

**University of Calgary  
Department of History**

**HTST 203-01**

**The World to 1500**

**Fall 2015**

**MWF 12.00-12.50pm**

**MFH 160**

**Instructor:** Glenn Wilkinson  
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**Web Page:** D2L available through MyUofC portal  
**Office Hours:** 1.00-2.00pm MW

**Course Description**

This course is a historical survey of the principal social, political, economic and intellectual developments that have shaped the world from ancient civilizations to 1500. Topics to be studied include pre-historic human organization, the rise and decline of ancient civilizations, classical ages in Greece, Rome, China, Africa and the Americas, and the European Middle Ages. We will examine a wide variety of primary documents (documents written at the time we wish to examine), ranging from political, legal, and private documents as well as literature.

**Objectives of the Course**

The goal of this course is to encourage students to think with a global perspective about the history before 1500. We will be looking for historical patterns. The course will focus on such aspects as class, gender, power structures, and the use of terror, as well as other organizing principles such as notions of time, space, ideas, and the theory of the cyclical nature of world history.

**Textbooks and Readings**

*Patterns of World History : Volume 1 to 1600 with Sources 2/e*, Peter von Sivers, Charles A. Desnoyers and George B. Shaw

**Internet and electronic communication device information**

Please turn off cell phones and other non-educational devices and use your computers for only academically related purposes.

**Assignments and Evaluation**

The assignments in the course are designed to balance between written work and examinations. Assignments will build upon each other so that the skills developed in one assignment will be employed in the next. Students must NOT book holidays in the expectation of having an early examination. Accommodation for examinations and assignments will be made only for those in

extreme and difficult circumstances. All assignments must be completed in order to pass the course.

### **Primary Document Analysis**

Students will examine an original document found in the *Sources* readings. Length is to be five pages with standard margins, Times New Roman 12pt. font.

**Due: October 2**

**Value: 25%**

### **Mid-term Examination**

Mid-term examination will cover material discussed in the lectures and the readings. It will consist of single-word answers (more objective) and short-answer questions (more subjective).

**Date: October 23**

**Value: 20%**

### **Comparison of Two Primary Documents**

This assignment will consist of an examination of two primary documents focusing on a single theme. What are the major factors that are similar? What are the major differences? Do the backgrounds of the authors play a factor in the author's worldview? Length is to be five pages with standard margins, Times New Roman 12pt. font.

**Due: November 27**

**Value: 25%**

### **Final Examination**

The final examination will build upon the elements in the midterm and it will include an essay component. Students will be able to concentrate on essay topics of their choice.

**Date: Scheduled by the Registrar**

**Value: 30%**

**Registrar-scheduled Final Examination:** Yes (Three Hours)

All assignments and exams must be completed or a course grade of F may be assigned at the discretion of the instructor.

**Submission of Assignments:** Please hand in your essays directly to your TA or instructor if possible in class. If it is not possible to do so, a daytime drop box is available outside the History Department office on the 6<sup>th</sup> Floor of the Social Science Building. Assignments will be removed the following morning, stamped with the previous day's date, and placed in the instructor's mailbox.

Please include your name and ID number on all assignments. Personal information is collected in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act*. For more information, see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>

**Note:** It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment. For courses in which assignments are submitted electronically, it is the student's responsibility to ensure that the correct copy of the assignment is submitted. (Including the version date or version number in your file name may help you avoid submitting the wrong version of your written assignments.)

### **Policy for Late Assignments**

Assignments submitted after the deadline may be penalized with the loss of a grade (e.g.: A- to B+) for each day late.

### **Schedule of Lectures and Readings**

This schedule is a rough guide and might be altered to take into consideration student interest, time constraints or other unforeseen situations. You should note that lectures will *supplement* the readings and the readings will be necessary background to understand the lectures. I will *not* be reading the chapters for you in class. My suggestion is that you read the assigned reading for the week before class taking notes of important ideas, issues, people, and events; attend and take notes during lectures, and then re-read the assigned reading for the week. This way not only will you grasp the material more completely, it will be easier for you to study and attain the grade you desire.

