

History 2321.720  
3 credits  
Online

Dr. Michael Frawley  
Summer 2020  
frawley\_m@utpb.edu

# World Civilizations to 1500

**Contact Information:** Via Canvas messaging from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday-Friday every day that school is in session.

**Email:** [frawley\\_m@utpb.edu](mailto:frawley_m@utpb.edu)

**Phone Number:** 432-552-2314

**Office Location:** MB 2140

**Office Hours:** Monday and Thursday from 9:00am until 12:00pm, Wednesday from 12:00pm until 3:00pm, and by appointment

**Communication etiquette:** Compose your electronic communications professionally. If emailing, use a professional address (“Dr. Frawley”), indicate which course and section you are in, fill in the subject line, and sign it. Use proper spelling, punctuation and grammar. All students must use the Canvas Inbox tool within the course for student-instructor interaction. I will try to reply to all messages within 24 hours. Please only use emails for emergencies. I will attempt to grade all assignments within one week of their submission, but assignments with heavy writing components may take longer. All feedback will be give in the comments section of your assignment in Canvas.

## Course Information

**Course Prerequisites:** None

**Course Catalog Description:** A survey of the world's major civilizations and of their mutual influences through 1500.

**Course Overview:** This class surveys major civilizations of the world from the beginning of time to the year 1500 and emphasizes interactions among them and their influences on each other. Students in this course will develop an ability to make sense of the past by reconstructing causal patterns, identifying trends, and making informed comparisons between different historical cases as well as to grasp the influence of varied and complex historical factors on the lives of individuals in societies. Students will also develop competency in critical thinking, the ability to evaluate a position of an argument, and competency in written communication.

**Course Objectives/Outcomes:** The underlying goal of the course is an understanding of the historical significance of the events, places and people introduced in the course and understand how civilizations developed and shaped the world as we know it today:

- Demonstrate knowledge of important historical events and people in the Ancient Western, Eastern, African, American, and Medieval periods of world history.
- Locate and retrieve historical data relevant to the peoples, events, movements, and institutions covered in the course material
- Comprehend a primary source document created within the culture/time span of the course
- Think critically, collect evidence (statistics, examples, testimony) and make decisions based on the evidence, comprehend and analyze texts, and solve problems using methods of critical and scientific inquiry;
- Communicate effectively using standard written English;
- Use computer technology to access, retrieve, process, and communicate information;
- Apply global perspectives and ideas by utilizing an interdisciplinary approach;
- Examine and identify cultural, ethnic, and gender diversity; and
- Appraise the quality, value, and significance of cultural artifacts in their historical context.

History courses are by nature reading and writing intensive and 2321 is no exception. Students will learn to interpret and analyze information. The goals of exams and other assignments are the acquisition of information and the development of writing and analytical skills.

### **Required Textbook**

- *Worlds Together, Worlds Apart* vol. 1 by Robert Tignor, et al  
Publisher: W.W. Norton – ISBN-13: 978-0-393-93492-2
- *Worlds Together: Worlds Apart: A Companion Reader* vol. 1 by Kenneth Pomeranz, et al  
Publisher: W.W. Norton – ISBN-13: 978-0-393-91160-2

**Class Participation:** Regular and active participation is an essential, unmistakably important aspect of this online course. It is critical that you read all of the lecture and assignment materials. Your participation is an essential aspect of the online course.

**Attendance:** You are expected to log into the course at least weekly. Thus, if you are ill for a prolonged time and cannot complete course work, you must contact me by course message. Canvas course platforms have a tracking feature. This feature quantifies how often students access different tools, pages, features, links, discussions, etc. in your course.

## Computer Requirements

This course is designed as a web-based class, which necessitates specific computer expertise on the part of the student, specific computer equipment or programs, and a commitment on the part of the student beyond that of most other courses. Ensuring you have the proper hardware and software is vital to your success in an online learning environment.

- [Computer Setup](#) - Every student who is taking an online course must perform the following three steps to ensure his/her computer is set up, your computer has a compatible browser and all necessary plug-ins and helper applications.
- [24/7 Help Desk](#) - When you need technical support contact information for our 24/7 Help Desk at 1-877-633-9152 (toll free) You can access this information by going to the Technical Support button on the course menu while in the course.

Microsoft Word is the recommended word processor application for completing assignments. Documents prepared in other word processor applications must be submitted in rich text files (.rtf) in order for the instructor to be able to view them. Because you are taking this course from UT Permian Basin, you can get software at a significant discount. For more information, please see the UTPB site page on [Microsoft Select](#).

## Preparation for Computer Emergencies

**Computer Crash:** Not having a working computer or a crashed computer during the semester will NOT be considered as an acceptable reason for not completing course activities at a scheduled time. NOTE: Identify a second computer before the semester begins, that you can use when/if your personal computer crashes.

