

SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY
Fall 2021

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HIST 3301 Sec 001/MC1
MAB 302
Monday 6:00-8:50pm

Ancient Civilisations

Course Description: *Ancient Civilisations (3-0)*. A survey of the civilizations of the ancient world until the 4th century AD. Coverage will have an emphasis on the non-western civilizations of Mesopotamia, India, China, and Iran.

Required Texts: *Who were the Babylonians?* Bill T. Arnold. Archaeology and Biblical Studies No. 10. (Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2004.) ISBN 978-1589831063

Recommended Texts: *The New Penguin Atlas of Ancient History*. Rev. Ed. Colin McEvedy. London: Penguin Books Ltd., 2002. ISBN: 978-0140513486 (*Available on the Internet Archive*)
The New Penguin Atlas of Medieval History. Rev. Ed. Colin McEvedy. London: Penguin Books Ltd., 1992. ISBN: 978-0140512496. (*Available on the Internet Archive*)

Assignments:

Reading Syntheses & Reading Questions (15)	Examinations (2)	Critical Book Reviews (1)
Primary Source Essays (3)	In-Class Discussions (10)	

Student Learning Outcomes:

The graduating student with a B. A. in History will:

1. Develop an informed, critical and articulate approach to the study of history.
Marketable Skills: Critical Thinking: *Absorption, comprehension, synthesis of Data*
Ibid: Development of pattern recognition and causal skills.
Global Fluency: *Ability to place the United States in a global context*
2. The history student will demonstrate knowledge of American History, World History, and Non-American History
Marketable Skills: *Students can meet deadlines in a successful manner.*
Students can discharge responsibilities in an adequate manner.
Students can manage the absorption of data.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of historical events, movements, major turning points and personalities of the past.
Marketable Skills: Professionalism: *Knowledge and understanding of the civic roles and responsibilities of a United States citizen.*
Critical Thinking/Professionalism: *Ability to relate the importance of the historical past when considering public policy decisions.*
4. The history student will demonstrate the ability to write about topics in historiography and how those topics are interpreted.
Marketable Skills: *Students can utilize data to persuade various audiences.*
Students can utilize data to generate and strengthen ideas.
Students can decipher stances adopted by various individuals.
5. The history student will demonstrate historical research skills in a logically organized, written paper that is mechanically correct and supported by relevant documentation of historical content
Marketable skills: *Students can identify useful resources from a pool of data.*
Students can select and organize data in a relevant manner.
Students can make written presentations to various audiences

SLO's will be assessed as follows:

- Examinations (2) will assess SLOs 1-4
- Primary Source Essays (3) will assess SLOs 1-5

Critical Book Reviews will assess SLOs 1-5
In-Class Discussions will assess SLO's 1-3

**Student Learning
Outcomes:**

Students who complete HIST 3300 with a grade of "C" or higher will:

- 1) Be able to trace the historical development of ancient civilizations including, but not limited to, the following: Mesopotamia, Ancient Near East, Persian Empire, Ancient India, Ancient China, Greece & the Hellenistic World, Roman Empire, Sassanian Persia, Byzantine Empire through political, economic, socio-cultural developments.
- 2) Be able to chart long-term historical and political trends in the Ancient World up to the 4th century A.D.
- 3) Demonstrate knowledge of key historical events, movements and personalities in the Ancient World through the 4th century.
- 4) Understand the role that historical interpretation plays in the assessment of the past and be able to identify and critique various and differing interpretations of the past.
- 5) Demonstrate knowledge of the historical and political geography as related to the topics of the Ancient World.
- 6) The development of critical thinking and writing skills through essay test questions, a research report and critical book reviews.

TExES Standards:

Students seeking teacher certification in the History and Social Studies 7-12 areas will cover the following standards, domains and competencies in this course.

History 7-12: Standards II, IV, V & IX

Social Studies 7-12: Standards II, IV, V & IX

Course

Requirements:

Academic Honesty - Students in this class are expected to demonstrate scholarly behaviour and academic honesty in the use of intellectual property. A scholar is expected to be punctual, prepared, and focused; meaningful and pertinent participation is appreciated. Examples of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to: Turning in work as original that was used in whole or part for another course and/or professor; turning in another person's work as one's own; copying from professional works or internet sites without citation; collaborating on a course assignment, examination, or quiz when collaboration is forbidden.

