Readings, assignments, and grading in History surveys

This document provides summaries of representative courses in the Past Cultures section of the university’s Core of Common Studies and the core curricula established by the individual colleges. The summaries provide lists of required readings; brief descriptions of writing assignments, quizzes, and exams; and grading and attendance policies.

The summaries include only courses taught in large sections that feature teaching assistants leading discussion sections. The summaries do not include honors sections or courses taught by graduate students or part-time faculty (only three or four sections fall into the latter category). They are organized by course and by professor’s last name.

It is important to note that these summaries are representative only; in other words, they are accurate reflections of the readings, assignments, and grading policies of recently taught courses, but may not exactly reflect courses being taught in this or any semester.

**HISTORY 1001: THE DEVELOPMENT OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION TO 1715**

**Professor: Ball**

**Readings:**
- Joseph and Frances Gies, *Life in a Medieval City*.
- Additional Reading Selections on D2L

**Assignments:** In addition to regular lectures, there will be seven periods set aside during the semester for discussion of the assigned readings. The class will be divided into small groups and meet at mutually-convenient times on Wednesdays or Fridays.

**Grading:**
- 40% participation in discussion sessions
- 15% (each) two midterm exams
- 30% final exam

**Professor: Hay**

**Readings:**
- Suzanne Dixon, *The Roman Family*
- Penny Schine Gold, *The Lady and the Virgin*

**Assignments:** A 5-pg. paper relating to the reading of *The Roman Family*. A quiz preceding an in-class discussion of *The Lady and the Virgin*. A quiz preceding an in-class discussion of *The Witch-Hunt in Early Modern Europe*. A midterm and final exam will also be given. Attendance in class is mandatory and will be a factor in determination of a borderline grade.

**Grading:**
- 15% Paper
7.5% (each) Two quizzes
35% (each) Midterm and final exams

Professor: Knox
Readings:
Vol. I
Other readings available online

Assignments: There are two papers for this class: a book review and an analysis of a Wikipedia entry. Students can choose which they will write first and the topic for each. Study guides for exams will be passed out in class at least one week before the exam. Exams will consist of a combination of objective multiple choice questions, term identifications, source analyses, and/or essays.

Grading:
14.3% Book review
14.3% Wikipedia review
14.3% (each) Two exams
18.5% Final exam
14.3% Participation

Professor: McMahon
Readings:
Kishlansky; Geary; O’Brian;, *A Brief History of Western Civilization, Vol. 1 to 1715*
Betty Radice, *The Letters of Abelard and Heloise*
Geoffrey Chaucer, *The Canterbury Tales*
Niccolo Macchiavelli, *The Prince*

Assignments: A critically important part of this course is your attendance and participation in lecture as well as in the six required breakout discussion sessions. Short writing assignments will also be given. The students will bring together the lessons learned through the earlier writing assignments in a short (3-5 page) paper that requires an argument backed up by evidence from sources placed in proper context. There will be two in-class tests and a final exam. In class test will consist only of objective questions, including short-answer identification, map identification, fill-ins, and/or multiple choice questions. In addition to objective questions, the final exam will also include a comprehensive essay component.

Grading:
10% Attendance
10% Comparative exercises
20% Three to five page paper
15% (each) Two 1-hour exams
30% Final exam
Professor: Naylor
Readings:
- Naylor, *The Wilder West from Antiquity to the Age of European Exploration*
- Naylor, *The Wilder West: A Trans-Cultural Anthology*
- Homer, *The Odyssey*
- Dante, *The Inferno*
- Thomas More, *Utopia*

Assignments: There will be two quizzes, two map quizzes, a midterm, and a final exam. There will also be a writing assignment. Quizzes will be objective and subjective. The midterm and final will be subjective. The paper will relate to Anthology readings and will be assigned upon the discretion of the TA. Remember class participation will also be taken into account concerning the course grade.

Grading:
- 30% Two quizzes
- 10% Two map quizzes
- 20% Midterm exam
- 30% Final exam
- 10% Papers

Professor: Ruff
Readings:
- Judith Bennett, *A Medieval Life: Cecilia Penifader of Brigstock, c. 1295-1344*
- Gene Brucker, *Giovanni and Lusanna: Love and Marriage in Renaissance Florence*
- Eva Cantarella, *Pandora’s Daughters: The Role of Women in Greek and Roman Antiquity*

Assignments: Write a 6-8 page essay considering the three books, not the text book, on several levels. Three essay exams will also be given.

