. **Students must ask for permission before doing so.** Students must not distract other students or use them to access non-class related material.
○ If you are unable to attend class, please contact me at sarah.lynch@angelo.edu as far in advance as possible.

**Assignments**

**Participation (10%)**
You must come to class. You will miss invaluable information and discussions if you miss class. You must get involved in these discussions. Demonstrating that you understand the concepts at hand and posing well-considered questions all count towards a good participation mark. **All students must visit my office hour during the first six weeks of the semester** with prepared questions on the course material in order to receive a full participation grade. This will enable all students to speak to me on a one-on-one basis.

- **Penalties for unexcused absences**
  - < 2 unexcused absences during the semester – no penalty
  - > 2 absences during the semester – you will lose 1% for each unexcused absence
  - 4 or more unexcused absences during the semester – you will not receive any participation grade and further disciplinary actions may be taken, up to and including being removed from the class.

Students should avoid arranging vacations etc. during the semester.

**Quizzes (40%)**
There will be four quizzes during the class, **September 19th, October 5th, October 26th, and November 16th.** Each is worth 10% and will comprise of mainly multiple-choice questions and short-answer essays. They will be twenty minutes in duration. **There will be no make-up quizzes.**

**Paper-Prep Assignment- Research Paper Thesis, Plan, and Bibliography (10%)**
In preparation for your Research Paper, you must complete this assignment and submit it at the beginning of class on **October 10th.** You must write a half-page thesis or introduction on the paper topic that you have been assignment (see below), demonstrating how you are going to approach your topic and briefly discussing the key points that you are going to cover in the body of your paper. You must also construct a plan for the paper, very briefly outlining what you will cover in each paragraph of the paper (4-6 paragraphs, 1.5 spacing, Times New Roman, 12 point font). Finally, you must research what books and articles you will use for your paper (no less than 4 sources) and assemble that information in a bibliography. You must follow the Chicago Rules of Style. The vast majority of websites are not acceptable references for a college-level research paper. If you wish to use a website in your bibliography, you must clear it with me in advance.

This assignment will be graded on clarity of writing and argument, the inclusion of appropriate points in your plan, and in the type and range of material in your bibliography.
Research Paper (20%)
Each student must submit a research paper at the beginning of class on November 21st. This should be 4-6 pages in length (1.5 spacing only, Times New Roman, 12 point font). Each student will be assigned one of the following topics. The Chicago Rules of Style must be followed. **Please note: I do not read or comment upon rough drafts.**
- Which factors led to the development of the first cities in the Near East?
- Why were the campaigns of Alexander the Great so successful?
- Which factors resulted in the end of the Roman Empire?
- In which ways did the Church or European monarchies reorganize and reform during the tenth and eleventh centuries?
- Which issues and events eventually lead to the First Crusade (1095-1099)?
- Discuss the immediate and long-term effects of the Black Death (1347-1349).
- Compare the government and economies of two European states at the end of the Middle Ages.

Papers will be graded on quality of argument and analysis (backed up by appropriate evidence), as well as clarity and correctness of writing. Students will lose marks for poor grammar, informal writing, and careless composition.

Final Exam (20%)
Students will be required to complete a number of multiple-choice questions and short essays on topics covered throughout the semester. This exam will be discussed in full in the last class of the semester.

Grading, Extensions, and Late Assignments

- You must complete the paper-prep assignment, research paper, and the final exam in order to pass the course. If you do not complete one of these components, you will automatically receive an ‘F’ grade.
- Completed, printed papers should be handed to me at the beginning of class on the due date. Electronic copies of the same must be uploaded to Turnitin before the beginning of class on the due date.
- Late papers will lose 5% for each calendar day that they are late, beginning 15 minutes after the beginning of class on the due date.
- These penalties will be applied based on when I receive the paper. (For example, if a paper is placed into my mailbox or under my office door on a Friday, and I do not receive it until the following Monday, it will be calculated as if you submitted it on the Monday (-20%).
- All papers slipped under my office door or put in my mailbox after the class in which they were supposed to be handed it will be considered late.
- **There will be no make-up exams, nor will I authorize extension of due date for the paper, unless approved by me and arranged in advance.**
- In the event of a true problem or emergency, come to my office hour or send me an email. I may also be reached by telephone at 325-942-2202.
- Student athletes must provide me with a signed letter and schedule from the athletics department if their games might interfere with their attendance at class or at quizzes, or with the completion of assignments. This must be handed to me at the beginning of the semester or as
soon as the schedule is finalized. Failure to do so will be reflected in students’ participation grades.