**Server Problems:** When the Canvas server needs downtime for maintenance, the Canvas administrator will post an announcement in your course informing the time and the date.

**Complete Loss of Contact:** If you lose contact with me completely (i.e. you cannot contact me via Course Messages), you need to call me at my office, 432-552-2314, and explain the reason you cannot contact me and give me a way to contact you.

**Lost/Corrupt/Disappeared files:** You must save a copy of every assignment and/or exam on an external disk or personal computer. In the event of any kind of failure (e.g., Canvas server crash or virus infection, students own computer crashes, loss of files in cyberspace, etc) or any contradictions/problems, I will request you to resubmit the files. In other words, if you submit a document to me, and I cannot open it, it is your responsibility to resubmit.

## Important Dates

All course due dates are listed on the Course Schedule. Use the Course Schedule button on the course menu to locate the schedule.

Important UT Permian Basin University dates for this semester can be found on the [UTPB Academic Calendar](#).

## Course Structure

The course is divided into 10 modules:

Each Module covers 1 to 2 textbook chapters with an introduction and lecture notes.

Every module has graded activities including, but not limited to: quizzes, discussions, or internet assignments. There is also a semester long group project and a semester long research paper with assignments that will help you to write your paper. These activities demonstrate your ability to analyze, apply, evaluate and create information necessary to facility your understanding different aspects of history.

There is also a midterm and final exam. These exams will asked questions that deal with the major themes of the class and will require an essay of multiple pages using proper citation formatting.

## Course Evaluation

Quizzes -	100 points (20 each)
Discussions -	100 points (20 each)
Internet Assignments -	100 points (20 each)
Midterm -	200 points
Paper/Paper Assign.-	200 points (25 for each assign., 150 paper)
Final -	300 points
Total -	1000 points

## Grading Scale

This course will be graded based on the standard grading scale as follows:

- A – 90% and above
- B – 80%-89%
- C – 70%- 79%
- D – 60% - 69%
- F – 59% and below

**Time Management & Late Work:** A student should expect to spend three hours on preparation and learning assignments for every semester credit hour. If a class is a 3-semester credit hour class, it is expected that a student should spend about 9 hours out of class on assignments in addition to 3 hours of in-class time for a total of about 12 hours per week to obtain an "A" in a class. It is important to develop a Time Management Plan to be successful. If you miss a discussion/quiz/or exam, please contact me as soon as possible so we can work to get you back on track.

## **Discussion Board**

Discussion Board is primarily for discussing course related topics and issues.

Best practices are:

- Read all message postings in online discussion.
- Respond to the question directly
  
- Reply to minimum of two other student posts.
- Use a person's name in the body of your message when you reply to their message.
- Avoid postings that are limited to 'I agree' or 'great idea', etc.
- Ensure responses to questions are meaningful, reflective.
- Support statements with concepts from course readings, refer to personal experience, examples.
  
- Follow **Rules of Behavior (below)**.

## **Rules of Behavior**

Discussion areas are public to every student in this class (including your instructor) who will see what you write. Please pay attention to the language you use and adhere to the following guidelines:

- Do not post anything too personal.
- Do not use language that is inappropriate for a classroom setting or prejudicial in gender, race, or ethnicity.
  
- Do not use all caps in the message box unless you are emphasizing (it is considered shouting).
- Be courteous and respectful to other people on the list
- Do not overuse acronyms like you would use in text messaging. Some of the list participants may not be familiar with acronyms.
- Use line breaks and paragraphs in long responses.
- Write your full name at the end of the posting.
  
- Be careful with sarcasm and subtle humor; one person's joke is another person's insult.

**Grading:** All assignments will be graded within one week after the due date. You can check your grades by going to the **My Grades** button on the course menu. If there is any discrepancy in the grade, you must contact me immediately only through the **Course Messages** tool.

### **Online Student Authentication**

UTPB requires that each student who registers for an online course is the same student who participates in, completes, and receives credit for the course. UTPB's Distance Education Policy requires faculty members to employ at least two methods of verification to ensure student identities. To access online courses students must login to the UTPB learning management system using their unique personal identifying username and secure password. UTPB's Distance Education Policy requires at least one additional student identification method within the course that has been determined and approved by the faculty or academic program. This course satisfies the second method of student authentication by:

- Presentation of approved photo and ID\* through a student verification assignment submission.

\*Approved up to date photo identifications are: passports, government issued identification, driver's licenses, military ID from DoD; dual credit and early college high school students use school district identifications.