Grading: not given

Professor: Zeps
Readings:
- Spielvogel, *Western Civilization Vol. II 7th ed.: To 1715*

Assignments: There will be ten quizzes to ensure the students keep up with reading. There will be three tests. The final is comprehensive. Students will also write a 6-9 pp. paper drawn from several sources on women in leadership roles.

Grading:
- 20% (each) Two exams
- 30% Final exam
- 20% Quizzes
- 10% Paper
HISTORY 1002:
WESTERN CIVILIZATION FROM 1715 TO THE COLD WAR

Name: Ball
Readings:
Montesquieu, *Persian Letters."
Beaumarchais, *The Marriage of Figaro."
Charles Dickens, *Hard Times."
Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, *The Communist Manifesto."
Klaus Mann, *Mephisto."

Assignments: In addition to regular lectures, there will be seven periods set aside during the semester for discussion of the assigned readings. The class will be divided into small groups and meet at mutually-convenient times on Wednesdays or Fridays.

Grading:
40% participation in discussion sessions
15% (each) two midterm exams
30% final exam

Professor: Hay
Readings:
Coffin and Stacey, *Western Civilizations. 15th Ed. Vol. II*
Geoffrey Ellis, *Napoleon*
John Start Mill, *On Liberty*
Ian Kershaw, *Hitler*

Assignments: A five-page essay summarizing the salient points developed by John Stuart Mill in his essay *On Liberty.* A ten-page essay comparing Napoleon and Hitler as “profiles in power,” reflecting similarities and differences in their rise to power, exercise of power and fall from power. A midterm exam based on class notes and appropriate chapters in the textbook, and a final exam that will include a comprehensive component in addition to questions based on class notes since the midterm and appropriate chapters in the textbook. Attendance in class is mandatory and will be a factor in determination of a borderline grade.

Grading:
10% Five-page essay
15% Ten-page essay
35% Midterm exam
40% Final exam

Professor: McDaniel
Readings:
Kishlansky, *A Brief History of Western Civilization*
Kishlansky, *Sources of the West*
Voltaire, *Candide*
Marx, *The Communist Manifesto*
Remarque, *All Quiet on the Western Front*
Burleigh, *Racial State: Germany 1933-1945*

**Assignments:** In addition to exams, students will be required to perform research in both primary and secondary historical sources and to incorporate their research in a thesis-driven term paper.

**Grading:**

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<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<td>25%</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Final exam</td>
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<tr>
<td>10% (each)</td>
<td>Two 1-hour exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>5% (each)</td>
<td>Four quizzes</td>
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<td>15%</td>
<td>Term Paper</td>
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**Professor:** McMahon

**Readings:**

- Voltaire, *Candide*
- Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein*
- Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, *The Communist Manifesto*
- Joseph Conrad, *Heart of Darkness with the Congo Diaries*
- Primo Levi, *Survival in Auschwitz*

**Assignments:** A critically important part of this course is attendance and participation in the 5 required discussion sessions. Each session will involve handing in written responses to a series of questions designed to help develop critical reading, thinking, and writing skills. Short papers will also be assigned following each discussion section. There will be two in-class tests consisting only of objective questions, including some combination of short-answer ID’s, map ID’s, multiple-choice questions, and fill-ins, which will relate directly to material from the preceding five weeks of class. The final exam will include an essay component that is comprehensive.

**Grading:**

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<td>Participation and attendance</td>
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<td>10%</td>
<td>Outline assignment</td>
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<td>10%</td>
<td>Three page paper</td>
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<td>15%</td>
<td>Five page paper</td>
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<td>Two 1-hour exams</td>
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<td>Final exam</td>
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**Professor:** Naylor

**Readings:**

- Naylor, *The Wilder West from Antiquity to the Age of European Exploration*
- Jane Austen, *Pride and Prejudice*
- Ivan Turgenev, *Fathers and Sons*
- Hermann Hesse, *Demian*
- George Lucious Salton, *The 23rd Psalm: A Holocaust Memoir*

**Assignments:** There will be two quizzes, two map quizzes, a midterm, and a final exam. There will also be at least one writing assignment. Quizzes will be objective and subjective. The map quizzes will match information to map sites. The midterm and final
will be subjective. The written work will be assigned upon the discretion of the TA. Participation will also be taken into account concerning the course grade.