#### **Week 1 (Sept 8-11)**

**Introduction and African Origins of Humanity**

**Reading:** *Patterns*, Chapter 1

#### **Week 2 (Sept 14-18)**

**Agrarian Urban Centres of the Middle East and Eastern Mediterranean**

**Reading:** *Patterns*, Chapter 2

#### **Week 3 (Sept 21-25)**

**Shifting Agrarian Centres in India**

**Reading:** *Patterns*, Chapter 3

#### **Week 4 (Sept 28-October 2)**

**Agrarian Centres in Ancient China**

**Reading:** *Patterns*, Chapter 4

**\*\*\*\*\*PRIMARY DOCUMENT ANALYSIS DUE OCTOBER 2\*\*\*\*\***

#### **Week 5 (Oct 5-9)**

**Origins, Chiefdoms, and States**

**Reading:** *Patterns*, Chapters 5 and 6

#### **Week 6 (Oct 14-16)**

**Persia, Greece, and Rome**

**Reading:** *Patterns*, Chapter 7

**\*\*\*\*\*October 12: No Classes\*\*\*\*\***

#### **Week 7 (Oct 19-23)**

**The Rise of Christianity**

**Reading: *TBD***

**\*\*\*\*\*MID-TERM EXAMINATION OCTOBER 23\*\*\*\*\***

**Week 8 (Oct 26-30)**

**Empires and Visionaries in India**

**Reading: *Patterns*, Chapter 8**

**Week 9 (Nov 2-6)**

**China: Unification and Order**

**Reading: *Patterns*, Chapter 9**

**Week 10 (Nov 9)**

**Review**

**\*\*\*\*\*November 11-13: Reading Days: No Classes\*\*\*\*\***

**Week 11 (Nov 16-20)**

**Islam and Byzantium**

**Readings: *Patterns*, Chapter 10**

**Week 12 (Nov 23-27)**

**Western Christian World**

**Readings: *Patterns*, Chapter 11**

**\*\*\*\*\*COMPARISON OF TWO DOCUMENTS DUE NOVEMBER 27\*\*\*\*\***

**Week 13 (Nov 30-Dec 4)**

**India and China**

**Readings: *Patterns*, Chapter 12**

**Week 14 (December 7)**

**Review and Examination Overview**

**\*\*\*\*\*FINAL EXAMINATION REGISTRAR SCHEDULED\*\*\*\*\***

## **Important Departmental, Faculty, and University Information**

### **Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:**

Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call 403-220-3580, or email [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.

For program planning and advice, contact the Arts Students Centre, Social Sciences 102, 403-220-3580, or visit <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/advising>.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit the office in the MacKimmie Library Block.

### **Writing:**

This course will include written assignments. Faculty policy directs that all written assignments (including, although to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented.

### **Writing Support:**

Need help coming up with a thesis statement? Confused about the proper way to use footnotes? Just want to ask someone about your written assignment for this or any other history class? The Department of History offers small-group and individual writing support for all students registered in a History class from some of our top graduate students. Check with your instructor for the scheduled weekly drop-in times, sign-up for one of the writing workshops, or arrange to meet with our writing tutors individually. More information about this program will be posted on the Department of History web site: [hist.ucalgary.ca](http://hist.ucalgary.ca).

Students are also encouraged to use Writing Support Services and other Student Success Centre Services, located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library. Writing Support Services assist with a variety of assignments, from essays to lab reports. Students can book 30-minute one-on-one appointments online, sign up for 15-minute drop-in appointments, and register for a variety of writing workshops. For more information on this and other Student Success Centre services, please visit [www.ucalgary.ca/ssc](http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc).

### **Copyright:**

The University of Calgary has opted out of the Access Copyright Interim Tariff proposed by the Copyright Board. This means that instructors in all University of Calgary courses will strictly adhere to Copyright Act regulations and the educational exceptions permitted by the Act for both print and digital course material. What this simply means is that no copyrighted material may be placed on course D2L or web sites without the prior permission of the copyright holders. In some cases, this may mean that instructors will require you to purchase a print coursepack from the University of Calgary bookstore or that you will have to consult books in the library reserve room. For more information on the University of Calgary's copyright policy, see <http://library.ucalgary.ca/copyright>.

### **Red Box Policy:**

Essays and other assignments may be handed in to the red box located outside of the History Department office (SS 656). Assignments received after 4:00 p.m. will be date stamped with the date of the next business day. We do not time stamp any papers. Please do not bring your paper into the office to be stamped. The box is emptied promptly at 8:30 a.m. and at 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

**Departmental Grading System:**

The following percentage-to-letter grade conversion scheme has been adopted for use in all Canadian Studies, History, and Latin American Studies courses.

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
90-100	A+	4.00	Outstanding
85-89	A	4.00	Excellent—superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
80-84	A-	3.70	
77-79	B+	3.30	
73-76	B	3.00	Good—clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
70-72	B-	2.70	
67-69	C+	2.30	
63-66	C	2.00	Satisfactory—basic understanding of the subject matter.
60-62	C-	1.70	Receipt of a grade point average of 1.70 may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation.
56-59	D+	1.30	Minimal pass—marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
50-55	D	1.00	
0-49	F	0	Fail—unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.

**Plagiarism:**

Plagiarism occurs when one submits or presents one’s work in a course, or ideas and/or passages in a written piece of work, as if it were one’s own work done expressly for that particular course, when, in fact, it is not. As noted in *The History Student’s Handbook*, plagiarism may take several forms:

- Failure to cite sources properly may be considered plagiarism. This could include quotations, and wording used from another source but not acknowledged.
- Borrowed, purchased, and/or ghostwritten papers are considered plagiarism, as is submitting one's own work for more than one course without the permission of the instructor(s) involved.
- Extensive paraphrasing of one or a few sources is also considered plagiarism, even when notes are used, unless the essay is a critical analysis of those works.
- The use of notes does not justify the sustained presentation of another author's language and ideas as one's own.

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence and written work that appears to contain plagiarized passages will not be graded. All such work will be reported to the Faculty of Arts' associate deans of students who will apply the penalties specified in the *University of Calgary Calendar*.

### **Universal Student Ratings of Instruction:**

At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses ([www.ucalgary.ca/usri](http://www.ucalgary.ca/usri)). Your responses make a difference. Please participate in USRI Surveys.

### **Student Accommodations:**

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/).

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected grounds other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at [http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy\\_0.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf).

### **Other Useful Information:**

Faculty of Arts Representatives: 403-220-6551, [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca),  
[arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca).

*Safewalk and Campus Security*: 403-220-5333.

Please also familiarize yourself about the following topics by consulting the information at these links:

*Freedom of Information*: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>

*Emergency Evacuation Assembly Points*:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

*Safewalk*: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>

*Student Union Information*: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>

*Graduate Student Association*: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa/>

*Student Ombudsman Office*: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

