Spring Semester 2014  
Mondays and Wednesdays, 12:30-13:45  
Social Science Building 2036  

Professor Paul Dover  
Social Science Building 4108  
Phone: 470-578-6728  
pdover@kennesaw.edu (please use D2L-BS mail for questions regarding class content and conduct)  
Office Hours: MW 11-12:15, 14:00-16:00; T 9-12  

Overview  

This course offers a basic introduction to the history of humankind. It can act only as an overview of human history, and is designed to be general in its coverage, but with detailed
examination of particular episodes and subjects that highlight particularly interesting or provocative questions for consideration. The thematic focus of this course is what happens when the various world cultures intersect and how they end up influencing each other. My hope is that along the way, we can see through to enjoying ourselves as fellow time travelers, as we speed through space and time.

It is the view of Kennesaw State University (and of this instructor) that an educated person should have a basic knowledge of outlines of world history. This is why this course has been included in the General Education curriculum. The stated, basic objectives of the Department of History for History 1110 are as follows:

1. Acquaint the student with the broad sweep of world history from the Neolithic period to the present.
2. Introduce the student to the nature and sources of historical knowledge.
3. Introduce the student to diverse cultural traditions and norms that have developed in different civilizations and different eras.
4. Familiarize the student with geographical knowledge relevant to world history and contemporary affairs.
5. Contribute to developing the student’s ability to write clear, coherent prose.

**PLEASE READ THIS SYLLABUS CAREFULLY, AS YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL ITS CONTENTS.**

**Texts**


Primary Sources accessible by hyperlinks in the class schedule below

**D2L - Brightspace**

This course is supported by DESIRE2LEARN Brightspace (hereafter D2L - BS), and students should consult the course’s BS site regularly. This syllabus is available at the course’s site, as are additional readings and assignment guidelines. Please access the material there and print it out for your own use. BS also host dropboxes at which you will hand in all of your written assignments. I will also post your grades on BS, and will occasionally solicit your participation in discussion forums. From time to time, I will post additional materials of interest to the class on the site. I will announce when we do this in class, but please also check the class BS site regularly. If you are not familiar with the BS course management program, please spend some time getting to know it.

D2L-BS may be accessed at [http://d2l.kennesaw.edu/](http://d2l.kennesaw.edu/)

**UTA**
Ms. Anna Rice is the undergraduate teaching assistant (UTA) for this course. UTAs are chosen from among upperclassmen, like Anna, who are history majors and who have compiled outstanding academic records. She will assist the instructor in managing a number of aspects of the course, will offer review sessions and will also deliver two class presentations of her own. You should consult Anna for questions about course conduct and expectations and for basic questions about class content – use her D2L-BS e-mail to ask these questions. If Anna is unable to answer your question, she will refer it to me. Anna will also keep the class roll. She will not do any grading beyond that of quizzes. Please extend every respect and courtesy to Anna that you would to the professor.

**Required Work**

- 2 in-class exams, on 18 February and 23 March (40%)
- final exam on 4 May (25%)
- A 2-page assignment on Marco Polo’s *Travels*, due 11 March (10%)
- Announced and unannounced periodic reading quizzes (15%)
- A critical essay of 3-4 pages, on a subject to be announced, due 22 April (20%)

**Other considerations:**

- I do not give extra credit assignments
- All written assignments must be submitted in hard copy and in the D2L-BS dropbox. An assignment is not considered turned in until both of these things have been done. The hard copies should be stapled, double-spaced, with one-inch margins and in a 12-point, black font.
- Assignments are due in class on the day indicated. Late work will be penalized one full grade for each class day it is late. Exceptions will be made only with a signed note from a physician or lawyer and these must be submitted within one week of the missed due date. Work that is more than a week late will not be accepted for credit.
- Missed exams and assignments will be scored as a ‘0’.
- Grading scale:  
  - 90-100 A  
  - 80-89 B  
  - 70-79 C  
  - 60-69 D  
  - <60 F  
- Grade appeals must be submitted to me in writing and within a week of receiving the grade.
- Please read carefully the information on academic integrity included in this syllabus

**Attendance**

Attendance is essential for success in this course. All the material that we discuss in class meetings will be tested. Should you miss class, you remain responsible for all handouts, notes and announcements about schedules and assignments. I am contractually bound to keep track of who comes to class. I use a sign-in sheet for attendance that will be distributed by the UTA. You are permitted 5 unexcused absences in the course of the semester: all documentation must be provided within one week of the absence. Only documented
medical or legal absences will be excused – car trouble, romantic entanglements and working an extra shift at your job don’t count, so don’t ask. I will deduct a letter grade from your final grade for each absence beyond 5.

Please be on time to class. In his autobiography, Nelson Mandela wrote that he always sought to be on time, as tardiness was indicative of a lack of respect for the other individual – words to live by. Nelson Mandela, as far as I know, said nothing about leaving class to go to the bathroom or talk on one’s cellphone. But don’t do that either – take care of it before class.

**Academic Integrity:**

Research has indicated that 40-60% of American college students reported cheating on examinations in college. Over half of the students who reported cheating in college were repeat offenders who used a variety of nefarious techniques to achieve their objective. While we assume the best of all students, we are also well aware of these realities.

