**History 2301: History of Civilization (Origins to 1500)**

**University of Texas at Arlington**

**Fall 2016**

Meeting Times: TR 9:30-11:00am

Location: University Hall – 14

Instructor: Dr. Jonathan Abel

Contact Information: jonathan.abel@uta.edu

Office: TBA

**Required Books**

1. World Civilizations, 9th Edition by Ralph and Learner, ISBN 978-0393968804
2. Various Readings posted on Blackboard

**Course Objectives**

This course will take a narrative approach to discovering the following: significant developments from prehistoric times through the 16th century. Achievements and experiences of great civilizations, emphasizing major historical figures and epochs, important ideas and religions, and factors of continuity and change. Provides a foundation for understanding our heritage and shared values, and introduces students to the historical forces that have shaped today's world. This course will also involve in-depth discussions of religions: their origins, their development, and their influences on history.

**Course Grades**

There will be 4 exams each worth 25% of the final grade. Exams **are not** cumulative.

Materials:

4 Scantron form 882 and 4 Blue/Green books, a new set for each test

Exam Content:

25 Multiple-Choice Questions, worth 2 points each

1 Essay question worth 50 pts.

Missed Exams:

Students who miss an exam and provide the instructor with a valid excuse for their absence may take a makeup up to one week after the test date. Makeup exams will normally consist of one essay question drawn from the essays given on the study guide. It is your responsibility to contact the professor to arrange a makeup.

**Academic Dishonesty**

Any student caught cheating on the exams will immediately have their exam taken up by the instructor or teaching assistant and be asked to leave the room. The incident will be documented and turned over to the proper university personnel for review and action. I will not tolerate cheating in any form. For any questions or clarification of how UTA defines academic dishonesty please visit <http://www.uta.edu/conduct/academic-integrity/>

**Dropping the Course**

There are several key dates which students need to be aware of concerning dropping this course. These dates can be found in the Fall 2016 academic calendar. You must initiate the drop process and bring me the proper paperwork to sign.

**Disabilities**

Any student with special circumstances covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act should register with the Office of Students with Disabilities and also inform the instructor of the class. Reasonable adjustments will be made to accommodate the special needs of students with disabilities where such adjustments are necessary to provide equality of educational access. Students who have registered with the OSD should make an appointment to discuss their disabilities accommodation requests with the instructor.

**Classroom Attendance and Behavior**

There is no formal attendance policy for the course. You are a consumer who purchased this course; if you choose not to attend, your grade will most likely suffer. That is your choice to make.

As such, you are each also expected to treat your instructor and classmates with respect at all times. This includes not talking while the instructor is talking; not using cell phones, laptop computers, and other electronics as distractions during class; not wearing headphones during class; and arriving on time and not leaving early except in an emergency.

**Blackboard**

The instructor will post the syllabus, study guides, other relevant documents, and course readings on Blackboard. These will be available for you to peruse at your leisure. Make sure you familiarize yourself with Blackboard ASAP. I will post study guides, readings, and grades on Blackboard.

The following is a tentative schedule and readings list. **Additional readings will be assigned from documents posted on Blackboard**. All of the readings can be found on the Study Guides for each test posted on Blackboard.

**Tentative Schedule:**

* Test 1: Thursday, 15 September
  + The Development of Civilization
  + Ancient River Cultures
  + Ancient Empires
  + Ancient Religions and Beliefs
* Test 2: Thursday, 13 October
  + Ancient Greece
  + The Macedonian Empire
  + The Roman Republic
  + The Roman Empire
  + The American Empires
* Test 3: Thursday, 10 November
  + Post-Roman Europe
  + Low Medieval Europe
  + Christianity and Islam
  + The Islamic Empires
  + The Crusades
  + Feudal Japan and China
* Test 4 (Final): Finals Week
  + India and Africa
  + The Mongols
  + High Medieval Europe
  + The Hundred Years’ War

**I retain the right to change this syllabus as needed and will inform students of changes.**