**Grading:**

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<tr>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Quizzes</td>
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<td>10%</td>
<td>Map quizzes</td>
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<td>20%</td>
<td>Midterm exam</td>
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<td>30%</td>
<td>Final exam</td>
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<tr>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Writing assignment</td>
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**Professor: Ruff**

**Readings:**

- *Marvin Perry, Western Civilization: Ideas, Politics, and Society, 8th ed. Vol. II: From the 1600s*
- *Primo Levi, Survival in Auschwitz*
- *Wiesner; Ruff; Wheeler, Discovering the Western Past: A Look at the Evidence, 6th ed., Vol. II: Since 1500*

**Assignments:** Students will select one chapter from *Discovering the Western Past* from each of the first two course units on which to prepare a 500 word paper analyzing the primary sources presented in the chapter that they have selected. The Holocaust paper will be 1500 words and will address the Holocaust. This is not a research paper but an essay, and as such will not require footnotes or bibliography. There will be three unit examinations. Each will consist of a mixture of short answer questions as well an essay question.

**Grading:**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Participation in discussion sections</td>
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<td>15%</td>
<td>Source analysis papers</td>
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<td>15%</td>
<td>Holocaust paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>20% (each)</td>
<td>Three exams</td>
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**Professor: Zeps**

**Readings:**

- *Spielvogel, Western Civilization Vol. II 7th ed.: 1500 to the Present*

**Assignments:** There will be ten quizzes which can be used as review sheets for the test. The two lowest quiz scores will be dropped. There will be two tests and a final exam. Students will also write a paper on developments in some area of health or medicine up to the year 2000.

**Grading:**

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<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20% (each)</td>
<td>Two exams</td>
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<td>30%</td>
<td>Final exam</td>
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<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Quizzes</td>
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<td>10%</td>
<td>Paper</td>
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**HISTORY 1101:**

**INTRODUCTION TO AMERICAN HISTORY**
Professor: Donoghue
Readings:
    James W. Loewen, *Lies My Teacher Told Me*
    W. J. Rorabaugh, *The Alcoholic Republic*
    James Comer, *Maggie’s American Dream*
    Robert S. McElvaine, *Down and Out in the Great Depression*
    Al Santoli, *Everything We Had*
Assignments: In addition to exams and short essay-style quizzes, students will write 3 assigned short papers of 3 pages that will revolve around the readings.
Grading:
20% (each) Two one-hour long exams
25% Final exam
20% Three short papers
15% Participation in discussions and 6 short essay quizzes

Professor: Efford
Readings:
    Alison Efford, comp., *Retrieving the American Past*
    William L. Andrews, *Classic American Autobiographies*
    Thomas Bell, *Out of This Furnace: A Novel of Immigrant Labor in America*
    J. Anthony Lukas, *Common Ground: A Turbulent Decade in the Lives of Three American Families*
Assignments: Discussion grades are based on informed and engaged participation in discussion and other activities. The midterm and final exams each consist of an in-class essay and short paragraph-long identifications of terms, names, and events. The final exam is not cumulative. Two 3-4 page papers will be largely based on class readings. Six D2L quizzes will help students keep up with reading assignments during the semester; the lowest score will be dropped. Quizzes consist of a 200-250 word response to a question that will ensure the close reading and understanding of the assigned readings.
Grading:
15% Discussion Section
15% First paper
20% Midterm exam
15% Second paper
25% Final exam
10% Quizzes.

Professor: Foster
Readings:
    Kristen Foster, *Retrieving the American Past: A Customized U.S. History Reader*
    William L. Andrews, *Classic American Autobiographies*
    Malcolm X; Alex Haley, *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*
    Robert A. Divine, *The American Story*
    Additional selections posted on D2L
Assignments: Discussion grades will be based on attendance, participation, and overall involvement in sections. An outline is assigned to teach the student how to organize a
clear and persuasive argument. A three-page five-paragraph essay will analyze multiple sources in response to the questions provided. A five-page essay will ask the student to build on the experiences gained throughout the course for constructing clear and compelling arguments based on sources. The two exams will be essay tests including the identification and explanation of important historical facts and a brief analytical essay. The first part of the final exam will include identifications covering the material post exam 2; the second part of the final exam will be a comprehensive essay.

**Grading:**
- 15% Discussion
- 5% Outline
- 10% Three-page five-paragraph theme
- 20% Five-page essay
- 15% (each) Two exams
- 20% Final exam.

