Welcome to World History I! In the next sixteen weeks we will be discussing most of humanity’s time on earth, beginning with hominid evolution and ending on the eve of the global revolutions of the 18th century. This course will likely be very different from your high school history courses. Rather than memorizing names and dates (though you will have to remember basic factual information), we are going to be thinking about what kinds of questions we can ask about the human past and how we can use evidence and analysis to answer some of those questions.

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**Syllabus Table of Contents**

I. Course Goals .......................................................................................................................... 2
II. Attendance Policies ................................................................................................................. 2
III. GTAs and SI ............................................................................................................................ 3
IV. Accommodations .................................................................................................................. 4
V. Readings .................................................................................................................................. 4
VI. Exams .................................................................................................................................... 4
VII. Top Hat: In-Class Questions and Post-Class Quizzes .......................................................... 5
VIII. Grading Policies ................................................................................................................... 6
IX. Academic Dishonesty ............................................................................................................. 6
X. Course Schedule .................................................................................................................... 7
I. **Course Goals**

Like the present, the past was complicated and difficult to understand. From the university’s perspective, our goals are described in the following two student learning objectives (SLOs) which describe what you, as an intelligent and hardworking Auburn student, should get out of this class.

→ **SLO 8:** Students will be informed and engaged citizens of the United States and the World.
→ **SLO 9:** Students will understand and appreciate the diversity of and within societies of the United States and the World.

From my perspective, this course is less about making sure you remember when the Ottomans conquered Constantinople (1453) and more about giving you a new perspective on the world and how the past has defined the present. By the time you finish this class, I hope that you will have developed the following skills:

1. You read and listen carefully and critically.
2. You ask questions.
3. You form your ideas and arguments based on evidence. When someone asks you “Why do you think that?” you have an answer.
4. You work to understand different beliefs and ideas on their own terms, and you respond to them in an intelligent and respectful manner.
5. When you read the news of the world (and you do), you know something about the places, ideas, and groups involved and where they come from.
6. You look for connections, similarities, and differences between the world of the past and the world you live in today.
7. You become suspicious when someone uses the words “always”, “everyone”, or “everywhere”.

II. **Attendance Policies**

- **Attendance is required in this course.** You will need to sign in every day using Top Hat. There are no penalties for missing class beyond the loss of those participation points. However, there will be a **two-point final bonus** for everyone who misses no more than two classes.

- For an absence to be excused, you must **submit documentation to your GTA (not to me; see next page)** within a week of returning to class. Valid reasons for excused absences are listed in the Student Policy E-Handbook. Vacations, oversleeping, etc. are not valid reasons.

- Texting, Facebooking, tweeting, surfing, wearing headphones, sleeping, coming in late, or leaving early will result in an unexcused absence for that class. The policies on acceptable classroom behavior are in the Student E-Policy Handbook.
III. GTAs and SI

The GTAs are here to help you too! They will be circulating during our discussions, and they also hold separate office hours which are an excellent resource for you to get individual attention. If you miss a class for an excused reason, please give your documentation to your GTA. The SI sessions run by Ms. Trout and Ms. Boyle are also a great way for you to study and review in a group setting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section 2: Supplemental Instructor (SI)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Natalie Trout</td>
<td>Ms. Trout’s SI sessions will be held Monday and Wednesday evenings from 4:00-5:30pm in Davis 356.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:nzt0016@auburn.edu">nzt0016@auburn.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<th>Section 2: Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTAs)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anderson - James</td>
<td>Mr. Stanford Brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:smb0102@tigermail.auburn.edu">smb0102@tigermail.auburn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Office: 304 Thach Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Office Hours: Monday and Friday, 9:00 – 10:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnson - Wright</td>
<td>Mr. John Mohr</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:jem0033@tigermail.auburn.edu">jem0033@tigermail.auburn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Office: 304 Thach Hall</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:00 - 1:30</td>
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<tr>
<th>Section 4: Supplemental Instructor (SI)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Victoria Boyle</td>
<td>Ms. Boyle’s SI sessions will be held Monday and Wednesday evenings from 5:30-7:00pm in Haley 3124.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:veb0006@auburn.edu">veb0006@auburn.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<th>Section 4: Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTAs)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Allen - LaTourette</td>
<td>Mr. John Mohr</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:jem0033@tigermail.auburn.edu">jem0033@tigermail.auburn.edu</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Office: 304 Thach Hall</td>
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<td>Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11-1:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Law - Zumbado</td>
<td>Ms. Shari Williams</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:slw0057@tigermail.auburn.edu">slw0057@tigermail.auburn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Office: 304 Thach Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Office Hours: Monday 12:30 – 3:30, Wednesday 11:30-12:30</td>
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</table>
IV. **ACCOMMODATIONS**

