

COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON
WORLD HISTORY TO A.D. 1500

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History 103.012/014
Fall 2008

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Section 014: T, Th 9:25-10:40 am, MYBK 306

Course Web Page: URL <http://www.cofc.edu/~piccione/hist103/>

Username: **++++** Password: **++++** (necessary for accessing Web readings and images)

Course Description: This course is an historical survey of the major civilizations and cultures of human history from earliest times to the Age of Discovery (early AD sixteenth century). The overarching theme focuses on the formation and interaction of the high cultures and civilizations of the Near East, Europe, Asia, Africa, and Latin America and the character of relationships among different civilizations, e.g., East-West relations over time. Here the class will explore issues related to political development, social and intellectual systems, religion, science, and world views.

Course Requirements

Term Paper: Due November 20. Students will complete a term paper (6-7 pages), for which the specific topic and format are noted in the section, "Paper Requirements," below. *Completion of the paper is a necessary requirement for passing the course.*

Reading Quizzes: Three quizzes on the class readings will be administered in this course. The dates are noted in the syllabus below, and the instructor will announce these quizzes in class at least one week in advance.

Examinations: This course includes a midterm and a final examination, containing identifications and essays. The final exam will cover material mostly from the second half of the course, although the essays will be comprehensive..

Attendance and Participation: Discussion figures prominently in the class-program, and class participation and attendance will constitute a percentage of the course grade. Attendance and participation improve the functioning of the class as well as students' grades. According to College policy, attendance will be taken daily; any and all unexcused absences will result in automatic grade reductions.

Absences are excused by presenting written documentation to the Office of Associate Dean of Students. Undocumented and self-documented excuses are not acceptable. Running errands is not a valid excuse. Students are responsible for all the material in the readings, videos, lectures, etc., whether they are present or not in class. **Students should never telephone the instructor on the same day to say they will be absent, nor should they ever(!) call the History Department office to report their absence.**

If the instructor does not call the daily roll, an attendance sign-in sheet will be circulated. Students are also marked as absent for the following reasons: they do not sign the attendance sheet; they sign the sheet then leave class; they leave class for an *inordinate* period of time without valid excuse. *Any student who leaves class without permission and does not return after taking a quiz or exam will be recounted as absent, and the quiz/exam will receive an automatic failing grade (0 = F).*

VERY IMPORTANT: Any students who have missed 30% of class meetings or more, i.e., eight (8) or more individual classes, regardless of whether they have excused absences or not, will be subject to **automatic withdrawal** from the course by the professor with a grade of "WA". Why? Because the professor's lectures contain more materials than are found in the textbook and course readers, and discussion and question-and-answer constitute important parts of the curriculum. If students have missed 30% of lectures, it is clear they are not getting all the materials, and they are not participating in classroom discussions in any significant manner. Therefore, if it is because of a medical reason that any student has missed eight (8) or more classes, he/she should discuss the matter with the professor and consider seeking a medical withdrawal from the course in the Registrar's Office.

Make-Up Quizzes and Exams: This course does not regularly provide make-up quizzes or exams. However, if students present a valid medical excuse documented in writing and processed through the Office of Associate Dean of Students, they will be permitted to complete a comparable written assignment to make up the lost work. This assignment will not be easy or convenient, and it will be graded with considered caution. Except by special arrangement with the instructor, students have only one (1) week to complete and submit any makeup assignment for a quiz before the grade reverts to zero (unless there is continuing documented illness). It is the responsibility of the student to assume the initiative in pursuing any make-up assignment within that time deadline. If a student misses a midterm exam (worth 20% of the grade), comparable make-up work will consist of a second term paper, and the submission date must be negotiated with the instructor.

Athletes and Special Needs: Participation in athletic events or practices is NOT(!) a valid excuse to miss quizzes, term-paper due dates, or midterm and final examinations; make-up work will not be granted. When athletes check their schedules of away-games against the course assignment schedule, they must also check the travel schedule for each game. Athletes are responsible for the academic consequences of missing quizzes, exams, and due dates. Any athletes who expect to miss quizzes, or exams should see the professor, and should seriously reconsider taking this class.

Any student who has been formally certified by the College through the *SNAP Program* as having special needs entailing accommodations to complete the requirements for this course should consult with the instructor during office hours as soon as possible. They are also responsible for notifying at least one week before each accommodation is needed.

