

HISTORY 3379 WORLD CIVILIZATIONS TO 1500

Syllabus

PLEASE READ THE SYLLABUS CAREFULLY AND FOLLOW ALL DIRECTIONS THEREIN**REQUIRED BOOKS:**

Bulliet, Crossley, Headrick, Hirsch, Johnson, Northrup, *The Earth and its People*, brief ed., Vol I: to 1500

Schwartz, Wimmer, Wolff, *The Global Experience: Readings in World History*, vol. 1

Andrea and Overfield, *The Human Record: Sources of Global History*, Vol. 1, to 1700, new ed.

Publisher: Houghton Mifflin ISBN 0-395-87087-9

WebCT Website Address: <http://www.uh.edu/webct> CHECK WEEKLY FOR ADDITIONS, NOTES, ETC.

Your **User ID** is the first initial of your first name and your last name, all small letters, no spaces between. Your **Password** is your date of birth in the following format: ddmmyyyy. The first time you access the site, you will have to Create My Webct--then, you will create your own password to substitute for the one I have given you. Be sure to write it down somewhere. Then, you may log on to the site by choosing "UH Courses", then CLASS, then "World Civilizations to 1500"

UH HELPLINE: 713-743-1411. Call them before you call me--they can help you better than I.

OFFICE HOURS: SNVAUGHN AH638 3-5pm W snvaughn@sbcglobal.net 713-743-3122

TA: Mike Phifer, AH 641 mikephifer@sbcglobal.net 713-743-3126 OFFICE HOURS

World Civilizations to 1500 will examine most of the early civilizations throughout the world. We will try to examine the basis on which civilizations are built, the resources required for them to develop, and the conditions under which they thrive, growing in different directions. We will also examine why civilizations fail to thrive, or end. The course also will be very comparative, looking at the different directions in which early civilizations grew: for example, toward individualism or toward communal organizations; religious or worldly pursuits; trade or self-sufficiency; invention and change or tradition and stasis. We will try to view each civilization on its own terms, determining its inner cohesiveness; and we will look at the interactions between the various civilizations and the changes wrought by cultural contacts. Four texts will guide our paths: a modern historical account of the various civilizations (the Text, by Stearns et alia); two readings books of original sources—primary sources written by the people of the past whom we are studying (Schwartz et alia, and Andrea et alia); and a map workbook that comes with the Text. You will also receive a CD-rom intended to help you study. We will try to discuss each reading as part of the class, and will have outside discussions on the Discussion Page on our Webct page, and in the Chat Room on our Webct page. Maps will consist of a large part of the presentations, to orient you geographically and to prepare you for the examinations. I will attempt to use profuse illustrations where possible to help you visualize the material culture and distinct identity of each culture, based on their availability as works in the Public Domain. There will be a **midterm examination**, a **final examination**, and a **term project**. Each will count as 1/3 of your grade. Both the midterm and the final will include map identification questions, primary source identification questions, and essay questions. The map identification questions will cover the globe, and will consist of identifying locations and explaining their significance to world civilizations; these will be Short Essays.. You will have short primary sources to identify: the possible author, the approximate date, and the culture each represents. The essay questions will be comparative—i.e., religions, governments, material culture, art, architecture. I will give you study questions to prepare you.

TERM PROJECT DUE THE CLASS DAY OF WEEK 14. NO EMAILS ACCEPTED.

The TERM PROJECT is planned to cover many resources. Choose one of the cultures we are studying this semester other than your own (Note that each culture is considered in its early phase—up to 1500 AD. If you are US-born, you may choose any of the cultures we are studying, as US culture did not begin until after this class ends). Your term project will be an in depth study of this culture, including additional readings from the library (both primary and secondary sources), museum exhibits, musical performances, visits to religious institutions, websites, and anything else you can find that will enable you to reconstruct the total picture of the early culture. Your project should total some 20 pages, including a written essay of at least 10 pages,, illustrations, museum or performance programs, maps, sources from the Web, etc. Finally, your conclusion should consist of a section comparing the culture you have studied in depth with the other cultures studied in the course. You have a lot of leeway here—I want to see the results of your research, experience, and thinking. SEE GUIDELINES ON WEBCT FOR MORE.

