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 - February 3
Exam on GREEK SOCIETY – February 10
Exam II – February 20
Term paper choir confirmed – February 22
Exam on MEDIEVAL PEOPLE – March 1
Exam III - March 8
Exam IV – March 31
Term paper – April 10
Exam V - April 19
Final (comprehensive) – May 5 at 8:30 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. 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 footnotes; a letter quality printer should be employed, 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 February 19. A STUDENT'S GUIDE TO HISTORY contains 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 submitted or upon the research techniques discussed in Benjamin. Please note the due date.

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
2 River Valley Civilizations
3 Egypt
4 Mesopotamia
5 India
6 China
7 Exam I
8 Greece-Aegean and early Greek cultures
9 Greece-The Golden Age and decline; Rome origins
10 GREEK SOCIETY QUIZ; Rome-Republican development
11 Rome-The expansion and crises of the Republic
12 Rome-The Empire
13 Life in the late Ancient World
14 Exam II
15 Rise of Christianity
16 Western Europe-Germanic invasions
17 Western Europe-Carolingians
18 Western Europe-Collapse of international order MEDIEVAL PEOPLE QUIZ
19 Byzantium
20 Islam
21 Exam III
22 New European political institutions
23 European rivalries
24 Christianity and Culture of the Medieval World
25 Decline of Byzantium, Crusades, Eastern Europe
26 India and China
27 Japan, Africa and America
28 Exam IV
29 Renaissance-New attitudes
30 Renaissance-Institutions
31 Reformation I
32 Reformation and the Catholic Reformation
33 The Rise of National States
34 The European World