Please read the statement on Academic Honesty in the Kennesaw State University Undergraduate Catalog. 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.

We take instances of plagiarism very seriously. If we have questions about the integrity of your work, we will ask to meet with you. If outstanding questions remain, we will adhere to the policies above. **Please note: the penalty for cheating and/or plagiarism in this course is a failing grade for the semester. I will report all incidents of plagiarism to the Office of Student Affairs, and the incident will become part of your official record.**

**Student Deportment:**

In striving to create a scholarly, collegial and efficient classroom environment for my students, I cannot and will not tolerate rude and obnoxious behavior such as talking, texting and other use of smart phones, reading of extraneous material such as newspapers or Harlequin romances, sleeping, and other antisocial activities. Please also consult the guidelines for the use of electronic devices below.

**Electronic Devices in Class:**
Tape recording of class sessions is permitted, but beepers and cell phones are to be turned off in class. Devices that ring or beep in class will be run through the department paper shredder – no joke. If these devices are needed for emergency use, please let the instructors know before class and set them to silent or pulse. In the course of the semester, I will give you one warning regarding the use of smart phones. The second time you will be asked to leave for the remainder of the class period. You may use laptop computers during class time, but under no circumstances use them to send e-mail, update your Facebook status, check your fantasy team, gamble, or try your luck with Match.com. If I find you using them for any non-scholarly purposes, or if you are an exceptionally loud typist, I reserve the right to rescind your laptop privileges.

**Class and Reading Schedule**

Please note: this schedule is subject to change, at the instructor’s discretion.

**W, 7 January** – The Past, History and Historians

**M, 12 January** – Earth: the first 4.5395 billion years
Video: [PBS’ Origins of the Earth](http://pbs.org/)

**W, 14 January** – Welcome to the Holocene
Reading: Reilly, Chapter 1

**M, 19 January** – No class: holiday

**W, 21 January** – Cities and the Invention of Culture
Reading: Reilly, Chapter 2
Source: [The Law Code of Hammurabi (ca. 1780 BCE)](http://law.affected.org/hammu/hammu.htm)

**M, 26 January** – Iron Age
Source: Herodotus describes Babylon

**W, 28 January** – It’s all Greek to me
Reading: Reilly, Chapter 3
Source: Aristotle’s *Politics on the origins of the polis*

**M, 2 February** – *The Clouds*
Reading: *The Clouds* (Aristophanes, 65-130)

**W, 4 February** – *Lysistrata*
Reading: *Lysistrata* (Aristophanes, 133-193)

**M, 9 February** – The Axial Age
Source: *The Ten Commandments (Exodus 20)*
Source: Buddha’s First Sermon
Source: Confucius’ *Analects* (selections)

**W, 11 February** – When in Rome
M, 16 February – Human Migration and the Fate of Empires
Reading: Reilly, Chapter 4
Source: Jor danes, The Battle of Châlons
Source: Building and Maintaining the Great Wall of China (a narrative Han history)

W, 18 February – Exam #1

M, 23 February – Seal of the Prophets
Source: Qur’an Surahs 1, 47

W, 25 February – Poles of the Silk Road – China and Europe (Anna Rice)
Reading: Reilly, Chapter 5

M, 2 March – The Mongol Explosion
Source: The Journey of Friar John of Pian de Carpine to the Court of Kuyuk Khan, 1245-1247

T, 3 March – Last day to withdraw without penalty

W, 4 March – Marco Polo, The Travels (pp. 7-112)

M, 9 March – Marco Polo, The Travels (pp. 113-193, 260-294)

W, 11 March – The Americas before Columbus
Reading: Reilly, Chapter 6
Assignment due: Did Marco Polo Go to China?

M, 16 March – Islam’s Second Wave and the Indian Ocean System
Reading: Reilly, Chapter 7
Source: François Bernier, An Account of the Great Moghul

W, 18 March – The Shrinking of the World
Source: Manuel Jose Quintana, Balboa Sees the Pacific Ocean (1513)

M, 23 March – Exam #2

W, 25 March – The Transatlantic Slave Trade
Reading: Reilly, Chapter 8

M, 30 March – The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano, Volume 1

W, 1 April – The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano, Volume 2

April 6 & 8 – Spring Break

M, 13 April - Revolutions and Nations
Reading: Reilly, Chapter 9  
Source: Declaration of the Rights of Man (1789)

**W, 15 April** – Science and Industry  
Source: Benjamin Franklin, Experiments with Balloons (1783)

**M, 20 April** – Imperialism and its Discontents (Anna Rice)  
Reading: Reilly, Chapter 10  
Source: Rudyard Kipling, The White Man’s Burden (1899)  
Source: Henry Labouchere, The Brown Man’s Burden (1899)

**W, 22 April** – The Closing of the Frontiers  
**Assignment due: Critical Essay**

**M, 27 April** – The World’s Civil War, 1914-1989  
Reading: Reilly, Chapter 11  
Source: Paul Valéry, On European Civilization and the European Mind (1919, 1922)

**W, 29 April** – Our World: Coming Together, Splitting Apart  
Reading: Reilly, Chapter 12

**M, 4 May @ 1pm**: Final Exam