A. D. A. Statement: Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. It is the students responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact:

Rebecca Greathouse Wren, LPC-S

Counseling and Accessibility Services,

Ferguson Hall 112

Mailing Address: P. O. Box C-171; Alpine, TX 79832

Phone: (432) 837-8203

E-mail: Rebecca.wren@sulross.edu

If you have an accessibility letter from the C. A. S it is your responsibility to ensure that the instructor has received a copy of it so your specific accommodations can be met.

Appealing the Final Grade: If students wish to appeal their grade, this discussion should begin with the instructor and proceed according to university policies and procedures. For university policies on appealing a grade, please see the Student Handbook for the procedures in place.

Attendance - It is highly recommended you attend class. Per SRSU requirements attendance is taken at the beginning of each class.

Classroom Climate of Respect: Importantly, this class will foster free expression, critical investigation, and the open discussion of ideas. This means that all of us must

help create and sustain an atmosphere of tolerance, civility, and respect for the viewpoints of others. Similarly, we must all learn how to probe, oppose and disagree without resorting to tactics of intimidation, harassment, or personal attack. No one is entitled to harass, belittle, or discriminate against another on the basis of race, religion, ethnicity, age, gender, national origin, or sexual preference. Still we will not be silenced by the difficulty of fruitfully discussing politically sensitive issues.

Cell Phone Policy: Turn all electronic devices to silent and put them away. Use of electronic devices during the class is strictly prohibited, and users electronic devices may be asked to leave the class. YES, THIS REFERS TO TRYING TO HIDE & USE YOUR CELL PHONE UNDER THE DESK.

Contacting the Instructor: My office telephone number and e-mail are included for emergencies. E-mail is the preferred method of communication. Please use the following format in your subject line for any e-mail communications: YOUR NAME: HIST 2301-Subject of E-mail.

Late Assignments: Assignments turned in late will lose 10% off their maximum grade each day the assignment is late. After 4 days you will receive a grade of “F”.

Make Up Exam Policy: Make up exams will only be given because of documented emergency situations such as severe/extreme medical conditions for yourself or a dependent, or in the case of a death in the immediate family. Students who have this type of problem must either contact the instructor by e-mail or phone prior to the date of the exam OR bring in a validated excuse upon their first day back in the course. Please note that make up exam will not be the same as the ones given in class.

On Writing Well: The members of the history faculty believe that it is important that students be encouraged to write well in classes other than English. To that end, each examination will contain essay questions; while major assignments such as readings summaries, concise historical notebooks, and a critical book review will be required. Points may be deducted from your grade for the overall quality of the essay, reflection or paper, including spelling and grammatical errors. (HINT: Use **Spelling & Grammar Check**).

Writing Tutoring: Students needing assistance with writing are urged to use the services of the Writing Lab, part of the Tutoring and Learning Centre, located in the Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library first floor. Please note that while the writing tutors can help you with grammar, structure, formatting and citations they will not write assignments for you nor are they editors.

Student

Responsibilities:

You are responsible for attending all lectures, taking notes and completing the readings.
You are responsible for getting notes from a missed class from a classmate.
You are responsible for turning in assignments on time.
You are responsible for being in class to take quizzes and exams
You are responsible for verifying your enrollment in or withdrawal from the course. If you quit the class, but your name still appears on the Banner grade sheet at the end of the semester you will receive an “F” for the course.

Instructor

Responsibilities:

Mr. Marsh will know the course content; explain relevant concepts and principles; facilitate class participation; hold office hours; treat students fairly and with respect; and create a positive learning environment.
Mr. Marsh will field any question on the course content
Mr. Marsh will return assignments in a reasonable amount of time.

Mr. Marsh will hold office hours and answer student e-mails on the course.

Course Assignments:

Exams: There will be two examinations for this class, a mid-term and a final exam, based on readings, lectures and discussion boards. Exams may consist of multiple choice, true/false, short answer and essay questions at the discretion of the instructor.

Reading Syntheses & Questions: History is a discipline based around written documents. Because of this reading the text is a critical part of understanding the material and successfully completing the course. We will be reading one book, plus a series of excerpts and chapters, over the course the semester. Each week you will be assigned a portion of the book, or a specific excerpt to read. With each lesson you will write a one-to-two page synthesis based on the readings for that lesson. Second, you must also write three critical questions that you have from the readings. These must be complete sentence questions, not one-word answer questions. *(See Appendix I for Complete Details)*

Critical Book Review: Each student will complete a critical book review during the course of the semester over the book *Who Were the Babylonians?* by Bill T. Arnold. *(See Appendix III for complete details.)*

Primary Source – Short Essays:

To introduce to you to working with primary source documents, and basic historical research writing, three 1000 word short essays are required in this class. With each essay assignment you will be given a primary source document and a constructed response question that requires you to analyze and respond to the prompt in your essay. Finished essays will be uploaded to Blackboard and run through SafeAssign. *(See Appendix V for further Details).*

In-Class Discussions: We will be reading one book, plus a series of excerpts and chapters, over the course the semester. For ten of the assigned readings we will have an in-class discussion over the readings and the reading questions you developed while writing your syntheses.

