

Sean F
History 101– World History to 1500

Fall 2016, Online

Contact Information:

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Selected Texts:

- Worlds Together Worlds Apart, W. W. Norton (text rental)
- The Poem of El Cid, trans. by Lesley Byrd Simpson, ISBN 978-0-520-25010-9 -- U of California Press (Purchase)
- Gilgamesh, Stephen Mitchell, ISBN 978-0-7432-6169-2 -- Simon & Schuster (Purchase)

Abstract:

The general outline for this course is the history of everyone, everywhere, covering a span of a few millennia. Obviously, it would be impossible to cover so much information in fifteen lifetimes, let alone fifteen weeks; therefore, with a global perspective consistently in mind, we will spend the bulk of the course discussing and analyzing big themes and ‘high-level’ comparisons.

Assignments:

1) Two Contemplative Essays (1000-1200 words each) (15% each-30% total)

We will read two historical novels in this class: *Gilgamesh* and *El Cid*. You are required to write a formal paper (not a review) concerning these books as well as the additional corresponding primary sources (“Hebrew Bible” for *Gilgamesh*, “Ali Cogia” and “Ying Ying” for *El Cid*), based on a prompt that will be given to you closer to the assignment date. The *Gilgamesh* paper is due **October 3rd** and the *El Cid* paper is due **December 19th**.

The purpose of the essay is to respond to and reflect upon the assigned readings in conjunction with class lectures and discussion. The essays should not simply summarize information, nor should they be a simplistic listing of things you liked or did not like about the readings. They should evidence your struggle both with the material assigned and with your own thoughts, ideas, concerns, etc.

If you must use direct quotations, anything more than **four** words consecutively must be cited by author and page number. Don't take credit for work that isn't yours.

2) Short Response Papers (12 total- 70%)

-These will address questions provided to you in advance, usually in the form of a paragraph or more per question. Responses should cover ~2 pages, and will be graded less stringently on grammar and punctuation than the essays will be.

You must submit your everything to turnitin by uploading them into the D2L Dropbox. Don't copy or cheat in any way. You will be reported.

Lectures 1 & 2: Peopling of the World

-Tignor, Chapter 1

-Response Essay #1 due on Sept 12th

Lectures 3 & 4: Mesopotamia

-Tignor, Chapter 2

-Response Essay #2 due on Sept 19th

Lectures 5-9: Egypt, the Levant, and Elsewhere

-Tignor, Chapter 3

-Hebrew Bible Readings

-Read Gilgamesh

-Response Essay #3 due on Sept 26th

-Gilgamesh Papers Due Oct 3rd

Lectures 10-12: Ancient Greece and Persia

-Tignor, Chapter 4

-Response Essay #4 due on Oct 10th

Lectures 13-15: China (Zhou, Qin, Han Dynasties)

-Tignor, Chapter 5, 241-261

-Lunyu “The Analects”, Tao Te King, Sun Tzu’s “Art of War” (Oct 4th)

-Response Essay #5 Due Oct 17th

Lectures 16-18: The Shrinking of the Afro-Eurasian World

-Tignor, Chapter 6

-Response Essay #6 Due Oct 24th

Lectures 19-23: Rome

-Tignor, 261-178

-Response Essay #7 Due Oct 31st

Lectures 24 & 25: Christianity

-Tignor, 321-342

-Response Essay #8 Due Nov 7th

Lectures 26-29: Islam

-Tignor, 367-387, 417-435

-El Cid (First Half)

-“Story of Ali Cogia”

-Response Essay #9 Due Nov 14th

Lectures 30-32: China (Tang and Song Dynasties)

-Tignor, 388-402, 437-445

-El Cid (Second Half)

-“Ying Ying’s Biography”

-Response Essay #10 Due Nov 21st

Lectures 33-37: Medieval Europe

-Tignor, 402-411, 446-454

-Response Essay #11 Due Dec 5th

Lectures 38-40: World of Disaster

-Tignor, 459-467, 490-507

-Response Essay #12 Due Dec 12th

El Cid Paper Due Dec 19th