### **Policies & Procedures**

**Use of Copyrighted Materials:** It is the policy of The University of Texas of the Permian Basin to follow the United States Copyright Law of 1976, as amended, (Title 17, United States Code, hereinafter, the "Copyright Act"). Accordingly, all faculty, staff and students of The University of Texas System and its component institutions should follow these policy guidelines:

<http://ss.utpb.edu/dean-of-students/university-policies/copyrighted-materials/>

**Academic Integrity & Scholastic Dishonesty:** This course will adhere to the plagiarism policy set forth by the UTPB Student Code of Conduct. If there is evidence of any deliberate violation of academic integrity, your instructor will pursue the most reasonable response the University allows. **Vagrant plagiarism, cheating, and dishonesty will not be tolerated and will result in punishment to the full extent of the Student Code of Conduct.**

To view the UTPB Student Conduct Guidelines, follow this link:

<http://ss.utpb.edu/dean-of-students/student-conduct/>

Scholastic dishonesty is more than "cutting and pasting." To make sure that you are not committing Scholastic Dishonesty please go to:

<http://ss.utpb.edu/dean-of-students/scholastic-dishonesty/>

This is information you will need throughout your academic career and the University Scholastic Dishonesty Policy states that you may receive a zero on the course work which could cause failure in the class and/or suspension or dismissal from the college.

**Student's Privacy Policy:** All students records/information are confidential. Only the course teacher and registrar have access to student information. In case of a Dual Credit student - only the course teacher, registrar, assigned school district personnel (counselors and mentors) have access to the information of the students who belong to their school district.

Student educational records are protected by FERPA, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974. It is a federal law that pertains to the release of and access to student educational records.

FERPA rights apply to a student, a person who is or who has been attending this institution regardless of age. As a student at UTPB, FERPA applies to personally identifiable information in educational records. Personal identifiable information includes items such as the student's name, social security numbers, and personal characteristics or other information that make the student identity easily accessible or traceable.

To find out more about Student's Privacy rights at UTPB, please go to:

<http://aa.utpb.edu/registrar/ferpa/>

## **Accommodation for Students with Disabilities**

**Americans with Disabilities Act:** Students with disabilities that are admitted to The University of Texas of the Permian Basin may request reasonable accommodations and classroom modifications as addressed under Section 504/ADA regulations. Students needing assistance because of a disability must contact Programs Assisting Student Study (PASS) Office, 552-2630.

The definition of a disability for purposes of ADA is that she or he (1) has a physical or mental impairment that substantively limits a major life activity, (2) has a record of such an impairment or, (3) is regarded as having such an impairment.

Students who have **provided all documentation** and are eligible for services will be advised of their rights regarding academic accommodations and responsibilities. The University is not obligated to pay for diagnosis or evaluations nor is it obligated to pay for personal services or auxiliary aids.

If you need accommodations because of a disability, if you have emergency medical information to share with the instructor, or if you need special arrangements in the case the building must be evacuated, please inform the instructor immediately. It is best to contact the instructor after class or during his/her office hours.

## **End-of-Course Evaluation & Instructor Evaluation**

Every student must complete an end-of-course evaluation/survey provided by UTPB. During the last few weeks of class, you will receive an announcement through email notifying you that the Course/Instructor Survey is available. There are three options to access the survey.

1. You may follow the link in the email to complete the survey using the same credentials to access your courses here.
2. When entering Canvas you will see a list of surveys for you to complete.
3. A button on the right hand menu bar will lead you to the survey from inside your course.

The survey is anonymous and your responses are confidential. Your feedback is critical to us and to your instructor as we strive to improve our offerings, and our support of you, the students.

## **Disclaimer & Rights**

Information contained in this syllabus was to the best knowledge of the instructor considered correct and complete when distributed for use in the beginning of the semester. However, the instructor reserves the right, acting within the policies and procedures of UTPB to make changes in the course content or instructional techniques without notice or obligation. The students will be informed about the changes, if any.



## Course Schedule

MODULE / EXAM		UNIT OPENS	DUE DATE (midnight)
Introduction		May 26, 2020	May 29, 2020
Module 1	Rivers, Cities and First States	May 30, 2020	June 3, 2020
Module 2	Nomads, Territorial States, and Micro societies	June 4, 2020	June 8, 2020
Module 3	First Empires and Common Cultures in Afro-Eurasia	June 9, 2020	June 13, 2020
Module 4	Worlds Turned Inside Out	June 14, 2020	June 18, 2020
Module 5	Shrinking the Afro-Eurasian World	June 19, 2020	June 23, 2020
Midterm		June 24, 2020	June 28, 2020
Module 6	Han Dynasty China and Imperial Rome	June 29, 2020	July 3, 2020
Module 7	The Rise of Universal Religions	July 5, 2020	July 8, 2020
Module 8	New Empires and Common Cultures	July 9, 2020	July 13, 2020
Module 9	Becoming "The World"	July 14, 2020	July 18, 2020
Module 10	Death and Recovery in Afro-Eurasia	July 19, 2020	July 23, 2020
Paper Due			July 25, 2020
Final Exam		July 26, 2020	Aug 3, 2020

The instructor reserves the right to adjust the course schedule as needed during the semester.