Attendance & Participation: You are expected to actively participate in the course. This means completing the assigned readings, assignments, asking questions and participating in discussions.

Extra Credit: Students who attend a Lobo Literati League meeting will receive 10 points of extra credit with documented proof from Dr. Stein. Other extra credit opportunities during the semester will be noted by the instructor. Maximum of 30 points extra credit.

Grading Breakdown:

Assignment	Number	Points Ea.	Assignment Total Points
Reading Syntheses & Questions	15	20 pts	300 pts
Examinations	2	100 pts	200 pts
Critical Book Review	1	150 pts	150 pts
Primary Source - Short Essays	3	50 pts	150 pts
In-Class Discussion	10	15 pts	150 pts
Attendance & Participation			50 pts
			1000 Total Points Possible

Grade System:

A = 1000 – 900
B = 899 – 800

C = 799 – 700
D = 699 – 600

F = 599 - 0 points

Schedule of Lectures & Readings

Week I (23 August)

Lecture: Syllabus, Introduction to course, Rise of Civilisations.
Reading: Starr. *History of the Ancient World* (excerpts on Blackboard)
Recommended: McEvedy - *Ancient History*: Maps up to 2700BC

Week II (30 August)

Lecture: Research Refresher, Sumer & Akkad, Rise of Egypt
Reading: Arnold. *Who Were the Babylonians?* Ch. 1-2
Recommended: McEvedy - *Ancient History*: 2200, 1800, 1550BC
Assignment Due: 28 January - Bibliography of sources for Ancient Greece report

Week III (6 September) Labour Day Holiday – Lecture Posted on Blackboard

Lecture: Bronze Age Near East, 3rd Intermediate Period,
Reading: Arnold. *Who Were the Babylonians?* Ch. 3-4
Recommended: McEvedy - *Ancient History*: 1300, 1200/1100, 900, 670, 560BC

Week IV (13 September)

Lecture: Assyrian & Neo- Babylonian Empires
Reading: Arnold. *Who Were the Babylonians?* Ch. 5-6
Recommended: McEvedy - *Ancient History*: 1550, 1480BC

Week V (20 September) No Class – Lecture Posted on Blackboard

Lecture: Bronze Age Powers I - Minoan & Mycenaean, Mitanni. Hittites, Egyptian Empire, End of the Bronze Age
Reading: Drews. *The End of the Bronze Age*. Ch. 2
Recommended: McEvedy - *Ancient History*: BC

Week VI (27 September)

Lecture: India - Continent and Country, After Harappa - Aryan Conquest & Settlement
Reading: Habib. *The Indus Civilization*. Ch. 1-2
Recommended: McEvedy - *Ancient History*: BC
Assignment Due: 25 February - Ancient Greece Research Report Due

Week VII (4 October)

Lecture: Maurya Empire, Post-Mauryan India, Gupta India - the Classical Age
Reading: Sharma. *India's Ancient Past*. Ch. 16, 18, 20, 24 & 25. (Excerpts on Blackboard)
Recommended: McEvedy - *Ancient History*: BC

Week VIII (11 October) No Class – Lecture Posted on Blackboard

Lecture: China - Early Cultures, Sya (Xia) and Shang Dynasties
Reading: Rodzinski *History of China* (Excerpts on Blackboard)
Recommended:
Mid-Term Exam

Week IX (18 October)

Lecture: China – Chou Dynasties, States & Warfare, the First Empire
Reading: Rodzinski *History of China* Brooks & Brooks. *The Emergence of China*. Ch. 8
Recommended:

Week X (25 October)

Lecture: Iran - Indo-Iranian Migrations, Medes & Persians, Achaemenid Empire
Reading: Farrokh. *Shadows in the Desert*. (Excerpts on Blackboard.)
Recommended: McEvedy - *Ancient History*: 650, 560, 515BC

Week XI (1 November)

Lecture: Iran - Impact of Alexander, Parthian Empire, Rise of the Sasanians
Reading: Daryaee Ed. *The King of the Seven Climes* Ch.
Recommended: McEvedy - *Ancient History*: 301, 131, 76, 27BC, AD 135, AD 230, AD 305.

