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 a quarter of your grade. The other half of your grade is determined by a lesson plan (25% of your grade) and a presentation (25% of your grade) 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 take attendance at irregular intervals during the semester. To encourage attendance and preparation, a quiz component may be introduced as a portion of the final grade at my discretion. Success in this course will be difficult without regular attendance.

Course Outline: Tentative Schedule

Week One (August 19 and 21)
Introductions and Definitions
History and Narrative
Reading: Herodotus (Online)

Week Two (August 26 and 28)
Introducing *Baudolino* (Historical Truth Claims).
Reading: Begin *Baudolino*

Week Three (September 2 [Labor Day-No Class] and 4)
The Green Honey Episode
Reading: First half of *Baudolino*

Week Four (September 9 and 11)
The River or Rock and Prestor John’s Kingdom
*Bias* and Teaching World History
Reading: Finish reading *Baudolino*

Week Five (September 16 and 18)
Perspective and Exoticism in Teaching World History
Introducing World History Scholarship
Reading: Marks (Introduction)

Week Six (September 23 and 25)
Marks Chapter 1: Introducing Key Concepts: Contingency
Marks Chapter 2: Key Concepts: Conjunction

Week Seven (September 30 and October 2)
Marks Chapter 3
Lesson Plans and the World History Classroom (Guest Lecture)
**Take-home Midterm Sept 30-October 4**

Week Eight (October 7 and 9)
October 11 Last day to withdraw without academic penalty

Week Nine (October 14 and 16)
Marks Chapter 6
Individual Meetings Regarding Presentations

Week Ten (October 21 and 23)
Marks Chapter 7
Concluding Marks Discussion: World History and its Relevance to Contemporary Concerns

Week Eleven (October 28 and 30)
Teaching World History: Hook Activities
Teaching World History: Classroom Strategies

Week Twelve (November 4 and 6)
Teaching World History: Tough Topics and the Comfortable Classroom
Teaching World History: Media, Balance, Attention spans in the evolving US history classroom

Week Thirteen (November 11 and 13)
Student Presentation Days #1 and #2

Week Fourteen (November 18 and 20)
Student Presentation Days #3 and #4

Week Fifteen (November 25 [University closed November 27])
Student Presentation Day #5

Week Sixteen (December 2 and 4)
Student Presentation Days #6 and #7
Lesson Plans Due on Final Day of Class
Final Exam Available Online