Course Textbooks

Required Texts:

Gabrieli, Francesco. *Arab Historians of the Crusades*, transl., E. J. Costello. New York: Dorset Press Reprints Series, 1984.

Internet Medieval Sourcebook: The Crusades (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/sbook1k.html>). Accessible directly on the World Wide Web or through "Reading Assignments"-page on class Web pages.

Madden, Thomas F. *The New Concise History of the Crusades*. Updated Student Edition. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc., 2006.

Riley, Philip H. et al., eds. *Global Experience, Volume 1, Readings in World History to 1500*. Fifth edition. Upper Saddle River: Prentice-Hall, 2006.

Spodek, H. *The World's History*. Volume 1, *Prehistory to 1500*. Third edition. Upper Saddle River: Prentice-Hall, 2005.

Grading Policy

Final course-grades will be constituted according to the following formula: map quizzes (3) 10%, reading quizzes (3) 12%, mid-term exam 20%, term paper 20%, final exam 20%, attendance and class participation 18%.

Grades in this course are issued according to the following numerical scale: A = 91-100 [superior]; A- = 89-90; B+ = 86-88 [very good]; B = 81-85 [good]; B- = 79-80; C+ = 76-78 [above average]; C = 71-75 [average]; C- = 69-70; D+ = 66-68 [unsatisfactory]; D = 61-65 [poor, passing]; D- = 60 [barely passing]; F = 0-59 [failure]; XF = failure due to academic dishonesty

Paper Requirements

Term Paper. Due date: November 20. Length: 6-7 pages. The two texts assigned as special primary readings in this course are: *Arab Historians of the Crusades*, edited by Francesco Gabrielli, and the *Internet Medieval Sourcebook: The Crusades*. While the *Sourcebook* (located on the Internet) provides European accounts and motivations for the Crusades, the *Arab Historians* recounts the Crusades from the purely Arab perspective, often describing the very same events recorded in the *Sourcebook*, but through non-western eyes. With these sources, the reader can understand how the different sides in that great conflict viewed the same events and historical processes; also how Europeans understood their relationship to non-Europeans, as well as how they, in turn, were perceived by the Arabs.

Specific Term Paper Assignment: The topic of the term paper is to analyze the European and Arabic accounts in light of their different perspectives; to compare and contrast their content, themes, historical contexts historical personages, etc.–whatever specifically that interests you–in order to determine to what extent any common ground or understanding existed between them. Possible points to consider: the perceptions of Europeans newly arrived in the Middle East versus long-term European residents; European vs. Arab social ethics or chivalry, status of women, religious perceptions or misconceptions, cultural assumptions underlying the varying accounts, etc. Be critical and evaluative in your use of the sources. Develop a particular theme or hypothesis, and strive to prove that hypothesis in your paper. *The first paragraph of the paper must contain an introduction and a thesis statement*, which is the point of the paper, or the hypothesis you intend to prove. N.B., to develop this paper properly, you will need to consult secondary sources on European and Arab societies of that time and Christianity and Islam.

Preliminary Drafts. Students are strongly encouraged to submit an early preliminary draft of the term paper to the instructor for comment. The instructor will review it to ensure the clarity and direction of its content and adherence to format. *The draft will not be graded.* The purpose of a draft is to insure that the content and argument of the paper are on track, and the form is correct.. Students who submit a draft should do so no later than two (2) weeks before the paper's deadline.

Submission, Late Policy, etc. *Late papers will be penalized 5 points for each day late* (including Saturdays), up to three days, after which they will be graded no higher than a 59% (F). Papers must be submitted *in person* to the instructor or to the History Department (Maybank 203), where the departmental administrator will certify and date-stamp their arrival. The instructor is not responsible

for any papers simply dropped off at his office or shoved under his door. Regrettably, such papers cannot be deemed to have been accepted on time.

Form and Format. All papers should be submitted in paper format. Papers submitted electronically via e-mail or on disk are unacceptable.

