History 4488: Approaches to World History
Room 3019 Social Science Building
Dr. Ryan Ronnenberg
Monday/Wednesday 12:30-1:45 pm
Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday 2-5 pm
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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 a quarter of your grade. The other half of your grade is determined by a lesson plan and a presentation in which you will demonstrate your ability to convey 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 in the course at semi-random intervals. Attendance is required, and examinations will draw from both the texts, lectures, and class discussion. Success in the class will entail regular attendance and note-taking.

**Course Outline:**

- **Week One (August 18-24)**
  - Monday: Introductions and Expectations
  - Wednesday: Historical Narratives
  - Reading: Herodotus (Online)

- **Week Two (August 25-31)**
  - Monday: Historical Truth Claims
  - Reading: Begin *Baudolino*
  - Wednesday: Teaching World History: Bias? Perspective?

- **Week Three (September 1-7)**
  - Holiday: No Class Monday
  - Wednesday: Teaching World History: Discussing *Baudolino*
  - Reading: First half of *Baudolino* novel

- **Week Four (September 8-14)**
  - Monday: Teaching World History: Cultural Difference and the Exotic
  - Wednesday: Second Discussion Baudolino: Finish *Baudolino*

- **Week Five (September 15-21)**
  - Monday: Introducing Marks (and Marx)
  - Reading: Marks Introduction
Wednesday: Marks Chapter 1

Week Six (September 22-28)
Monday: Presentation Organization and Discussion
Wednesday: Marks Chapter 2

Midterm Exam

Week Seven (September 29-October 5)
Monday: Marks Chapter 3
Wednesday: Engaging Students in World History: Hooks and Beyond

Week Eight (October 6-12)
Monday: Marks Chapter 4
Wednesday: Lesson Plans and Organization

Last Day to Withdraw without Academic Penalty October 8th

Week Nine (October 13-19)
Monday: Marks Chapter 5
Wednesday: Class Planning: One Professor’s Approach

Week Ten (October 20-26)
Monday: Marks Chapter 6
Wednesday: World Historical Pedagogical Exercises

Week Eleven (October 27-November 2)
Monday: Theme Or Chronology?
Wednesday: Balancing Time, Content, Engagement

Week Twelve (November 3-9)
Class Presentations

Week Thirteen (November 10-16)
Class Presentations

Week Fourteen (November 17-23)
Class Presentations

Autumn Break (November 24-30)

Week Fifteen (December 1-7)
Class Presentations

Week Sixteen (December 8 (Last Day))
Class Discussion