Week XII (8 November)

Lecture: Iran - Sasanian Empire, Superpowers of the Near East, Byzano-Sasanian War.

Reading: Daryaei Ed. *The King of the Seven Climes* Ch.

Recommended: McEvedy - *Medieval History*: AD362, 476, 565, 600, 626, 651

Week XIII (15 November)

Lecture: Ancient Greece: From Wane to Polis to Empire.

Reading: Matyszak. *The Greeks* Ch. 1 & 3

Recommended: McEvedy - *Ancient History*: 515, 415, 375, 323, 301, 270, 220, 192BC

Week XIV (22 November)

Lecture: Ancient Rome: Kingdom to Republic, Republic to Empire.

Reading: Starr. *Ancient World*. Ch. 4 & 5

Recommended: McEvedy - *Ancient History*: 145, 74, 44 BC, AD 14,79, 138, 230

Week XV (29 November)

Lecture: Byzantine Empire - Rome of the East, End of the Ancient World

Reading: Whitting. *Byzantium: An Introduction*. Ch. 1 & 2.

Recommended: McEvedy - *Medieval History*: AD 362, 420, 451, 476, 528, 565, 600, 626, 651.

Week XVI (3, 6-8 December)

Final Examination. Date TBA

Note: Lectures and Readings are tentative and may be changed at the discretion of the Instructor

Appendix I: Reading Syntheses & Reading Questions

I: Learning Objective

The book readings are designed to introduce students to the varied civilisations of the Ancient World, highlight the socio-political differences between the 21st centuries B. C. and A. D., and promote critical thinking. The reading synthesis is designed to build knowledge and skills related to the study of history including but not limited to: reading comprehension, interpretation and synthesis, critical thinking, time management and writing in Standard English.

II. Directions

Each week you will an assigned reading, either from one of the required books or from an excerpt posted by the instructor. After reading the assigned pages, first, write a one page synthesis of the topics and information found in the textbook readings. A synthesis is not designed to be exhaustive, but to give a brief overview of what is being covered. Look at what the main ideas and topics are in the chapter when beginning to outline your summary.

Second, you must also write three questions that you have from the readings. These must be complete sentence questions not one word answer questions. Questions will be discussed as part of the in-class discussions.

III. Format

Assignments need to be completed in Microsoft Word. All pages to be double-spaced and using 12pt Times New Roman or Cambria font.

- Your Name, Date, HIST 3300 and the assignment week need to be in the upper right-hand corner of the page.
- Original title for the summary on next line, centred
- Body of the synthesis
- NO QUOTES FROM THE TEXTBOOK OR READINGS IN THE SYNTHESIS

IV. Discussion Board Grade Sheet

Name:	Chapter #:
Number of Comments:	Grade:

1) Preliminary Matter

A) Loss of 2 points for excessive spelling and grammar errors (10+) _____

B) Loss of 1 point for:

- 1) Assignments without a name
- 2) Assignments in a font other than Times New Roman or Cambria.
- 3) Assignments without required title information

2) Substance of the Assignment (Total Possible Points = 20 points) _____

- A) Shows evidence of reading the chapter _____ (5 pts)
- B) Recognises and discusses primary themes of the reading. _____ (5 pts)
- C) Recognises & discusses impact of major historical figures covered in the reading. _____ (5pts)
- C) Evidence of synthesis and interpretation _____ (5pts)

3) Formatting Deductions

D) Uses quotes from textbook or reading -2 points. _____

Appendix II: Critical Book Reviews

I: Learning Objective

The critical book review is designed to build knowledge and skills related to the study of history including but not limited to: reading comprehension, historical interpretation and synthesis, factual analysis, critical thinking, time management and writing in standard English.

II. Directions

- A) Each student will write two critical book reviews. The first book review will be on the first book we will read this semester, *Who Were the Babylonians?* For the second book review you will choose one of the remaining four books we read this semester to review. Each book review will be 3-4 pages in length.
- B) There is no one correct way to write a book review. However, as you read, it is suggested you look for some or all of the following topics.¹
- a) What historical subject is the author writing about and what field does the book fit into?
 - b) What is the main thesis (central argument) of the book?
 - c) How does the author structure the book? Is the presentation of the book clear, orderly and logical?
 - d) What primary sources does the author use?
 - e) Does the author appear to have done comprehensive research for the book?
 - f) What supplemental features such as maps, charts, illustrations and/or bibliography does the book have? How well do they help you understand the book?
 - g) How well does the author write and is the writing easily understandable?
 - h) Are there any factual errors that jump out? People or events that the author has overlooked?
 - i) Why did the author write the book and did it accomplish its purpose?
 - j) What is your reaction to the book - was it enjoyable to read, did the author convince you of their thesis, what new information did you learn while reading the book?
 - k) Would you recommend this book and to what audience?
 - l) Do you have any additional comments?
- C) Review must be written in your own words. **[DO NOT PLAGIARIZE]** Be sure to proofread the final copy prior to submitting. Reviews will be turned in through **Safe Assign**.