See course Web page, "Paper Requirements"-link, for detailed information, advice, and suggestions on form, format, and grading criteria for the theme essay and term paper. In general, the essay and paper should contain 1-inch margins on all sides, top and bottom. They should be printed double space in a 12-point type. They must include proper citations (in the form of footnotes or endnotes) plus a separate "Bibliography" at the end of the paper. They must also include a separate cover page. *The cover page and the bibliography do not count toward the required number of pages.*

VERY IMPORTANT! READ ME: In the preparation and execution of all papers for the class, students are required to follow the format presented by **Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 6th ed. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1996)**, especially in regard to the style of block quotations, footnotes or endnotes, and bibliographies. Look over Chapters 8-11 on how to cite references. Choose the type of reference you want: footnotes or endnotes (+ "Bibliography"). Read Chapter 11 (pp. 185-213) to compare their forms and styles. Use footnotes or endnotes only; do not use parenthetical references.

Students may not use "parenthetical references" and "reference lists" for any paper or essay in this course, nor may they use the MLA style of notes and references. All papers must have a separate cover page, although students need not follow Turabian closely on the format of this page.

Do not employ the MLA style in writing your history papers!
Each occurrence of a reference in a parenthesis
will receive a 3-point reduction in paper grade!!

Turabian's style is a recognized standard for writing papers, theses, and dissertations in the Humanities and Social Sciences. If you are not familiar with this format, open the manual, and learn it. Don't try to "wing" it or fudge the format. Any papers that do not conform to Turabian style will be graded accordingly. When this course is finished, it is very strongly recommended that you not sell Turabian's manual back to the Bookstore, since you will probably continue to need it for future course work.

Execution. As a rule of thumb, you may not quote class lecture notes in your paper, nor should you quote the course textbook (Spodek, *The World's History*). If you want to quote material mentioned in class, you must find it in published sources among the course readings, and quote from there. If you cannot find the source among the readings, see the instructor for advice. Feel free to consult the instructor at any time for advice on preparing the papers or about writing strategies. Alternatively, students may consult writing counselors in the Writing Lab, Addlestone Library, 1st Floor (http://www.cofc.edu/~csl/writing/writing_lab.html).

Improper form and misspellings will reduce the grade of the term paper. To be certain of your spelling, use a dictionary. Use a spell-check program *only after* you have already manually checked your spelling. **You must proofread your paper before submitting it, and make any final corrections cleanly in ink, if necessary.** *Why the emphasis on form?* A research paper is a means of communication. The purpose of any paper is to convey an argument as logically as possible according to standards of form that facilitate its communicative function. Form is not merely format and correct spelling; it also includes the logical arrangement of an argument and the rational ordering

of historical and textual data to support a particular historical interpretation. Poor form can impede the communication of a valid point of view. When a paper cannot communicate due to a lapse of form, it has failed in its purpose. Train your mind to be rigorous in the pursuit of understanding. After all, that is why you are in college.

Using the World Wide Web for Research and as a Source of Quotations

One does not do research merely by sitting at a computer and surfing the World Wide Web. One does research by paging through pertinent books, by consulting bibliographies at the backs of each, and by tracking sources from one footnote to another. Students should confine the bulk of their research to printed publications. They may use the World Wide Web only *selectively to help research* the paper topic. Beware! There is a great deal of pseudo-historical trash on the Web that does not conform to modern academic standards. The World Wide Web contains three types of historical materials:

- [1] primary sources, i.e., collections of original historical documents and inscriptions;
- [2] synthetical reports and essays prepared by professional historians and which are usually published in professional Web-based electronic journals;
- [3] idiosyncratic essays, polemical tracts, and document collections of uneven and inconsistent quality, prepared by non-professionals, dilettantes, and hobbyists which are often inaccurate in content.

Sadly, this latter trash [no. 3] permeates much of the historical materials on the Web, and students must learn to recognize each instance of poor quality and to avoid it. Many of the primary sources on the Web [no. 1] include translations of foreign language documents into English. However, these translations can be obsolete, incomplete, or idiosyncratic. Obsolete translations are superseded by more modern accurate translations published in print.

On the other hand, many professional peer-reviewed historical academic journals [no. 2] are also published on the Web, and they are collected together into archives for easy searching and consultation. The College of Charleston Library subscribes to these archives and databases and many more (e.g., *JStor*, etc.), and they are located in the College's library catalogue under the headings, "databases" and "e-journals" (<http://www.cofc.edu/~library/databases.html>).