POSSIBLE TOPICS FOR THE TERM PROJECT

Mesopotamian Cultures
Egyptian Cultures
Sub Saharan African Cultures
Chinese Culture
Indo-Chinese Cultures
South American Cultures
Western Indo-European Cultures (Greece, Rome, Medieval Europe)
Eastern Indo-European Cultures (Hittites, Persia, India)
Meso-American Cultures (Mayas, Aztecs, Olmecs, etc)
Japanese and/or Korean Cultures
Melanesian and Polynesian Cultures
Semitic Cultures (Hebrews, Arabs, Assyrians)

EMAIL DR. VAUGHN OR TA WITH QUESTIONS ON THE TERM PROJECT, HELP CHOOSING A TOPIC
COMMUNITY RESOURCES—RESEARCH AND EXTRA CREDIT: You are strongly encouraged to visit the appropriate sites for your term project, and other resources for your general interest. You can receive extra credit for sites other than your project by writing a 1-2 page report on the site visited in person. You must submit proof of your visit—pamphlets, tickets, etc., with your paper. Your report should link the experience with your readings and lectures.

The Museum of Fine Arts Houston
(free for Student assignments & on Thursdays)
1001 Bissonet at Main; 713-639-7300
Permanent African Gold exhibit
Greek, Roman, European Art
The Americas and Pacific Cultures
Pacific Rim Art

Museum of Natural History
North American Indians
South American Cultures
Egyptian Exhibit
Various special exhibits

Christian Churches

St. Mark's Coptic Church Bellaire
Mulberry Lane, off Bellaire Blvd.

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral
3511 Yoakum Blvd., Montrose 77006
713-526-5377
1st Sunday of Month--Greek Service, 11 am

Holy Rosary Catholic Church
3600 Travis, Houston 77002-9591
713-529-4854
Latin Mass 9:30 am Sundays
With Gregorian Chant

Annunciation Catholic Church
1618 Texas Ave, Houston 77055
Latin Mass, 8 am Sundays
(no chant)
(no chant)

Our Lady of Walsingham Church
7809 Shadyvilla Lane, Houston 77055
713-683-9407
Latin Rite—Friday 12:15 pm (no chant)

Byzantine Fresco Chapel Museum
4011 Yupon, Houston 77006
713-521-3990 www.menil.org/byzantine

Japanese Garden and Teahouse--Hermann Park

The Menil Collection (free)
1515 Sul Ross, Houston 77006, 713-525-9400
African Art
Greek, Roman, European Art
Pacific Rim Art

Churches, Temples, Religious Buildings and Organizations
Attend a Chinese New Year's Celebration
Chinese temples
Teen How Taoist Temple
1507 Delano (at Leeland), Houston 77003
713-236-1015
(Be sure to lock your car)

Chinese, Vietnamese Shops, Restaurants--many all over town
Downtown Area, Bellaire Blvd past Sharpstown
Midtown Area for Vietnamese Shops

Buddhist temples
True Buddha Temple--1pm-6pm daily
7734 Mary Bates Blvd. Houston 77036
713-988-8822
Jade Buddha Temple,
6969 West Branch Dr, Houston 77072
281-498-1616
<http://www.jadebuddha.org>

Sri Meenakshi Temple (Hindu), 281-489-0358x100
17130 McLean Rd, Pearland, 77584 www.meenakshi.org
Call Temple Office for guided tours

Indian and Pakistani Shops and Restaurants along Hillcroft
Japanese Festival in April (Check Houston Chronicle)
Alabama-Coushatta Indian Reservation, Livingston, TX
Forbidden Gardens--Spectacular scale models--
thousands of miniatures of Chinese arts, palaces,
weapons, statues, buildings, temples--Qin period
23500 Franz Road, Katy, TX 281-347-8000
I-10 West to Grand Parkway Exit, right
www.forbidden-gardens.com

OFFICE HOURS:

S. Vaughn 4-5 M & Th, AH 638 713-743-3122; snvaughn@ev1.net (email is the best way to reach us)

TA: Sarah Pruet sarahpruet@sbcglobal.net Check Webct Website for Office Hours

Abbreviations:

The Earth and its Peoples = "Text"

Schwartz, Wimmer, Wolff, *The Global Experience*, = "Rdgs" (References are to Readings numbers)

Andrea and Overfield, *The Human Record*, = "*Hum. Rec.*" (References are to Readings numbers)