**Professor: Marten**

**Readings:**
- Ronald Takaki, *A Different Mirror: A History of Multicultural America*
- Calloway, *World Turned Upside Down*
- Sklar, *Women's Rights Emerges within the Antislavery Movement*
- Riis, *How the Other Half Lives*
- Ferguson, *The Harlem Renaissance*

**Assignments:** Discussion grade will include class participation during discussion sections, reflection papers written on documents and images presented during discussion sections, and on attendance at discussion sections. You will be expected to incorporate material from the textbook into your answers on the examinations. You will write a 450-word answer to a question on each of the four assigned books.

**Grading:**
- 20% First exam
- 20% Final exam
- 10% (each) Four book papers
- 20% Participation

**McDaniel**

**Readings:**
- Tindall and Shi, *America: A Narrative History*
- McDaniel, *Retrieving the American Past*
- Mary Rowlandson, *Narrative of the Captivity...*
- Micheal Shaara, *Killer Angels*
- Alex Haley, *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*

**Assignments:** In addition to exams and quizzes, students will be required to perform research in both primary and secondary historical sources and to incorporate their research in a thesis-driven term paper.

**Grading:**
- 25% Discussion
- 20% Final exam
10% (each)  Two one-hour exams
20%  Term paper
5% (each)  Three quizzes

**HISTORY 1301: LATIN AMERICA**

**Professor: Donoghue**

**Readings:**
- John C. Chasten, and James Woods, *Problems in Modern LA History*
- Bartolome De Las Casas, *Destruction of the Indies*
- Alma Guillermoprieto, *The Heart that Bleeds: Latin American Now*
- Eva Peron, *Evita: In My Own Words*
- Schlesinger and Kinzer, *Bitter Fruit: The Story of the American coup in Guatemala*

**Assignments:** Students will write two short papers that will revolve around the readings. Because so much of this class depends on discussion and class participation a lack of commitment on the part of students will damage their success in the class. Attendance will be taken.

**Grading:**
- 20% (each)  Two one-hour exams
- 25%  Final exam
- 15%  Two short papers
- 20%  Participation in discussions and 7 short essay quizzes (lowest quiz grade will be dropped)

**Professor: Matthew**

**Readings:**
- Gabriel Barcia Marquez, *One Hundred Years of Solitude*
- Horacio Verbitsky, *Confessions of an Argentine Dirty Warrior*
- Lydia Chavez, *God, Capitalism, and a Good Cigar*

**Assignments:** Grades for discussion sections will be based on attendance, class participation, and short assignments. Quizzes are designed to reinforce your memory of important historical facts and themes. They will be multiple choice. Midterm and Final papers are formal papers and separate components of an ongoing, semester-long project. The student will select a current events topic in Latin America to research. The midterm paper will explain the topic and why it was chosen, and compare and contrast sources. The final paper should represent the culmination of the students’ thinking about the chosen event in a deeper, historically-minded way.

**Grading:**
- 30%  Discussion section
- 25%  Five quizzes
- 20%  Midterm current events report
- 25%  Final current events report
HISTORY 1401: AFRICA

Professor: Korieh

Readings:
- Robert Collins and James M. Burnts, A History of Sub-Saharan Africa
- Chinua Achebe, Things Fall Apart
- Curtis Keim, Mistaking Africa

Assignments: This is a reading INTENSIVE course. We will discuss the readings on the day they are assigned in tutorial sessions. The class participation part of the grade will be based largely on your ability to answer questions and speak informatively on the assigned readings. All essays will be graded on the following criteria: organization, clarity of language, content, power of argument.

Grading:
- 10% Short paper on Mistaking Africa (3-pg. max)
- 10% Map quiz
- 10% Quiz
- 10% Short paper on Things Fall Apart (3-pg. max)
- 20% Midterm exam
- 30% Final exam (take home)
- 10% Class participation/attendance

HISTORY 1501: EAST ASIA

Professor: Wert

Readings:
- Ebrey, Walthal, Palais, Pre-Modern East Asia: To 1800 (2nd ed.)

Assignments: There will be a midterm and a final which will consist of short essays/ID’s based on both the readings and lectures. There are two short papers, a historiographical essay and a social biography. The 5-page historiographical essay will take at least two authors who have written on the same topic and compare their arguments and or methodologies. The papers can cover any topic in Asia before the 19th century. The 8-page social biography will examine a person from any time-period covered in the class and from any region in Asia.

Grading:
- 20% (each) Midterm and final exams
- 25% (each) Two papers
- 10% Class participation