In general, students may never quote from from any dictionaries and encyclopedias, such as *Wikipedia*, *Encyclopedia Britannica*, etc. They may not quote from *any public Web pages*, including translations, reports, and essays without prior approval of the instructor. The only exception is the *Internet Medieval Sourcebook: The Crusades* (see above), which is a required Internet source for this course. Of course, students may always quote from on-line sources found in the Addlestone Library Catalog of databases and electronic journals (see above). Each violation of this rule occurring in a paper will receive a significant grade reduction.

While students may not *quote* from any open Web source, they should still *freely consult* reliable Web pages (i.e., those that are authored by professional scholars) in order to identify issues, printed books, and other paper-form sources of information, which they may then quote in their papers. Use these Web pages to lead you to printed books. *Wikipedia* is not consistently reliable because most of its articles are written only by interested amateurs and non-specialists. However, articles in *Wikipedia* often contain bibliographies of some usefulness. Reliable pages on the World Wide Web

are usually identifiable by the domain-markers “.edu” or “.ac.uk” or “.org” in their addresses, while much less trustworthy pages are often—but not always—identifiable by the domain-markers “.com” “.net” or in their Web addresses. If in doubt about the appropriateness of any research source—either on the Web or in print—consult the instructor, and run these pages by him.

Policy on Plagiarism, Cheating, and Disruptive Behavior

Plagiarism. As you prepare your papers for this course, be careful not plagiarize any of your sources. Any plagiarism, whether intentional or unintentional, whether blatant or merely inappropriate paraphrasing, will not be tolerated. If you have any questions as you prepare your assignments, please feel free to ask the advice of the instructor. **If in doubt about anything, quote it—even indirect quotations!** The Honor Code of the College of Charleston strictly prohibits plagiarism and cheating. It includes cheating with cell phones, attempted cheating, and aiding to cheat. Students found by the instructor to commit or abet these offenses will automatically fail the course with an "F", or else they will be reported to the College Honor Board and receive an "XF"-grade. Additional penalties may include suspension or expulsion from the college at the discretion of the Honor Board. For definitions of these offenses and explanations of sanctions, see the *College of Charleston Student Handbook*, pp. 11-12 (<http://www.cofc.edu/about/handbook.pdf>). For examples of proper and improper quoting and paraphrasing, see "A Guide to Freshman English" on the English Department web pages (http://www.cofc.edu/~english/freshman_writing_guide.html).

Classroom Behavior. Students are reminded that eating, drinking, and smoking are prohibited in the classrooms of the College of Charleston. The classroom is an inappropriate venue for reading newspapers, personal grooming (such as combing hair, applying makeup, etc.), or even sleeping. The instructor reserves the right to expel any student from the classroom for unruly or disruptive behavior.

Computers in Class. Students are not permitted to employ laptop, hand-held computers, digital notebooks, *I-Pod's*, smart telephones or the like during class without prior permission of the instructor. Any authorized student who abuses this privilege by engaging in activity unrelated to the class (checking e-mail, surfing the Web, etc.) will forfeit permission to use the computer in class for the rest of the term and will receive a reduction in the class-participation grade.

Cell Phones in Class and Exams. Students may not make or receive cellular telephone calls, podcasts, text messages of any kind, or accept any electronic pages during the class period. Turn off all cell phones, pagers, iPods, etc. at the start of class. **Anytime a cell phone or pager goes off or is activated in class, it will result in a 3-point reduction in course-grade for the student. Any cell phone or pager going off or activated during a quiz or exam will also result in a significant grade reduction for that quiz or exam, even including a failing grade.** Any student found even handling a cell phone or electronic device during an exam will receive a reduction in exam grade and will also be scrutinized closely for cheating (see above).

Lectures and Assignments Schedule

The complete schedule of lectures and assigned readings for this course are found on the course Web pages under the link, "Reading Assignments, " URL:

<http://www.cofc.edu/~piccione/hist103/hist103assign.html>

The readings consist of the texts and Internet source described above, as well as a large selection of other documents freely available for downloading (marked "W" in the Reading Assignments-aschedule).

Class will adhere to the assignments and course schedules found there. *The instructor reserves the right to alter the schedule of lectures, discussions, video presentations, and reading assignments, quizzes and exams at any time.* Students are responsible for the full course material through the readings listed on the Web pages. Students should keep up with the schedule of weekly reading assignments, regardless of any deviation in the schedule of classroom lectures. Students must obtain or acquire access to all the textbooks and readings, since the exams and quizzes include significant amounts of reading material not covered in class lectures. Thank you. Have a nice course!