- If you need accommodations, contact the Office of Accessibility [1228 Haley Center, 844-2096 (V/TT)] to establish documentation, submit your approved accommodations through AU Access, and email me (kmcriag@auburn.edu) so that we can meet and discuss what you need.

V. **READINGS**

- The **Course Reader**, which contains all the Reading Guides and primary sources for the semester, is posted on CANVAS as a pdf file (individual readings are also linked from the schedule). You are required to **read the Reading Guide and primary source assigned for that day before coming to class**. For example, you will need to read the Epic of Gilgamesh and its Reading Guide before coming to class on Jan. 24th.

- **The textbook is optional.** I do not require you to buy a textbook, because I am aware of how expensive textbooks are. You should be able to pass the class by reading the Course Reader, coming to lectures, and participating using Top Hat. However, my lecture material closely aligns with *Worlds Together, Worlds Apart* (abbreviated WTWA) published by Norton (Volumes A and B). If you have trouble understanding the material from lecture, I would suggest using this textbook.

- **In case of financial difficulties**, I also have a few personal copies of this textbook that I can loan for one semester.

VI. **EXAMS**

- **The exams are not cumulative. This includes the final.** All four exams are fully **multiple-choice**. You will need to **bring a scantron sheet and pencil** to every exam.

  - The Top Hat questions (especially the post-class quizzes) are designed to help you practice the kinds of questions which will appear on the exams. Each exam will have two sections:
    1. A section which tests your knowledge and comprehension of lecture material (50%)
    2. A section which tests your ability to critically analyze the assigned primary sources from the Course Reader, including information from the Reading Guides (50%)

- **If you miss an exam**, you must submit documentation of your excused absence to me within a week of returning to class. Valid reasons for excused absences are listed in the Student Policy E-Handbook.
VII. **Top Hat: In-Class Questions and Post-Class Quizzes**

- **A new, experimental aspect of this course is the use of Top Hat (www.tophat.com).** You will use Top Hat both to answer questions in-class AND to take the post-class quizzes. Cumulatively, these in-class questions and quizzes will make up 20% of your grade. Some of the questions will be graded on participation only—if you submit an answer (and don’t just write “history lol”), you get the point. For other questions, you will need to get the right answer to receive full credit. **Attendance will also be taken using Top Hat.**

- If you are not in class, you won’t be able to earn in-class points. You will still be able to take the post-class quiz. **If you miss a class for an excused absence,** your GTA will reopen the in-class questions for you after they receive your documentation.

- With Top Hat, you will be able to submit answers to questions using Apple or Android smartphones and tablets, laptops, or through text message. You can visit the Top Hat Overview (https://success.tophat.com/s/article/Student-Top-Hat-Overview-and-Getting-Started-Guide) which outlines how you will register for a Top Hat account, as well as providing a brief overview to get you up and running on the system.

- An email invitation will be sent to your Tigermail, but if don’t receive this email, you can register by simply visiting the Top Hat website and entering the Course Join Code:
  
  **Course Join Code: Section 2 = 954999**  
  **Course Join Code: Section 4 = 283027**

- Top Hat will require a paid subscription, and a full breakdown of all subscription options available can be found at: www.tophat.com/pricing. For just one semester, the fee is $24. **In case of financial difficulties (either regarding technology or subscription fees),** please come talk to me and we can discuss your situation and possible options.

- If you have technical trouble with Top Hat, please contact their Support Team by email (support@tophat.com), the in-app support button, or by calling 1-888-663-5491.

