



**WORLD HISTORY TO THE 17th CENTURY
305.01W (80314)**

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Gina Bennett

Classroom: online

Office Location: online via email or YouSeeU virtual meeting platform

Office Hours: online 10:00 am – 12:00 am, T/TH or by appointment

Face-to-Face: 10:30-10:50 am or 12:00-12:50 pm M/W in Ferguson SS, Rm 130

Office Phone: (903) 886-5226 [Note: this is History Dept. office number]

Office Fax: (903) 468-3230

University Email Address: Gina.Bennett@tamuc.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: during office hours or via email

Communication Response Time: within 24 hours, unless otherwise stated

COURSE INFORMATION

Textbooks Required:

Stearns. *World History in Brief: Major Patterns of Change and Continuity*
Combined volume, 8th Edition; ISBN-13: 978-0134056838

Abu-Lughod. *Before European Hegemony: The World System A.D. 1250-1350*
ISBN-13: 978-0195067743

Greer. *Mohawk Saint: Catherine Tekakwitha and the Jesuits*
ISBN-13: 978-019509348

Course Description

World History differs from traditional Western Civilization not only in its greater geographic scale but also its longer chronological scope. This course begins with the earliest human

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tribal organizations. Consideration of the ancient period will also include the development of cradles of civilization, the growth and decline of classical cultures, interactions among classical and nomadic peoples, and the establishment of great world religions. The study of the medieval period will include varieties of rebuilding after the collapse of classical empires, the roles played by great world religions in medieval cultures, and the development of technologies of communication and transportation. Prerequisites: Non-majors may enroll with consent of department.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Students will be able to form substantive and evidence-driven arguments to propose solutions to problems or explain phenomena.
2. Student communication will follow conventions of grammar and syntax appropriate to the audience, purpose, and message.
3. Students will demonstrate awareness of societal and/or civic issues.
4. Students will be able to understand their role in their own education.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Students must possess the skills necessary to update and utilize reliable computer and internet access. Access to an alternate location (TAMUC Gee Library, local public library, etc) in the event of technical difficulties. It is recommended that students acquire a local library card now so you are prepared for the semester if you are a remote student and do not have access to Gee Library. Students need to be familiar with Microsoft Office and navigating Brightspace.

Instructional Methods

Participation in online group discussions, reading quizzes online using writing assignments, and exams are utilized to help students learn to recognize and summarize primary sources. With that in mind, students will explore the historical causes and their effects world history to the 17th century. Methods used in this course are primarily reading and writing about these events. Each student will learn from assignments how to effectively identify and communicate the central argument of the materials and construct college level responses.

INTEGRAL TO THE INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS UTILIZED; **READ AND ADHERE TO THE FOLLOWING POLICY:**

Online courses offer a chance for developing a rich learning community where wonderfully diverse people from a kaleidoscope of backgrounds come together to share and learn from one another. Respecting the opinions of others and allowing for a safe space to explore the events of history is paramount to learning in such a platform.

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Students should expect to encounter differing opinions and multiple perspectives. Respectful, healthy discussions that utilize evidence to support discussions with multiple viewpoints are the beauty of such a course as this. However, aggressive or hostile language directed at anyone in the learning community will not be tolerated and will be reported to necessary University entities. Rest assured that appropriate measures will be taken to protect the safe learning space were all are welcome and included. Thank you in advance for remembering that an online class platform is nothing like other social media sites and usual classroom discussions are expected with all assignments.

Student Responsibilities and Tips for Success in the Course

As this is fully online course, it is strongly suggested that students spend the first few days familiarizing themselves with the structure of the course and the online components. Students enjoy a higher degree of success as online learners when deadlines, details, and requirements are observed. It is strongly recommended that students print off a copy of the syllabus and refer to it daily. Likewise, it is recommended that important dates and deadlines are recorded in a calendar, set alarms/alerts on mobile devices, or personal calendar, especially the last section of the syllabus which is titled: "COURSE OUTLINE/CALENDAR."

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%	540 – 600 points
B = 80%-89%	480 – 539 points
C = 70%-79%	420 – 479 points
D = 60%-69%	360 – 419 points
F = 59% or Below	Less than 360 points

2 Early World Discussions; 50 pts each	100 points
2 Exams (midterm and final); 100 each	200 points
4 Multipart Book Reviews; 50 pts each	200 points
<u>1 Comparative Analysis Paper</u>	<u>100 points</u>

Total 600 points

Assessments

There will be **two (2) exams** over the course of the semester. The exams will be a combination of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. Information regarding

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the content of the exams will be covered the week before the exam. Exams will be on MyLeo D2L learning platform.

Two (2) Early World Discussions will be required and will deal with material covered up through the midterm exam.

