

World Civilizations before 1500

Fall 2008: UGC 111 Recitation Sections M7 / M10 / E9

Recitation Instructor: Joey Williams Email: **JLW53@buffalo.edu**
Office: Porter 350 (Classics Grad Student Office) in the Ellicott Complex, MFAC
Office Time: Thursday, 2:30-3:30 PM. I am always available by email and will respond
– unless unforeseen circumstances do not permit – within 24 hours.

Required Text: McKay, J. P., B. D. Hill, J. Buckler, and P. B. Ebrey. 2007. *A History of World Societies, Volume I: to 1715*. (7th ed.) Boston: Houghton Mifflin.

World Civilizations Recitation:

This course provides you with an opportunity to familiarize yourself with basic concepts in world history and the humanities. Our recitations will include discussions and quizzes except for the weeks indicated in the attached schedule. Recitations will be primarily used to solidify your understanding of the course material and your ability to think (and write) critically about historical questions. Handouts which expand and compliment each lecture's assigned readings will be provided and must be read prior to the next recitation.

Attendance and Participation:

Students are required to attend each recitation meeting and are expected to arrive on time. Failure to attend class will negatively impact your participation grade. Students are also expected to have completed all of the required readings and assignments before each recitation class.

Please keep in mind the following two classroom rules:

1. Cheating of any sort is grounds for an immediate failing grade in the course as well as disciplinary actions in accordance with university policies. This is strictly enforced.
2. Using your cell phone during class (including text messaging) is absolutely forbidden. You will be asked to leave the class (perhaps permanently).

Quizzes:

Quizzes will be given every week in class unless noted on the attached schedule. Each quiz will be in the form of a writing prompt relating to the material covered in recent lectures. These quizzes are intended to help you in your understanding of the material and in your preparation for the exams, especially the essay exams. Quizzes **will** be graded for proper spelling and grammar as well as for the ideas expressed. Your lowest two quiz grades (including missed quizzes) will be dropped at the end of the semester. If a student has an unexcused absence and misses a quiz, a grade of "0%" will be assigned for that quiz. There will be **no** makeup quizzes for unexcused absences.

Recitation Grades:

A student's recitation grade constitutes 20% of the final grade for the course. The breakdown of this percentage is as follows:

Attendance and participation: 10% Quizzes: 10%

Recitation Weekly Schedule

This schedule is subject to change

Date	Readings and Assignments	Quizzes
Week 1	Introduction	
Week 2	Handout 1: Prehistoric Diets and Pottery	Quiz 1
Week 3	Handout 2: Decoding the Narmer Palette	Quiz 2
Week 4	Handout 3: Plato's "Allegory of the Cave"	Quiz 3
Week 5	Handout 4: Alexander's Campaigns in India	Quiz 4
Week 6	Handout 5: Excerpt from the <i>Ramayana</i>	Quiz 5
Week 7	Handout 6: Frontinus and his Aqueducts	Quiz 6
Week 8	Handout 7: Vergil's <i>Aeneid</i> on War and Empire	Quiz 7
Week 9	Essay Exam for Exam 2	
Week 10	Handout 8: Excerpts from Ibn Khaldun's <i>Muqaddimah</i>	Quiz 8
Week 11	Handout 9: Excerpt from the <i>Popol Vuh</i>	Quiz 9
Week 12	Handout 10: Early Controversy <i>ὁμοιονσῖος</i> vs. <i>ὁμοουσῖος</i>	Quiz 10
Week 13	Handout 11: Carolingian Paleography and Bottlenecks	Quiz 11
Week 14	Handout 12: El Cid and the <i>Reconquista</i>	Quiz 12
Week 15	Essay Exam for Exam 4	