

World History to 1500  
History 101  
Blue Ridge Community & Technical College  
Fall 2007

**Instructor**

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Office Hours: By appointment.

**Course Information:**

Time: Tuesday & Thursday: 4:40 to 5:55  
Room: BR B17

**Course Description:**

This course examines the history and development of great civilizations from Pre-history to the Renaissance. The main focus will be placed upon the political, economic, social, and cultural systems that formed in societies up until 1500.

**Course Objectives:**

1. Understand the major ideas that shaped human civilization until 1500.
2. Compare the values and beliefs that formed in different societies throughout history.
3. Create an understanding of the historical background of the contemporary World.

**Course Outcomes:**

1. Students will have a greater understanding of the ideas and influences that shape the current world.
2. Students will understand how different groups have contributed to the modern world.
3. Students will demonstrate a willingness to respect different cultural viewpoints.

### Required textbooks:

Bentley and Ziegler. (2006). *Traditions & Encounters: A Global Perspective on the Past: From the Beginning to 1500. 3rd Edition.* New York: McGraw Hill.

Mitchell and Mitchell (2005). *Taking Sides: Clashing Views on Controversial Issues in World History.* 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. New York: McGraw Hill.

### Assessment of Student Performance:

Four Examinations: These tests will require a method of term identification and essay question(s). Each examination will count for 100 points towards your final grade.

Class Work & Participation: Your Class Work & Participation grade will be judged by faithful class attendance, attentiveness, completion of class assignments, and discussion. Class Work & Participation will count 50 points towards your final grade.

Movie Review: Select a film to watch related to World History to 1500. You will then write a 1 to 2 page typed and double-spaced review of how well the film reflects issues, events, and the spirit of the times it is supposed to represent in the ancient or medieval worlds. A list is attached which highlights some films related to the timeframe, but you are not limited to these choices. Film reviews should address the following: 1) How does the film relate to World History to 1500; 2) what is the central story line of the film; 3) who are the "heroes" and/or "villains" of this film and by what criteria are they judged; 4) critique the film. Did you like or dislike the film? From what you have learned or studied, is the film accurate? The movie review will count for 50 points towards your final grade. This assignment can be turned in at any point of the semester either in class or via e-mail. **All papers are due by 11/15/07 with no exceptions.**

### Grading Scale

A = 450-500 points

D = 300-349 points

B = 400-449 points

F = 299 points or below

C = 350-399 points

**Attendance:**

Students are expected to regularly attend lectures and participate actively in classroom discussions. Attendance will be taken regularly and each student is responsible for keeping up with the class through attendance and e-mail. If you are absent for a test, documented proof, such as a doctor's note, explaining the reason for your absence will need to be supplied. Additionally, if you know in advance that you are not going to be in class the date of an exam; please make arrangements to take the exam BEFORE you leave.

**E-mail:**

Only Blue Ridge e-mail accounts will be used in this class.

**Class Schedule:**

Date	Topic	Reading
8/21	Introduction/Pre-history & Geography	Bentley & Ziegler: Chapters 1 & 2
8/23	Early River Civilizations Mesopotamia & Egypt	Bentley & Ziegler: Chapters 3 Mitchell: 2
8/28	Early River Civilizations: China & India	Bentley & Ziegler: Chapters 4 & 5
8/30	Buddhism and Confucianism	Bentley & Ziegler Chapter 6 & 7
9/4	Ancient Greece	Bentley & Ziegler Chapters 8 & 9
9/6	Greek Philosophy	Mitchell: Issue 4 Bentley & Ziegler Chapter 10
9/11	Alexander the Great & Review for the Test	Study
9/13	Test # 1 (River Civilizations & Greece)	Bentley & Ziegler Chapter 11
9/18	Rome	Mitchell: Issue 5
9/20	Rome & Christianity	Mitchell: Issue 6
9/25	Barbarians	Bentley & Ziegler Chapter 12
9/27	Barbarians	Bentley & Ziegler: Chapter 13
10/2	Byzantine Empire	Bentley & Ziegler: Chapter 14

10/4	The Rise of Islam	Mitchell: Issue 9
10/9	Medieval Japan	Bentley & Ziegler: Chapter 15
10/11	Medieval Asia & Review	Study
10/16	Test # 2	Bentley & Ziegler Chapter 16
10/18	Feudalism and Europe	Bentley & Ziegler: Chapter 17
10/23	The Dark Ages	Bentley & Ziegler: Chapter 18
10/25	Charlemagne: Christian Power in the West	Bentley & Ziegler Chapter 19
10/30	Vikings	Bentley & Ziegler Chapter 20
11/1	1066	Bentley & Ziegler Chapter 21
11/6	The Crusades	Bentley & Ziegler Chapter 22
11/8	The Plague	Mitchell: Issue 8
11/13	The Mayans & Review	Study
11/15	Test # 3 <b>Movie Review Due</b>	Enjoy the Break!
11/20	Break	
11/22	Break	
11/27	The Mongols	Mitchell: Issue 12
11/29	The English Crown	Mitchell: Issues 13
12/4	The Formation of Nation- States & The 100 Years War.	Mitchell: Issue 14
12/6	The Beginnings of Social and Religious Change. The Columbian Exchange.	Study for FINAL.

**Final: Tuesday December 11<sup>th</sup> 4:40-5:55pm**

The last day to withdraw from this course is 11/9/07.

### **Academic Integrity:**

Cheating in all its forms, including plagiarism and cheating on visual work, is considered an academic matter to be controlled and acted upon by the instructor of this course. Students guilty of academic dishonesty on any graded assignment in this course will be penalized with a grade of F in the course. Such action shall be taken by the instructor, with written notification to the Dean of Academic Instruction at Blue Ridge CTC. Students involved in facilitating academic dishonesty among others, such as the unauthorized dissemination of examination materials, will be subject to disciplinary action as well.

### **Program Assessment:**

The faculty members of Blue Ridge CTC are dedicated to assuring that each student meets the educational objectives of the program. The educational objectives have been developed and are planned to assure that the program is producing graduates who will be successful in obtaining and maintaining positions in the entry-level business field and who will be quality employees. To achieve this goal, the faculty is committed to a systematic and comprehensive process of assessment of student learning. As part of this program assessment, students will from time to time be asked to participate in non-graded assessment activities which may include, but are not limited to, participation in role-playing simulations and completion of standardized written or practical examinations or pre and post graduation surveys.

**\*This syllabus may be altered at any time at the discretion of the instructor.\***

