

Instructor: Dr. Eric Swedin
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Office Hours: 2:30-5:30 on Tuesday and 3:30-5:30 on Wednesday. Other office hours are available by appointment.

Texts: Jared Diamond: *Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies* (Norton, 1997).

Robert McNeill and William H. McNeill, *The Human Web: A Bird's-Eye View of World History* (Norton, 2003). ISBN: 0393925684

Class Description:

Examines the political, social, cultural, economic, religious, scientific, and intellectual influences on the development of world civilizations to 1500 C.E. Emphasis is global, comparative, and multi-cultural..

Class participation and discussion is expected. While some lecture might be presented, for the most part, the class will focus on the discussion of the assigned topics and reading.

Grading Policies: Grades will be determined on the following basis:

Quizzes	20%
Map assignment	10%
Time-line assignment	10%
Class Paper	20%
Mid-term Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%

Grade range: A: 90 - 100% B: 80 - 89% C: 70 - 79% D: 60 - 69% E: 0 - 59%

Students with Disabilities: Any student requiring accommodations or services due to a disability must contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) in Room 181 of the Student Service Center on the Ogden campus. SSD can also arrange to provide materials (including this syllabus) in alternative formats if necessary.

Class paper: A 5-7 page paper on any topic in world history (prior to 1500 CE) is required. You may turn in an early draft for me to critique and I will return the critiqued draft two weeks later. The final draft is due on the final day of class. You must use at least four sources, only half of which may come from the Internet, and you must cite all quotations. The following web sites are useful:

<http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/TeachingLib/Guides/Internet/Evaluate.html>

<http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/TeachingLib/Guides/Internet/Style.html>

Quizzes: There will be six quizzes, on random days. Each quiz will be based on the readings that you were given for that day. Only five quizzes will be counted, so that the lowest quiz score will count as extra credit.

Exam and Policy: Exams can be taken early, with arranged permission. Questions on all the exams will come from text readings, class discussions, lectures, and videos. *Cheating on an exam, or turning in someone else's work as your own, will result in an E for the class.*

Cheating Policy: Cheating and deceit are not accepted Weber State University. *Cheating on an exam or assignment, or turning in someone else's work as your own, will result in an E for the class.* You may work together on your assignments, but you must turn in your own work. If you quote from a book, article, or web site, you must properly quote and cite your work. **Avoid even the appearance of cheating or plagiarism.**

Map Exercise:

Objective: Refresh your geographical knowledge from an historical perspective.

Attached to this syllabus are blank maps of the World and Europe. You might want to make copies for practice. Place or draw the following locations on the maps.

Map locations for World Map:

Ganges River	Nile River	Indus River
Tigris River	Euphrates River	Yellow River
Yangtze River	Mediterranean Sea	Black Sea
Aegean Sea	Indian Ocean	Persian Gulf
Caspian Sea	Baghdad	Jerusalem
Iraq	Cairo (Egypt)	Delhi
Mississippi River	Amazon River	Indonesia
Lake Victoria	Congo River	Iran
Arabian Peninsula	Peru	Mexico
Hispaniola	Australia	Japan
Greenland	Afghanistan	Israel
Africa	North America	South America
India	Pakistan	Philippines
Hawaii		

Map locations for the European Map:

Seine River	Elbe River	Danube River
Rhine River	Dardanelles	English Channel
Atlantic Ocean	Adriatic Sea	Pyrenees Mountains
Alps Mountains	Sarajevo	Athens
Istanbul	Rome	Naples
Florence	Milan	Venice
London	Paris	France
Crete	Cyprus	Serbia
Sicily	Normandy	Spain
Berlin	Moscow	Iceland
Gibraltar	Lisbon	Warsaw
Armenia	Latvia	Belarus
Ireland	Norway	Finland
Stalingrad		

Grading will be based on three criteria:

- 1) Placing all locations correctly.
- 2) Neatness and presentation.
- 3) Grammatical or mechanical errors.

Time-line Exercise:

Objective: Review of events of world history; gain an increased understanding of historical perspective.

Make a timeline of what you see as the 30 most important events in world history from prehistory to 1500 CE. Use our textbook or an encyclopedia or the Internet to find your information. For each entry, include a 2-3 sentence justification for your choice. Timeline MUST be typed.

Grading will be based on three criteria:

- 1) Completion of 30 world history events and 2-3 sentence descriptions.
- 2) Neatness and presentation.
- 3) Grammatical or mechanical errors.

Schedule:

Week	Tuesday	Thursday
Week 1 August 28 & 30	Introduction to Class	Diamond, Prologue McNeill, Introduction
Week 2 September 4 & 6	McNeill, Chapter I	Diamond, Chapter 1
Week 3 September 11 & 13	Diamond, Chapter 2	Diamond, Chapter 3
Week 4 September 18 & 20	McNeill, Chapter II	Diamond, Chapter 4
Week 5 September 25 & 27	Diamond, Chapter 5 Map assignment due	Diamond, Chapter 6
Week 6 October 2 & 4	Diamond, Chapter 7	Diamond, Chapter 8
Week 7 October 9 & 11	Diamond, Chapter 9	Diamond, Chapter 10
Week 8 October 16 & 18	McNeill, Chapter III Midterm Exam available in the Davis Test Center for the week	Diamond, Chapter 11
Week 9 October 23 & 25	Diamond, Chapter 12	Diamond, Chapter 13
Week 10 October 30 & Nov 1	Diamond, Chapter 14	McNeill, Chapter IV
Week 11 November 6 & 8	Diamond, Chapter 15 Time-line assignment due	Diamond, Chapter 16
Week 12 November 13 & 15	Diamond, Chapter 17	Diamond, Chapter 18
Week 13 November 20 & 22	Diamond, Chapter 19	McNeill, Chapter V
Week 14 November 27 & 30	McNeill, Chapter VI	Thanksgiving
Week 15 December 4 & 6	Diamond, Epilogue	Spare day Class paper due
Final Exam - TBA		