**Academic Integrity**

**Plagiarism** is a form of academic misconduct that is defined as the theft of ideas or information from a source without giving proper credit. Plagiarism is a serious offense that could result in failure of the course, among other penalties. Submit only original work, complete with proper citations. **There is no excuse for plagiarism. It is your responsibility to plan your semester and time effectively to avoid putting yourself in a situation where you might turn to plagiarism.** A digital plagiarism detection program (such as Turnitin) will be used to check your work.

In addition, academic misconduct is not limited to plagiarism. It also includes forgery, cheating, and disruptive or disrespectful behavior. Although discussing your work with classmates may be helpful, you must also be aware of “unauthorized collaboration” as a form of academic misconduct.

Academic integrity is essential to the discipline of history. Historians are in a constant conversation with each other, building upon the work of others, while contributing their own original research. Precise and rigorous citation of documents and secondary sources is a necessity to provide a road-map for future historians. Citing sources will be discussed in class. If you are unsure about a citation, contact me with your question.

**Plagiarism cases will result in 0% on an assignment for the first offense and a failing grade in the entire class for all subsequent offenses, including those committed in other classes taken with the same professor.**

The ASU Student Handbook has additional information relating to the Honor Code. You can find a copy of the handbook online at the ASU website (under “Current Students” and “University Publications”) or at the Student Life Office (located in the University Center). You may view the university’s honor code at the following website:


**Special Accommodations**

Students with disabilities which may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office (Room 112 University Center; 325-942-2191 or Student.Life@angelo.edu) in order to request such accommodations prior to any accommodations being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request within the first week of the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Unless you arrange these accommodations, I cannot make any special accommodations, including extensions of due dates, make-up assignments, or extended exam periods.

**Religious Holy Days**

Students who intend to be absent from class to observe a religious holy day (as defined in ASU OP 10.19) must tell me 48 hours prior to the absence and make up any scheduled assignments within an appropriate timeframe that I determine. While the absence will not be penalized,
failure to complete the make-up assignment satisfactorily and within the required timeframe will result in penalties consistent with other absences and assignments.

University Policies
For additional general university policies, consult the university student handbook. Here is a handbook link for you: http://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/

Severe Weather or Other Emergencies
If class is cancelled because of severe weather or other emergencies, any test, quiz, or assignment due that day will move to the next day of class. However, always double-check Blackboard and email me or check online to ensure that you do not miss any due dates or quizzes.

I reserve the right to make changes to the syllabus, course requirements, or policies at any point during this semester.
**Course Schedule**

Additional documents may be added to the schedule. **Readings for each class must be completed before the class in question.** This schedule is subject to change.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quizzes &amp; Exams</th>
<th>Papers Due</th>
<th>Holidays</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Week 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics &amp; Assignments</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 8/29/2017</td>
<td>Introduction/ Geographical &amp; Topographical Introduction to the Pre-Modern West</td>
<td>No readings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 8/31/2017</td>
<td>What is Civilization? The Neolithic Revolution and the First Civilizations</td>
<td>Backman, pp. 3–16, 33–40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Week 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics &amp; Assignments</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 9/5/2017</td>
<td>Ancient Empires</td>
<td>Backman, pp. 16–20, 33–40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 9/7/2017</td>
<td>Ancient Egypt</td>
<td>Backman, pp. 20–30, 40–56</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Week 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics &amp; Assignments</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 9/14/2017</td>
<td>Classical Greece/ The Persian &amp; Peloponnesian Wars</td>
<td>Backman, pp. 125–128, pp. 131–147</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Week 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics &amp; Assignments</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 9/19/2017</td>
<td>Quiz 1/ Alexander the Great &amp; the Hellenistic World</td>
<td>Backman, pp. 158–163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 9/21/2017</td>
<td>The Rise of Rome/ The Roman Empire</td>
<td>Backman, pp. 171–202</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Week 5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics &amp; Assignments</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Tuesday 9/26/2017 | Judaism & Christianity | Backman, pp. 205–225  
*Optional: Backman, pp. 69–94*           |
| Thursday 9/28/2017 | The Late Empire/ The Barbarians and their Successor States | Backman, pp. 237–252, pp. 269–277 |

