

History 2206
Origins of Great Traditions
Online Edition!

Fall 2017

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Office: Social Science 4098

Office Hours: TTH 11:00-1:15PM and by appointment

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Prerequisite: Hist 1110, HIST 1111, or HIST 1112

Course Description “Origins of Great Traditions” will systematically examine five centers of civilization in Afro-Eurasia during their defining moments. The materials and lectures focus on the historical contexts that gave rise to China’s classical philosophies, India’s transcendental world-view, the Judeo-Christian-Islamic synthesis, African mytho-religious systems of thought and the emergence of Latin-European culture in the West. Content emphasizes cross-cultural influences and connections.

The course aims at enabling students to gain a deeper understanding of the historical circumstances that gave rise to the major traditions of the Afro-Eurasian world. It further aims at familiarizing the students with some of the major texts that are at the core of these Great

Traditions and promotes the development of skills in historical analysis when using primary sources. This is a reading and writing intensive course. Strong emphasis is placed on developing critical thinking skills and students will be expected to develop their own conclusions which they will need to be able to express and defend in a logical and clear manner.

Course Objectives: By the end of this course, students should be able to

- 1) identify great traditions of the world.
- 2) explain cultural and historical context which led to formations of great traditions in Afro-Eurasia.
- 3) identify primary sources that helps understand great traditions.
- 4) analyze primary sources and offer interpretations and explanations verbally and in writing.
- 5) identify major themes in world's great traditions, critically analyze and compare different approaches using primary sources, and construct an argument supported by solid evidences.
- 6) express their encounters with cultures other than their own by participating cultural activities and producing reports.

Textbooks:

None required. But this is a reading intensive course. Reading materials are on D2L. You may also find it useful to have a good world history survey text on hand for background information.

Attendance, Participation, and Class Decorum:

Students are expected to attend the electronic lectures and complete assignments in a timely fashion and to keep up with the course schedule. Attendance is monitored using D2L. **Generally, NO LATE assignments will accepted (ABSOLUTELY No weekly assignments will be accepted after 10:00PM on Mondays).** Exceptions can be made only for major assignments weighing more than 15% of overall grade (midterm, final and analytical essay), and only for truly compelling cases. If you find yourself in a situation that makes it difficult to complete a major assignment on time,

please contact your instructor as soon as possible. Please note that approved late assignment will incur a grade penalty.

Students are solely responsible for managing their enrollment status in a course; nonattendance does not constitute a withdrawal.

Withdrawal: Oct 4, 2017 is the last day students can withdraw from this course without academic penalty. A student may withdraw online at www.kennesaw.edu, under Owl Express, Student Services.

Grading Scale

Students are evaluated on the following scale:

A - 90.00% or higher

B - 80.00 %-89.99 %

C - 70.00 %-79.99%

D -60.00%-69.99%

F - Below 60%

I—Indicates an incomplete grade for the course, and will be awarded only when the student has done satisfactory work up to the last two weeks of the semester, but for nonacademic reasons beyond his/her control is unable to meet the full requirements of the course.

Incomplete grades are only valid after submission of the Incomplete Grade form (signed by both the instructor and student) to the Department Chair's office.

If you encounter any technical or personal difficulties (such as seeing "error" message), please let your instructor know. If you contacted your instructor before the exam/quiz/assignment was due, appropriate accommodation may be made. If you simply failed to take the exam/quiz/assignment, you will receive a ZERO.

Course Assessments/Assignments:

Grade Calculations

Weekly Assignments: (40%): 2 lowest grades will be dropped.

Midterm (15%) Multiple choice and quote analysis questions

Final Exam (15%) Multiple choice and quote analysis questions

Analytical Essay (15%): You will be asked to write a cross-cultural comparative essay toward the end of semester. More information in separate page.

Three Cultural Reports (5% x3): more information in separate page.

If you encounter **any technical difficulties** (such as seeing "error" message), please let your instructor know as soon as possible. If you contacted your instructor before the exam/quiz/assignment was due, appropriate accommodation may be made. If you simply failed to take the exam/quiz/assignment, you will receive a **ZERO**.

