

Jennifer Egloff
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Fall 2018
Office A120
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Office Hours:
Tuesday 9-10:55am
Wednesday 10-11:55am
Friday 1:20-3:15pm

Ancient World Religion and Philosophy

HSS201a.7

This course explores why and how humans developed philosophies and religions as a means of ordering their lives and their relationships with others. Utilizing geography as an organizing principle, we will examine idea systems that emerged throughout the world at various points in time. Considering the historical context, as well as the related social, political, and economic factors, we will explore how ideas spread, and the extent to which they were altered as they were adopted by various cultures. By analyzing both primary and secondary sources, students will develop their critical reading and thinking skills, as well as their ability to formulate historical arguments, support them with evidence, and express them clearly both orally and in writing. This is a dynamic course, in which all students' participation is both necessary and appreciated.

Assessments

Two Short Papers – 25% (12.5% each)

- Students will choose one of the provided prompts in order to write a 3-5-page essay in which they formulate an historical argument and support it utilizing evidence from the course materials.

Project – 25%

- Utilizing both course materials and library resources, students will explore an (approved) topic of their choice, in order to write a 7-10-page essay that puts forth an historical argument and supports it with properly cited evidence. The requirements include several intermediate assignments, a meeting with the instructor, and a video presentation.

Quizzes – 15%

- Quizzes will be administered throughout the semester, weighted equally, and averaged. Quizzes may assess any material that had been assigned or discussed up to that point in the course. Quizzes will generally be announced in advance, but there is always the possibility of a pop quiz, especially if students are reticent to discuss the assigned readings.

Poster – 10%

Oral Presentation – 5%

Participation – 20%

- Students are required to participate both in-class and via the online discussion forums.

See Moodle for more detailed descriptions.

Course Materials

Binder

Notebook – Please come prepared to take notes during class

Tape Flags (recommended)

All of the readings and supporting materials are available via Moodle.

There are also questions for consideration, which will help to inspire our in-class and online discussions, quizzes, and papers.

Be sure to consult Moodle regularly.

Policies

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory, and will be taken at the beginning of class. If you are not present when I call your name, you will be marked “absent.” If you arrive within **5 minutes** of the start of class, you will be marked “tardy.” It is your responsibility to make sure that the “absent” is changed to “tardy” *prior* to leaving the classroom. If you are more than five minutes late, you must report to the attendance office and obtain the appropriate documentation prior to returning to class.

Technology

Please have your phones turned off and put away during all class sessions. Hearing or seeing a phone will result in a zero participation grade for the day, and habitual offences could lead to further disciplinary action.

Please bring your computers to class, but do not utilize them unless instructed to do so.

Please plan to take notes on paper during class. It is suggested that you get a dedicated notebook for this course, and review your notes periodically.

Make-ups and Extensions

There will be no make-ups or extensions unless you have an excused absence.

Late Assignments

Late assignments will be assessed a 10% penalty for every 24 hours that they are late (including weekends), and will not be accepted after five days.

Participation

It is your responsibility to participate both in the in-class discussion, and via the online discussion forums. At the beginning of the semester, please create and share a Google Doc with

me in which you track your daily participation in the course. Please log your participation prior to the next class session. The intention is to encourage you to reflect on whether you are participating in the course as much as possible. Please title your document – [Course Number and Section]-[First Initial] [Last Name]-F2019.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is imperative in all courses. For history courses, plagiarism is a primary concern. Students are required to utilize Chicago-style citations to reference all sources that they consult, regardless of whether they are using an exact quotation or a paraphrase. We will be utilizing anti-plagiarism software to ensure that everything is cited properly. If you are unsure about the proper way to cite, it is advised that you discuss it with Dr. Egloff well prior to the deadline.

Schedule

Important Dates – *Mark these on your calendar*

N. B. – There will also be quizzes and intermediate assignments throughout the semester.

- *Friday 30 August 2019* – Submit Oral Presentation Choices
- *Thursday 12 September 2019* – Submit Poster
- *Friday 4 October 2019* – Submit Paper #1 via TurnItIn
- *Friday 18 October 2019* – Submit Project Topic
- *Friday 1 November 2019* – Submit Paper #2 via TurnItIn
- *Friday 15 November 2019* – Submit Project Outline
- *Friday 13 December 2019* – Submit Projects via TurnItIn

Week #1 – Introduction (19-25 August 2019)

Week #2 – Middle East and North Africa (26 August - 1 September 2019)

- *Friday 30 August 2019* – Submit Oral Presentation Choices

Week #3 – Middle East and North Africa (continued) (2-8 September 2019)

Week #4 – Mediterranean (9-15 September 2019)

- *Thursday 12 September 2019* – Submit Poster

Week #5 – Mediterranean (continued) (16-22 September 2019)

Week #6 – South Asia and Library Workshop (23-29 September 2019)

Week #7 – South Asia (continued) (30 September - 6 October 2019)

- *Friday 4 October 2019* – Submit Paper #1 via TurnItIn

Week #8 – East Asia (7-13 October 2019)

Early dismissal Thursday 10 October 2019, Faculty Development Friday 11 October

Week #9 – East Asia (continued) (14-20 October 2019)

IMSA closed Monday 14 October 2019

- *Friday 18 October 2019* – Submit Project Topic

Week #10 – The Silk Road (21-27 October 2019)

Week #11 – The Arabian Peninsula (28 October - 3 November 2019)

- *Friday 1 November 2019* – Submit Paper #2 via TurnItIn

Week #12 – Islamic Diaspora (4-10 November 2019)

Week #13 – Africa (11-17 November 2019)

- *Friday 15 November 2019* – Submit Project Outline

Week #14 – Meetings to Discuss Projects (18-24 November 2019)

Week #15 – Review and Reflection (25 November-1 December 2019)

Early dismissal Tuesday 26 November – No classes for the rest of the week

Week #16 – The Americas (2-8 December 2019)

Week #17 – Europe (9-15 December 2019)

- *Friday 13 December 2019* – Submit Projects via TurnItIn

Final Class – Reflection on the Themes of the Course (Monday 16 December 2019)