- Including the syllabus quiz, there will be **25 post-class quizzes total.** Quizzes test material from the lecture as well as the primary source discussed during that lecture (but not necessarily only the excerpts that were discussed in class!) For example, you will take Quiz 3 after coming to class on Jan. 24th, and you should expect to answer questions both about that lecture’s material and about the Epic of Gilgamesh reading.

- Quizzes are not timed, but you will only have one attempt. **Quizzes will open at the end of a lecture and close at the beginning of the next lecture.** For example, Quiz 1 will open at 10:45 (for Section 2) or 3:15 (for Section 4) on Jan. 17th and close at 9:30 (for Section 2) or 2:00 (for Section 4) on Jan. 19th. After a quiz closes, those questions will become available for review (but not for points). If you miss a quiz, you miss those points.

- You can consult your notes and the readings during quizzes (in fact, I encourage it) but quizzes are not a group assignment. The use of Top Hat in this class is designed to help you do well on the exams; that won’t happen if you are not actually doing the work yourself.
VIII. Grading Policies

- I do not award extra credit. I do not round up grades. These policies are non-negotiable. However, if you miss no more than two lectures, you will receive two bonus points that may “bump” you over.

  Example One: You have missed two classes and have an 88 $\rightarrow + 2$ BP $= 90 = A$
  Example Two: You have missed three classes and have an 88 $\rightarrow + 0$ BP $= 88 = B$
  Example Three: You have missed one class and have an 89 $\rightarrow + 2$ BP $= 91 = A$
  Example Four: You have missed three classes and have an 89 $\rightarrow + 0$ BP $= 89 = B$

- The grade breakdown and scale is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Top Hat (In-Class Questions and Quizzes) 20%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam #1 20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam #2 20%</td>
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<td>Exam #3 20%</td>
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<td>Exam #4 20%</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>90-100</th>
<th>A</th>
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<tr>
<td>80-89.9</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-79.9</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69.9</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>&lt;59.9</td>
<td>F</td>
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- You will receive an Early Alert Grade on February 23rd. The Early Alert Grade represents your current performance on class work graded at that point in the semester.

IX. Academic Dishonesty

- If you cheat, you are taking advantage of other Auburn students. You are not affecting me; you are affecting all your friends by devaluing their work. If I find any evidence of academic dishonesty, I will report it to the Academic Honesty Committee. Cheating includes receiving old exams from someone else to study or consulting outside materials during an exam.

- When in doubt, look at the Academic Honesty Code or talk to me: https://sites.auburn.edu/admin/universitypolicies/Policies/AcademicHonestyCode.pdf
X. COURSE SCHEDULE

PROLOGUE: IN THE BEGINNING...

R Jan. 12<sup>th</sup>  The Big Bang, and What Happened Next [Syllabus Quiz]

PART ONE: THE ORIGINS OF INEQUALITY [1.8 MILLION YEARS AGO – 500 BCE]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Quiz</th>
<th>Text</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R Jan 19&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>The Neolithic Revolution [Quiz 2]</td>
<td></td>
<td>WTWA Chapter One “Becoming Human”, pp. 23-41</td>
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<tr>
<td>T Jan. 31&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Chariot Kingdoms [Quiz 5]</td>
<td></td>
<td>WTWA Chapter Three “Nomads, Chariots, Territorial States…”, pp. 84-119</td>
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<tr>
<td>R Feb. 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>The Neo-Assyrian and Persian Empires [Quiz 6]</td>
<td></td>
<td>Course Reader: Oracle Bone Inscriptions</td>
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<tr>
<td>T Feb. 7&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>EXAM #1</td>
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PART TWO: PHILOSOPHERS AND EMPERORS [500 BCE – 500 CE]

