The course of human history to 1750: ancient, medieval and renaissance civilizations up to the Age of Enlightenment. Course objectives: The objectives of this history course are: (1) to guide students in the gathering, analyzing, and use of materials from primary sources through the writing of a research paper; (2) to create an understanding of the impact of change (in political or societal thought and in science and technology) upon human societies; (3) to identify the elements of societal life which are shared throughout the entire world; (4) to recognize the interactions of world societies; (5) to enhance students’ abilities in critical thinking and problem analysis; (6) to establish a sense of the chronology of world history as a basis for understanding current events; (7) to provide a foundation of understanding for other fields of study.

Dates to remember:

Exam I - September 8
Quiz on GREEK SOCIETY - September 15
Exam II – September 29
Quiz on MEDIEVAL PEOPLE – October 6
Exam III - October 8
Exam IV – November 3
Term paper due - November 10
Exam V - November 17
Comprehensive Final Exam – December 10 (8-10:30 am)

Texts: Edgar et al: CIVILIZATION PAST AND PRESENT
Frost: GREEK SOCIETY
Power: MEDIEVAL PEOPLE

The Professor provides a list of lectures for this course; the student should keep pace with the lectures by reading appropriate sections of Edgar. All exams are fifty minutes, and include essay and objective questions based on the lectures and text. Book quizzes take about half an hour.

Each student should prepare a formal term paper of no less than SEVEN pages of typed, double-spaced text employing footnotes and a bibliography; the font size must be 12, and the paper should be plain white. Illustrations or drawings should not be used unless they are essential to understanding the material. The topic of the paper may be any historical subject falling within the dates of this course for which ample primary source material is available and for which the professor has given approval. Secondary sources are also necessary, but the intent of the project is to bring students into contact with primary sources. The professor is happy to discuss the project personally; students should begin to consider possible projects immediately and the topic should be approved by October 1. Guides to writing terms papers by scholars such as Benjamin or Rampolla contain essential.

Grading: 5 Exams @ 100 points each; 2 Book Quizzes @ 50 points each; 1 Term Paper @ 200 points; Class attendance and participation @ 50 points. Final Exam @ 200 points. Total possible points 1050.
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Lectures
1. Introduction: Expectations and syllabus; Early Civilizations
2. Egypt
3. Mesopotamia
4. India
5. China
6. Exam I; Greece
7. Greece
8. Book quiz (GREEK SOCIETY); Rome I
9. Rome II
10. The rise of Christianity
11. Western Europe - Germanic Invasions
12. Exam II – Carolingians and Collapse
13. Byzantium; Islam
14. Book Quiz (MEDIEVAL PEOPLE); Medieval Africa and America
15. Exam III; National States-France
17. The Germanies
18. Christianity and the Culture of Medieval Europe
19. The Decline of Byzantium, the Crusades, and the Near East
20. The Orient
21. Exam IV; Renaissance I
22. Renaissance II
23. Reformation I
24. Reformation II; The Catholic Reformation
25. Exam V; The Rise of Modern States; the Modern State System
26. The Age of Discovery and the Commercial Revolution
27. The Orient, Africa, and the Americas
28. Summation