One writing assignment titled **Comparative Analysis Paper** that will be a topic of the student's choosing based on a list offered by the instructor. Details regarding this assignment can be found in Assignments section of MyLeo and more instructions are provided on the Announcement section of D2L Brightspace. Students will turn in the Comparative Analysis Paper to D2L.

Four (4) Multipart Book Reviews will be turned in dealing with the two monographs assigned to the class. These reviews will be turned over the course of a two-week period using themes provided by the instructor. Instructions are found in MyLeo, including formats and requirements.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the MyLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-SystemRequirements>

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

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Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

Interaction with Instructor Statement

Since this is a hybrid course, interactions between students and instructor will take place during regular office hours, via email, discussion boards, and through comments dealing with written assignments. Students can expect timely communications from the instructor, usually within 24 hours. Faster response times to queries can be expected during normal weekday business hours.

Please note: Sufficient time is provided to allow students to plan well in advance to ask questions for any upcoming assignments. Consequently, students should not expect immediate responses from any emails time-stamped in the desperate moments just prior to the 11:59 pm. Barring some kind of crazy insomnia on my part, students can expect a response the next day.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Late work will not be accepted. Extra credit opportunities may arise.

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress or Covid-19 responses may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

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University Specific Procedures

Covid-19 University Policy

A&M-Commerce requires the use of face-coverings in all instructional and research classrooms/laboratories. Exceptions may be made by faculty where warranted. Faculty have management over their classrooms. Students not using face-coverings can be required to leave class. Repetitive refusal to comply can be reported to the Office of Students' Rights and Responsibilities as a violation of the student Code of Conduct.

Students should not attend class when ill or after exposure to anyone with a communicable illness. Communicate such instances directly with your instructor. Faculty will work to support the student getting access to missed content or completing missed assignments.

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

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[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

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Web

url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903886-5868 or 9-1-1.

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

NOTE: ALL READINGS SHOULD BE COMPLETED **BEFORE** THE WEEK THE CHAPTER IS COVERED

Week 1: Our World in 1500 and Introduction to the Course (8/24-8/28)

Introduction/Syllabus

“How did we get here?” Exchange

Stearns, Ch 1 & Ch 2

Week 2: Continuation of Early World 1000 BCE (8/31-9/4)

Stearns, Ch 3: Nomadic Societies

Week 3: The Classical Period, 1000 BCE- 500 CE (9/7-9/11)

Stearns, Ch 4: China

Early World Discussion #1 due 9/11 at 7:00 pm

Labor Day Monday, September 7

Week 4: Continuation of Classical Period (9/14-9/18)

Stearns, Ch 5: India

Week 5: Continuation of Classical Period (9/21-9/25)

Stearns, Ch 6: Mediterranean and Middle East; Persia Greece, and Rome

Early World Discussion #2 due 9/25 at 7:00 pm

Week 6: The Greek World (9/28-10/2)

Stearns, Ch 7: Directions, Diversities, and Declines

Exam 1 Midterm due 10/4 at 11:59 pm

Covers materials from Week 1-6

Week 7: The Post-Classical Period, 500-1450 CE (10/5-10/9)

Stearns, Ch 8: The Rise of Islam and Ch 9: India and Southeast Asia
Under the Impact of Islam

Week 8: The Post-Classical Period, continued (10/12-10/16)

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Stearns, Ch 10: Africa and Islam

Quiz & Discussion of Abu-Lughod through Ch 5 at 7:00 pm

Week 9: The Post-Classical Period, continued (10/19-10/23)

Stearns, Ch 11: Byzantium and Russia

Quiz & Discussion of Abu-Lughod through Ch 11 at 7:00 pm

Week 10: The Post-Classical Period, continued (10/26-10/30)

Stearns, Ch 12: Western Civilizations

Week 11: The Post-Classical Period, continued (11/2-11/6)

Stearns, Ch 13: China

Week 12: The Post-Classical Period, continued (11/9-11/13)

Stearns, Ch 14: Civilization in the Americas

Quiz & Discussion of Greer, Mohawk Saint through Ch 5

Due 11/13 at 7:00 pm

Week 13: The End of the Post-Classical Period (11/16-11/20)

Stearns, Ch 15

Quiz & Discussion of Greer, Mohawk Saint through Ch 9

Due 11/20 at 7:00 pm

Week 14: New World Economy, 1450-1750 (11/23-11/24)

Stearns, Ch 16

Thanksgiving Break

Week 15: New World Economy, continued (11/30-12/4)

Stearns: Continue Ch 16

Comparative Analysis Paper due 12/4 at 11:59 pm

Final Exam: Due Thursday, December 10 at 11:59 pm

Non-Cumulative

Material tested will cover Weeks 7-15

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