History 4488: Approaches to World History
Spring 2011
Room 2035 Social Science Building
Dr. Ryan Ronnenberg
Monday/Wednesday 8-9:15 am
Office Hours: 9:30-10:45 am, M/W, and by appointment.
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Objectives:

1) To cultivate a thorough and functional knowledge of World History as a discipline and theoretical orientation.
2) To appreciate the construction of World Historical arguments and their critical evaluation.
3) To learn to convey such arguments in a classroom setting.

Basis for Final Grades:

You will, in this course, find yourself reading and writing quite a bit. You will take two take-home, essay examinations. Each of these will make up approximately a quarter of your grade. The other half of your grade is determined by a lesson plan and group presentation in which you will demonstrate your ability to relay world historical thinking to others. The course uses a conventional grading scale (detailed below.)

A=89.5 or better
B=79.5 to 89.49
C=69.5 to 79.49
D=59.5 to 69.49
F=59.49 or below

Required Texts:


Academic Integrity Statement:

Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section II of the Student Code of
Conduct addresses the University’s policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to University materials, misrepresentation/falsification of University records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious/intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the University Judiciary Program, which includes either an “informal” resolution by a faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct’s minimum one semester suspension requirement.

**Attendance Policy:**

I will not be taking attendance during the course of the term. Please Note, however, that examinations will draw from both the text and from lectures, and success in the class will likely entail regular attendance and note-taking.

**Course Outline:**

August

17 Introductions, Definitions

22 History and Narrative. Reading: Herodotus (Online)

24 Introducing Baudolino (Historical Truth Claims). Reading: Begin Baudolino

29 Discussion of Baudolino. Reading: First Half of Baudolino.

31 Concluding Discussion of Baudolino: Finish Reading Baudolino.

September

5 (No Class-Holiday)

7 Teaching World History: Bias? Perspective?

12 Teaching World History: Cultural Difference and the Exotic

14

**Midterm Take-Home Examination**

19

21

26