### Week 6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics &amp; Assignments</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 10/5/2017</td>
<td>Quiz 2/ The Byzantine Empire and Sassanid Persia</td>
<td>Backman, pp. 247–252</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Week 7 | Tuesday 10/10/2017 | **Paper Prep Assignment**  
DUE TODAY  
|--------|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|        | Thursday 10/12/2017 | The Vikings/ Problems of the Ninth & Tenth Centuries | Backman, pp. 294–296  
*Online: The Worlds of Medieval Europe* |
| Week 8 | Tuesday 10/17/2017 | Reform & Renewal in Church & State | Backman, pp. 310–313  
*Online: The Worlds of Medieval Europe* |
|        | Thursday 10/19/2017 | Feudalism | Backman, pp. 304–307 |
| Week 9 | Tuesday 10/24/2017 | The Crusades | Backman, pp. 313–317 |
|        | Thursday 10/26/2017 | Quiz 3/ The Twelfth-Century Renaissance | Backman, pp. 331–334 |
| Week 10 | Tuesday 10/31/2017 | Heresy in the Twelfth and Thirteenth Centuries | *Online: The Worlds of Medieval Europe*  
*Online: The Conversion of Peter Waldo* |
| Week 11 | Tuesday 11/7/2017 | The Mongols in Europe/ Jews, Muslims, and Pagans in Medieval Europe | Backman, pp. 352–360 |
*Online: The Worlds of Medieval Europe* |
| Week 12 | Tuesday 11/14/2017 | War & Social Unrest | Backman, pp. 342–348 |
|        | Thursday 11/16/2017 | Quiz 4/ Religion in Later Medieval Europe | *Online: The Worlds of Medieval Europe* |
| Week 13 | Tuesday 11/21/2017 | **Research Paper**  
DUE TODAY  
The Renaissance | Backman, pp. 373–388 |
<p>|        | Thursday 11/23/2017 | Thanksgiving Break | |
| Week 14 | Tuesday 11/28/2017 | The State at the End of the Middle Ages | Backman, pp. 340–342 |
|        | Thursday 11/30/2017 | The Rise of the Ottomans | Backman, pp. 364–368 |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 15</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 12/5/2017</td>
<td>Review</td>
<td>No reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 12/7/2017</td>
<td>Study Day</td>
<td>No classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 16</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Some Things to Remember when Writing

- Always write in complete sentences. Do not write in fragments.
- Always check your spelling and grammar. You will be penalized for careless grammar and spelling. DO NOT USE “TEXT SPEAK”.
- Use the Chicago Manual of Style in order to reference and draw up a bibliography. A Chicago style cheat-sheet will be made available on Blackboard.
- Use footnotes, not endnotes. While the Chicago style allows for endnotes, footnotes are a far more convenient way to reference.
- Write in a formal style. Do not use abbreviation such as “they’re”, “he’d”, “she’ll” – instead use “they are”, “he had”, “she will”.
- Always include a bibliography at the end of your paper with a list of the books, articles etc. that you used in your paper-prep assignment and your research paper. A sample bibliography will be posted on Blackboard.
- Always have an introduction and conclusion and put your points into separate paragraphs. Use your introduction to state what you are going to write in the paper and your conclusion to sum up what you written during the paper.
- Remember to use evidence to back-up what you write in your research paper.
- Plagiarism is completely unacceptable and will be treated with the utmost seriousness. Any student who plagiarizes will be reported to the college authorities.

What is a bibliography?

This is a list of books, articles etc. that you have used to write your paper.
This will be an extra page at the end of your paper. For example, if your paper is five pages long, your bibliography must be on a sixth page attached to the paper itself.
The information on books and articles should be written in a specific and consistent way as per the Chicago Manual of Style.

How to footnote

When do you need to footnote?
1) When you make a direct quote from a book, article, website etc.
   E.g. - Starr states that “some men turned to skepticism, which was itself a powerful
dissolver of old beliefs as a preparation for new creeds.”
2) When you make an indirect quote from a book, article etc.
   E.g. – Starr suggests that the growing skepticism of the late Roman Empire served as
   preparation for the new religions.

or

E.g. – The growing skepticism of the late Roman Empire was a powerful tool in the
dismantling of the old beliefs and laid the foundation for religions such as Christianity.

---

2 Starr, History of the Ancient World, 604.
3 Starr, History of the Ancient World, 604.
**Remember** – when quoting directly from any book, article, or website, put the quote into inverted commas (either single ‘example’, or double “example”)

The most important things to remember are to footnote when you take an idea from another person’s work (such as scholars like Backman) and to do so in a consistent manner.