History 4488: Approaches to World History
Spring 2010
Room 2027 Social Science Building
Dr. Ryan Ronnenberg
Monday/Wednesday 2-3:15 pm
Office Hours: 3:30-4:45 pm, MW, and by appointment.
Office: 4090 Social Science
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Office Phone: 770-499-3463

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 makes up a third of your grade. The final third is represented by a group project which will evaluate your ability to use world historical thinking to work relaying it 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:

Week One
Readings: None.
No Meetings.

Week Two
Readings: Online Selections from Herodotus
Monday, January 11 Introductions, Expectations, Outline of the Course
Wednesday, January 13 “History” according to the “Historians”

Week Three
Readings: Opening Chapters of Baudolino.
Monday, January 18 [No class.]
Wednesday, January 20 Narratives of “the Other” and World History. Lecture concerning historical fiction and history writing). Class book discussion.

Week Four
Readings: Finish Baudolino.
Monday, January 25. Truth, Fiction, and Historical Record.

Wednesday, January 27 Finish Discussion of Baudolino. Begin Examining Marks.

Week Five
Readings: *The Origins of the Modern World*, Chapters One and Two
Monday, February 1 Marks, Chapter 1
Wednesday, February 3 Marks, Chapter 2 (China)

Week Six
Readings: *The Origins of the Modern World*, 3 and 4
Monday, February 8 Marks, Chapter 3 (Empire and the “New World”)
Wednesday, February 10 Marks, Chapter 4 (Industrialization).

Week Seven
Readings: *The Origins of the Modern World*, 5 and 6
Monday, February 15.

Wednesday, February 17. (Tentative) No class. Use the time for the take-home exam.

Week Eight
Readings: *The Origins of the Modern World*, Conclusion
Monday, February 22, 1st take-home exam posted online.

Wednesday, February 24, The World at 1000 CE, Introductory Lecture.

Week Nine

Monday, March 1, Collect take-home exam in class.
Wednesday, March 3,

Week Ten
Monday, March 8, Spring Break, No Class.
Wednesday, March 10, Spring Break, No Class.

Week Eleven
Readings:
Monday, March 15,
Wednesday, March 17,

Week Eleven
Readings:
Monday, March 22,
Wednesday, March 25,

Week Twelve
Readings:
Monday, March 29,
Wednesday, March 31,

Week Thirteen
Readings:
Monday, April 5,
Wednesday, April 7,

Week Fourteen
Readings:
Monday, April 12,
Wednesday, April 14,

Week Fifteen
Readings:
Monday, April 19, 3rd take-home posted online.
Wednesday, April 21,

Week Sixteen
Monday, April 26,
Wednesday, April 28, 3rd take-home exam collected.