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 historical 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 world 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 enable students to analyze historical problems; (6) to establish a sense of the chronology of world history as a basis for understanding other fields of study.

Dates to remember:
- Exam I - September 8
- Exam on GREEK SOCIETY – September 15
- Exam II - September 27
- Exam on MEDIEVAL PEOPLE - October 4
- Exam III - October 13
- Exam IV - November 1
- Term paper due - November 10
- Exam V - November 15
- Final (comprehensive exam) – Thursday, December 8 at 8 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. Major exams are 50 minutes in length, and include essay and objective questions based on the lectures and upon the text; it is impossible to discuss in class every topic from the text, so students should prepare carefully from both class notes and texts. Book quizzes are a half-hour in length. The Final Exam is comprehensive. Make-up exams, where permitted, are more difficult than scheduled exams and must be completed within our class days of returning to campus. All work is due at class time on the day assigned. Work handed in late will receive a lower grade. No work will be accepted during the final week of classes.

Each student should prepare a formal term paper of no less than SEVEN pages of typed, double-spaced text employing a bibliography and footnotes; 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 the beginning of the semester break. Benjamin’s A STUDENT’S GUIDE TO HISTORY or Rampolla’s A POCKET GUIDE TO WRITING IN HISTORY contain
essential information on the planning and execution of such a project. Questions on the Final Examination may be based upon the paper the student has written.

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. 90-100=A; 80-89=B; 70-79=C; 60-69=D.

Class Meetings

1. Introduction: Expectations and syllabus; Early Civilizations
2. Egypt
3. Mesopotamia
4. India
5. China
6. Exam I; Greece I
7. Greece II
8. Book quiz (GREEK SOCIETY); Rome I
9. Rome II
10. The rise of Christianity
11. Exam II; Western Europe I - Germanic Invasions
12. Western Europe II - Carolingians and Collapse
13. Book Quiz (MEDIEVAL PEOPLE); Byzantium
14. Islam; Medieval Africa
15. Exam III; National States
17. The Decline of Byzantium, the Crusades, and the Near East
18. India and China
20. Exam IV; Renaissance I
21. Renaissance II
22. Reformation I and the Catholic Reformation
23. Early Modern times
24. Exam V; The Rise of Modern States
25. The Age of Discovery and the Commercial Revolution
26. Imperialism
27. The Orient, Africa and the Americas
28. Summation