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Quiz</th>
<th>Text</th>
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<tr>
<td>R Feb. 9&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Religious Transformations in Vedic India [Quiz 7]</td>
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<td>WTWA Chapter Four “First Empires…”, pp. 145-159</td>
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<tr>
<td>T Feb. 14&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Zhou China [Quiz 8]</td>
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<td>WTWA Chapter Four, pp. 150-159 &amp; Chapter Five, pp. 160-171</td>
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<tr>
<td>R Feb. 16&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Greeks and the Hellenistic World [Quiz 9]</td>
<td></td>
<td>Course Reader: Confucius, Analects; Laozi, The Daodejing</td>
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Course Reader: Aristotle, Politics
T Feb. 21st  Han China (Quiz 10)
WTWA Chapter Seven “Han Dynasty China…”, pp. 238-256
Course Reader: The Debate on Salt and Iron

R Feb. 23rd  Imperial Rome (Quiz 11)
WTWA Chapter Seven “Han Dynasty China…”, pp. 256-277
Course Reader: Deeds of the Divine Augustus

→ Feb. 23rd Early Alert Grades Reported

T Feb. 28th  The Rise and Spread of Christianity (Quiz 12)
WTWA Chapter Eight “The Rise of Universal Religions”, pp. 278-317
Course Reader: The Passion of Saints Perpetua and Felicity

R Mar. 2nd  EXAM #2

PART THREE: THE MEDIEVAL WORLD [500 CE – 1500 CE]

T Mar. 7th  Islam and the Caliphate (Quiz 13)
WTWA Chapter Nine “New Empires and Common Cultures”, pp. 318-333
Course Reader: The Quran

R Mar. 9th  The Backwater of the Medieval Christian West (Quiz 14)
WTWA Chapter Nine “New Empires and Common Cultures”, pp. 347- 357
Course Reader: Fulcher of Chartres, The Deeds of the Franks

→ Mar. 13th – 17th SPRING BREAK

T Mar. 21st  Tang and Song China (Quiz 15)
WTWA Chapter Nine “New Empires and Common Cultures”, pp. 333-347
Course Reader: Emperor Taizong, On Effective Government

R Mar. 23rd  The Mongols (Quiz 16)
WTWA Chapter Ten “Becoming ‘The World’”, pp. 394-403
WTWA Chapter Eleven “Crisis and Recovery in Afro-Eurasia”, pp. 404-439
Course Reader: The Travels of an Alchemist

T Mar. 28th  Subsaharan African and the Empire of Mali (Quiz 17)
WTWA Chapter Ten “Becoming ‘The World’”, pp. 358-394
Course Reader: Epic of Sundiata

R Mar. 30th  Empires of the Americas (Quiz 18)
WTWA Chapter Ten “Becoming ‘The World’”, pp. 389-393
Course Reader: Cahokia

T Apr. 4th  EXAM #3
PART FOUR: THE EARLY MODERN WORLD [1500 CE - 1750 CE]

R Apr. 6th  1492 (Part One) [Quiz 19]
WTWA Chapter Twelve “Contact, Commerce…”, pp. 440-459
Course Reader: Christopher Columbus, Journal of the First Voyage

T Apr. 11th  1492 (Part Two) [Quiz 20]
WTWA Chapter Twelve “Contact, Commerce…”, pp. 459-475
Course Reader: Bartolomé de Las Casas, In Defense of the Indians

R Apr. 13th  The Atlantic World and the Slave Trade [Quiz 21]
WTWA Chapter Thirteen “Worlds Entangled”, pp. 476-495
Course Reader: Letters of King Afonso I to King João III

T Apr. 18th  Early Modern Trade Networks [Quiz 22]
WTWA Chapter Thirteen “Worlds Entangled”, pp. 495-517
Course Reader: Joseph Addison, The Spectator

R Apr. 20th  Early Modern Islamic Worlds [Quiz 23]
WTWA Chapter Fourteen “Cultures of Splendor and Power”, pp. 518-535
Course Reader: Sidi Ali Reis, The Mirror of Countries

T Apr. 25th  The “Enlightenment” and its Dark Side [Quiz 24]
WTWA Chapter Fourteen “Cultures of Splendor and Power”, pp. 535-553
Course Reader: Journal of Captain Cook

R Apr 27th  The World of the Past and the World of the Present

FINAL (EXAM #4)  SECTION 2: 8:00 – 10:30 am TUESDAY MAY 2nd
SECTION 4: 4:00 – 6:30 pm FRIDAY MAY 5th