III. Format

Book reviews will need to have the following formatting:

- Two columns to a page
- Double-spaced
- 12pt Times New Roman or Cambria font.
- Footnotes are to be used to cite any outside books referenced in the review.

A book review is in its essence a short essay. As such you need to have this essay arranged in a clear and logical order. How you have the review arranged is up to you, however, one option is listed below. The instructor will also post sample reviews on Blackboard for you to look at for ideas.²

- 1) Short description of the subject, scope and the purpose of the book
- 2) How does the author have the book structured
- 2) Outline the main thesis (central argument) of the book and any biases of the author
- 3) Evaluation of each chapter's information and arguments
- 4) Important points brought up by the author in each chapter
- 5) Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the book
- 6) How well do the supplementary materials support the book
- 7) What is your overall assessment and recommendation for this book

IV. Stages of Development

15 November - *Who Were the Babylonians?* book review Due. Turn in via Safe Assign.

¹ Adapted from: Emerson 2013. (pg. 11-12)

² Based in part on Emerson 2013. (pg. 12)

V. Critical Book Review Grade Sheet

Name:	Book Title:
Book Review #	Grade:

1) Preliminary Matter

- A) Reviews turned in late will receive 10pts off each day late _____
- B) Loss of 10 points for excessive spelling and grammar errors (10+) _____
- C) Loss of 10 points for:
 - 1) Papers without an original title
 - 2) Papers without typed page numbers in upper right corner.
 - 3) Papers in a font other than Times New Roman or Cambria.

2) Substance of the Book Review

- A) Introduction (Total of 10 points) _____
 - 1) Introduces the topic, coverage and scope of the book (5 points)
 - 2) Shows knowledge of what audience the author wrote for [academia, students, general public etc...] (5 points)
- B) Comprehension (Total of 75 Points) _____
 - 1) Shows knowledge of books thesis or theses (25 points)
 - 2) Discusses each chapter of the book and the main points raised by author (35 points)
 - 3) Evaluates the strengths and weaknesses of the book (15 points)
 - 4) Assesses overall success of the book (5 points)
- C) Conclusion (Total of 15 Points) _____
 - 1) Begins with "In Conclusion" (5 points)
 - 2) Effective restatement of paper's topic. (5 points)
 - 3) Final overall evaluation of book and recommendation for reading audience (5 points)

Appendix III: Primary Source Essays

I: Learning Objective

Primary source papers are designed to build knowledge and skills related to the study of history including but not limited to: reading comprehension, historical interpretation and synthesis, factual analysis, critical thinking, time management and writing in standard English.

II. Directions

For each of the three primary source papers a short excerpt from a written source from the time-period we are studying in that lesson will be provided. Using the provided primary source excerpt, answer the provided constructed response question in a 1000 word essay. Because you are constructing an argued question, you may quote from the primary source in your essay to support a statement.

III. Format

Assignments need to be completed in Microsoft Word. Times New Roman or Cambria 12 point font only.

1. Your Name, Date, HIST 3300-W01 and the assignment week need to be in the upper right-hand corner of the page.
2. Original Title for the Primary Source Essay
3. Body of the Essay
- 4.

IV. Primary Source Essay Grade Sheet

Name:	Date:
Assignment Week:	Grade:

1) Preliminary Matter

A) Loss of 1 points for excessive spelling and grammar errors (10+) _____

B) Loss of 1 points for:

- 1) Assignments without a name
- 2) Assignments in a font other than Times New Roman or Cambria.
- 3) Assignments without required title information

2) Substance of the Assignment (Total Possible Points = 20 points) _____

- A) Shows evidence of reading the primary source ____ (5 pts)
- B) Recognises and discusses primary themes of the question. _____ (5 pts)
- C) Shows evidence of analyzing the primary source. _____ (5pts)
- C) Evidence of synthesis and interpretation _____ (5pts)