Boldface = Tape/Purchase Dates, *Italics* = **Broadcast on KUHT**

LECTURE SCHEDULE		READINGS
WEEK 1		
Jan. 17	What is History? What is Truth?	Rdgs no. 6
WEEK 2		
<i>Jan. 22</i>	Before There was History	<i>Hum. Rec.</i> Prologue
Jan. 24	Mesopotamia: The Search for Order	Text Ch. 1. Rdgs nos. 8, 14, 15
WEEK 3		
<i>Jan. 29</i>	Egypt: Balance and Harmony	<i>Hum. Rec.</i> nos. 1,2,3,4,7,8,9,
Jan 31	The Indo-Europeans: Barbarian Invasions	Text Ch. 2, 3; Rdgs nos. 17, 22, 23, 33,34
WEEK 4		
<i>Feb. 5</i>	The God who did Wrong: The Hebrews	<i>Hum. Rec.</i> nos. 3, 11,12,13,14,15,21,22
Feb. 7	India: The Search for Divine Reality	<i>Hum. Rec.</i> nos. 16,17,18,19,20,21,22,37,38,42,43,44,45 Text Ch 6; Rdgs. nos.13, 30, 31
WEEK 5		
Feb. 12	Meso-America	Text Ch. 10; Rdgs. Nos. 4,10,19,21,28, 29,38,42,52,53
<i>Feb. 14</i>	Peru	56,63,70,76,77,83,85,86,87,88,89,90; <i>Hum. Rec.</i> nos. 10,97,98,99,100,112,113, Ch. 13
WEEK 6		
Feb. 19	China: Three Ways of Thought	<i>Hum. Rec.</i> nos. 5, 6, 23, 24, 25, 26, 35, 36.
<i>Feb. 21</i>	Imperial Han China	Text Ch. 5, 9, Rdgs nos. 9,12,16, 20, 26,27,32,64,65
WEEK 7		
Feb. 26	Indo-China and the Pacific	Text Ch. 6; Readings nos.1,7,37,37,55,69,73
<i>Feb.28</i>	Song and Tang China	<i>Hum. Rec.</i> nos. 39,40,41,69,70,71,72,73,74,106,107
WEEK 8		
Mar 5	The Glory that was Greece	Text Ch. 4; Rdis no. 23
<i>Mar 7</i>	MIDTERM EXAMINATION	
SPRING BREAK Mar. 12-18		
WEEK 9		
Mar 19	Alexander the Great and Hellenistic Greece	<i>Hum. Rec.</i> nos. 27,28,29,30,31, 32.
Mar 21	The Roman Republic; The Roman Empire	Text Ch. 5; Rdgs no. 25, 33,39
WEEK 10		
<i>Mar. 26</i>	Jesus and His Followers	<i>Human Record</i> nos.,33, 34, 48,49,50, 51,52, 53,54,55
Mar. 28	Byzantium	Text Ch. 7, Rdgs. 80 <i>Hum. Rec.</i> nos. 76,82,83,84,86,88,90,91
WEEK 11		
Apr. 2	The Early Germans and Charlemagne	Text Ch. 8, 11; Rdgs, nos.39,40,44,48,58,62
<i>Apr.4</i>	Islam: The Way of the Prophet	<i>Hum. Rec.</i> 56,57,58,59,60,61,62,63,64,65,76,77,78,79,80,81, 84,85,86,87,88,89
WEEK 12		
Apr. 9	The Flowering of Africa	Text Ch.12; Rdgs.nos. 5,11,18,24,35, 36, 41,62, 68,79,84
<i>Apr. 11</i>	Vikings East and West: The Year 1000	<i>Hum. Rec.</i> nos. 93, 94, 95, 96
WEEK 13		
Apr. 16	The Mongols East and West	Text Ch. 11; Rdgs. Nos.2, 51, 54, 72,78
<i>Apr. 18</i>	Japan	<i>Hum. Rec.</i> nos. 66,67,68,75,103,104,105,107,108
WEEK 14		
Apr. 23	High Middle Ages; Medieval Renaissance	Text Ch 13; Rdgs.Nos.49,50,57,58,66,71,74,80,81,82,
<i>Apr. 25</i>	The Age of Discovery:	<i>Hum. Rec.</i> nos. 61,89,90,92,101,102,107,109,110,111, Ch. 13 Rdgs. Nos 57,45,46,47,71,74,80, 82,85,86,87,88,89
Apr. 30	The Columbian Exchange	TERM PAPERS DUE
May 9	Wednesday 2-5 pm	FINAL EXAMINATION

STUDENT INFORMATION SHEET

Required of all students

VERY IMPORTANT: Mail or email ASAP to:

Professor Sally N. Vaughn

Department of History

University of Houston

Houston TX 77204-3003

snvaughn@sbcglobal.net

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

CURRENT TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

ADDITIONAL TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

IN WHICH CLASS ARE YOU ENROLLED? circle one (HCCS, TAPE/PURCHASE)

Why are you taking this class?

What do you hope to learn from it?

What particular cultures are you interested in?

What particular subjects interest you--i. E., Art, Music, Technology, Politics, Literature, etc.

Did you attend the Distance Education Orientation?