



## Syllabus

### HIS 112 - Early World Civilizations

#### General Information

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**Date** April 28th, 2023

**Author** Robert Brown

**Department** Social Science

**Course Prefix** HIS

**Course Number** 112

**Course Title** Early World Civilizations

#### Course Information

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**Catalog Description** A survey of the political, economic, intellectual, and cultural development of major early global civilizations, from the Agricultural Revolution (c. 10,000 B.C.E) to the sixteenth century C.E., and their frequent interactions. The course also examines the origins of many of the world's foremost religions (Judaism, Christianity, Buddhism and Islam), and considers the myriad ways the ancient, medieval and pre-modern eras have shaped the contemporary world.

**Credit Hours** 3

**Lecture Contact Hours** 3

**Lab Contact Hours** 0

**Other Contact Hours** 0

**Grading Scheme** Letter

#### Prerequisites

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None

#### Co-requisites

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None

## First Year Experience/Capstone Designation

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This course **DOES NOT** satisfy the outcomes applicable for status as a FYE or Capstone.

## SUNY General Education

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This course is designated as satisfying a requirement in the following SUNY Gen Ed category

World History and Global Awareness

## FLCC Values

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### Institutional Learning Outcomes Addressed by the Course

Inquiry and Interconnectedness

## Course Learning Outcomes

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### Course Learning Outcomes

1. Students will identify some of the major events, issues and themes of ancient, medieval and early modern world history.
2. Students will describe the distinctive features, and historical development, of at least one ancient, medieval or early modern civilization or culture in relation to other regions of the world.
3. Students will describe the structures, systems, and interrelationships among civilizations and cultures prior to 1500, and their impact on well-being and sustainability during the ancient, medieval and early modern eras.

## Outline of Topics Covered

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### Early Humans & First Civilizations

- The First Humans
  - Emergence of Homo-Sapiens
  - Paleolithic Hunter & Gatherer Societies
  - The Neolithic (Agricultural) Revolution
  
- Birth of Civilization
  - Mesopotamia, Babylonian & Sumer

- Egyptian Civilization: Old, Middle and New Kingdoms
- Impact of the Indo-Europeans

## **Ancient Hebrew Civilization & Early Judaism**

### **Ancient India**

- Harrapan Civilization
- The Aryan Invasion – Iron Age
- The Mauryan Empire & Brahmanism
- Origins of Buddhism

### **Ancient China**

- The Shang Dynasty
- The Zhou Dynasty: Confucianism, Daoism, Legalism, and the Mandate of Heaven
- The First Chinese Empire – The Qin Dynasty
- The Han Dynasty
- Tang Dynasty

## **The Civilization of the Greeks**

- Minoan & Mycenaean Greece
- Classical Greece
  - Contrasting Poleis: Athens & Sparta
  - The Golden Age: Intellectual and Cultural Developments
  - Birth of Democracy
  - The Persian and Peloponnesian Wars
- Alexander the Great & the Hellenistic Era

## **Rome's World Empire**

- The Roman Republic
- Imperial Era
- Fall of Rome

## **Origins and Early History of Christianity**

### **The Byzantine Empire – Crisis & Recovery**

- From Eastern Roman to Byzantine Empire
- Justinian and the Zenith of the Byzantine Empire
- The Decline and Fall of the Byzantine Empire

### **The Americas**

- Early Civilizations in Central America
  - The Olmecs
  - The Mayans
  - The Aztecs
- The First Civilizations in South America: Caral, Moche & Inca
- Pre-Columbian North America
- The Columbian Exchange, Colonization & Slave Trade

### **The Middle East/Persia/Arab Civilization**

- Achaemenid Era
- Seleucid Period
- Parthian and Sassanian Empires
- The Rise of Islam
  - Role of Muhammad
  - The Koran and Islamic Doctrine
- The Arab Empire and its Successors

- The Umayyad Caliphate
- The Abbasid Caliphate
- The Seljuk Turks
- The Crusades
- The Mongols
- Rise of the Ottoman

### **Early Civilizations in Africa**

- The Coming of Islam
- The Arabs of North Africa
- The Christian Kingdom of Ethiopia

### **Expansion of Civilization in Southeast Asia**

- Japan
  - Early Japan
  - Nara and Heian Periods
  - Kamakura and Muromachi Periods
  - The Rise of the Japanese State
- Korea
  - The Three Kingdoms
  - The Rise of the Koryo Dynasty
- Vietnam
  - The Rise of Great Viet

### **The Making of Europe, Middle Ages to the Renaissance**

- Europe in the Dark Ages & High Middle Ages
- Renaissance, Reformation & Discovery