Assignments will be graded, and grades will be posted, within 10 business days after the assignment due date. If the instructor anticipates a delay in grading, you will be notified as soon as possible.

If you feel the need to question or discuss essay grade, submit a **TYPED REQUEST** along with copy of your essay to the instructor who will then provide a more detailed explanation for you in writing. All questions must be submitted in writing to the instructor on the next scheduled class day following the return of a test or other assignment. **AFTER THE NEXT SCHEDULED CLASS ALL ARGUMENTS WILL BE CONSIDERED CLOSED AND THE INSTRUCTOR WILL NO LONGER BE WILLING TO DISCUSS MATTERS RELATING TO PREVIOUS TESTS OR ASSIGNMENTS.** Submitting request for review of your essay usually does not result in change of your essay grade (since there are usually valid reasons for deduction of some points as well as for fairness to other students) unless you submit a very strong argument.

Writing Center: The KSU Writing Center is a free service offered to all KSU students. Experienced writing assistants work with you throughout the writing process (on concerns such as topic development, revision, research, documentation, grammar, and mechanics) although assistants cannot edit or proofread your paper for you. For more information or to make an appointment, visit <http://www.kennesaw.edu/writingcenter/index.php>

Contacting the Instructor: The best way to contact your instructor is through e-mail: mracel@kennesaw.edu. Your professor will usually respond to email within 48 hours during the week (M-R 9am-5pm). You may also call 470-578-6715 or visit at the KSU campus, Social Sciences building (22), Room 4098. You may wish to call and make an appointment if you plan a

visit--just so that the amount of time you think you'll need will be reserved for you. **DO NOT CONTACT THE INSTRUCTOR AT PERSONAL Cell Phone RESIDENCE UNLESS GIVEN SPECIFIC PERMISSION TO DO SO BY YOUR INSTRUCTOR.**

The University provides all KSU students with an “official” email account with the address “students.kennesaw.edu.” As a result of federal laws protecting educational information and other data, this is the sole email account you should use to communicate with your instructor or other University officials.

Problems and Personal Matters: If you have any difficulty with this course, such as understanding the readings or lectures please contact me. If you have any personal issues that may affect how well you do in the course, please do not hesitate to contact me. Counseling service is also available to KSU students (<http://www.kennesaw.edu/studentsuccessservices/cps/cslgindex.html>).

CAMPUS POLICIES:

Confidentiality and Privacy Statement (FERPA):
<http://enrollmentservices.kennesaw.edu/training/ferpa.php>

University – Student Rights Statement:
<http://catalog.kennesaw.edu/content.php?catoid=27&navoid=2263>

Ethics Statement: <http://scai.kennesaw.edu/codes.php>

Sexual Harassment Statement: <http://scai.kennesaw.edu/codes.php>

Course Accessibility Statement (ADA statement): <http://sss.kennesaw.edu/sds/institutional-policies.php>

Academic Honesty: Students are expected to be familiar and to comply with the regulations regarding academic honesty as described in the Kennesaw State University Catalog.

No student shall receive, attempt to receive, knowingly give or attempt to give unauthorized assistance in the preparation of any work required to be submitted for credit (including examinations, laboratory reports, essays, themes, term papers, etc.). Unless specifically authorized, the presence and/or use of electronic devices during an examination, quiz, or other class assignment is considered cheating. Engaging in any behavior that a professor prohibits as academic misconduct in the syllabus or in class discussion is cheating. When direct quotations are used, they should be indicated, and

when the ideas, theories, data, figures, graphs, programs, electronic based information or illustrations of someone other than the student are incorporated into a paper or used in a project, they should be duly acknowledged. No student may submit the same, or substantially the same, paper or other assignment for credit in more than one class without the prior permission of the current professor(s).

(from Section II-A of the KSU Student Code of Conduct, as modified for Fall semester 2011)

Students found violating any of these policies (especially plagiarism and cheating) **WILL AUTOMATICALLY FAIL** this course and be turned over to the appropriate school authorities for further prosecution. There will be no exceptions. **If you need help in adding citations, speak to your instructor about the proper way to document your work.**

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