EUH 2011 U01: Early European Civilizations  
Spring 2020  
5:00 – 6.15 Wednesday GC287B

Instructor:  
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This semester we will explore several millennia of Ancient history from Mesopotamia in the 4th millennium B.C.E. to the dissolution of the Roman Empire in the west, c. 500 C.E. We will follow the political, economic, and religious development of societies in the Mediterranean basin, and consider the ways that these societies expanded, contracted, and interacted with one another. During this semester we will:

- Learn about and be able to explain some of the key developments in the Mediterranean basin from the civilizations of Mesopotamia to the dissolution of the Roman Empire in the west, c. 500 C.E.
- Become experienced in understanding, analyzing, and critically evaluating historical processes.
- Learn and apply the techniques of writing an argumentative, thesis-driven, and evidence-based paper using the knowledge acquired through the history of the Mediterranean basin and the critical evaluation of the historical sources.

We will achieve these goals by considering the following issues in particular:

- How ancient civilizations were structured and organized.
- How the environment shaped people’s daily lives.
- How people interpreted the world they lived in through their beliefs.
- How different groups of people interacted with one another over the time period covered by this course. (Global Learning)

Throughout the semester we will practice writing frequently, and the writing assignments will make up a significant portion of your grade. Clear and concise communication through writing is key to success in college and in any profession.

This course fulfills your historical foundations core requirements (for history majors) and the University Core Curriculum’s Humanities in Writing requirements (for all students). In order to meet these requirements, you must achieve a grade of C or better. On the 1,000 points grading scale that we use in this class, you need to earn at least 700 points to pass the class.

This course is also a Global Learning Foundations course that counts towards your Global Learning graduation requirement. Specifically, this course will enable you to:
• Construct an evidence-based argument demonstrating how local, regional, and inter-regional events shaped the interactions of two or more groups in the ancient world, and the development of the ancient world (Global Awareness).
• Construct an evidence-based argument that integrates multiple perspectives on issues related to the ancient world (Global Perspective).
• Consider the different perspectives on a problem or controversy related to the ancient world and attempt to reach a resolution to this problem (Community Engagement).

This course is also a hybrid class. Work done out-of-class is equally as important as work done in-class. Keeping up with the work out-of-class requires planning and commitment.

**Required Materials**


You may purchase the required books at the campus bookstore, any other bookstore, or obtain it from a library. Additional reading will be assigned on Canvas for each class.

You are responsible for coming to class having read and having prepared to discuss the reading requirements for that day. You **must** have access to a copy of the day’s required reading in class.

**Grade Distribution**

You can earn 1,000 points through regular work during the semester.

- **Points**
  - In-class Participation 180 points/12 points per attended lecture
  - Out-of-class Participation 180 total points
  - Weekly Reading Quizzes 156 points/12 points per completed quiz
  - Syllabus Quiz 10 points
  - Writing Technique Quiz 14 points
  - Writing Assignments 600 total points
    - Paper 1 100 points
    - Paper 2 200 points
    - Paper 3 300 points
  - World in the Classroom 40 points

**Total** 1,000 points

For more information on how grades are calculated, please see the Grading Standard Handout on Canvas. For more information on how writing assignments are graded, please see the Writing Hints handout on Canvas.
In-class Participation (180 points)
In-class participation means arriving on time, being prepared, and having read the readings for the day. In-class participation also means listening alertly, taking notes, and contributing to the discussion. It can also mean actively participating in group work and completing tasks online based on in-class activities. Your comments, questions, and responses to others make us all better scholars. **You will earn your in-class participation grade by answering an online question based on the contents of the lecture that will go live during the final 15 minutes of each in-class meeting. You need to be physically present in the classroom to earn these points.**

You have the right to agree, disagree, challenge, and question the opinions and comments of others, including your instructor. You do not have the right to be disrespectful in the classroom or online, or to act in a way that makes others uncomfortable. Such behavior will **not be tolerated**. For more information, see the Student Handbook and FIU policies on harassment.

Out-of-class Participation (180 points)
Out-of-class participation means reading the required reading before each in-class lecture, and taking the online quizzes. **The deadline for all quizzes will be at 3 p.m. on the day of class.**

Syllabus Quiz
During the first week of class, you will be required to take an online quiz on the contents of this syllabus.

Writing Technique Quiz
Leading up to the first writing assignment of the semester, you will be required to take an online quiz on writing technique.

Required Reading Quizzes
Leading up to most in-class lectures, you will be required to take a quiz on the required reading for each lecture.

Writing Assignments (600 total points)
1,000–1,300 words each.
This semester you are responsible for three written assignments. For specific instructions for each assignment, please refer to the writing prompts, which will be posted on Canvas. **All writing assignments shall be submitted on Canvas. You are responsible for submitting your writing assignments and for making sure that Canvas has accepted your submission.**

**Paper 1 due: Friday, January 31 at 11:59 p.m.**
**Paper 2 due: Friday, February 21 at 11:59 p.m.**
**Paper 3 due: Friday, April 10 at 11:59 p.m.**

Each paper shall include a **thesis statement**, an **argument**, a **conclusion**, **citations**, and a **list of works cited**. Each paper will be the response to a question provided in the writing prompt with your thesis statement serving as your answer.
Community Engagement: The World in the Classroom (40 points)
The Ancient world continues to play an important role in our lives today with references being made in news stories, op-eds, debates, and on social media. Use your knowledge about the ancient world acquired in this class to summarize and contextualize the content in articles and short videos provided by your instructor, and share your findings by presenting them in groups to the class. All group presentations will take place in class on April 15. Because this is the last lecture of the semester, you will not be able to make up for being absent.

Exams
This course does not have exams.

Support

Your Instructor
I am here to help you succeed in this class, and I am happy to answer any questions you might have. The best way to reach me is by e-mail or come by during office hours. When you e-mail me, I will do my best to reply within 24 hrs. However, if you send me an e-mail on Friday afternoon you might not get a reply until Monday. If you have any general questions regarding the course, please consult this syllabus first. If your question still has not been answered, you are welcome to e-mail me, and I will try and help you.

The History Tutors
The History Tutors are an excellent resource provided by the Department of History to help students taking history courses with their writing assignments. There are several history graduate students working in the department’s main office (DM 390) whose job it is to tutor history students. I highly recommend that you make an appointment with The History Tutors when you are working on your writing assignments. To set up an appointment, please visit https://history.fiu.edu/tutoring.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic Dishonesty is a serious offence and will not be tolerated in this class. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

- Plagiarizing, i.e., representing someone else’s work as your own, e.g. by not including citations in your writing assignments.
- Cheating on your assignments, e.g. handing in a writing assignment written by someone other than you.
- Cheating on your exams.
- Engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work, e.g., using text and information from a pooled Google docs file.

Academic dishonesty will result in a penalty ranging from a zero on the assignment in question to failing grade for the entire course and reporting to FIU. For more information on academic dishonesty, please see the Student Handbook. If you have any questions about what constitutes as academic dishonesty, please contact me, and I will be happy to answer them.
Students with Disabilities
If you have, or believe you might have, a disability-related need for reasonable accommodation in this course, please contact the Disability Resources Center (http://drc.fiu.edu). I am happy to work with you and the DRC to accommodate you in the best way possible. Even if you do not need accommodation, I highly advise you to let me know if you have a registered disability that might affect your performance in this class.

Excused Absences
Excused absences may be granted in the event of serious medical issues (with a doctor's note), religious holiday, the death of an immediate family member, military duty, a court date, and participation in some college events. It is your responsible to contact your instructor in a timely manner and request absence be excused. It is also your responsibility to acquire notes from a classmate for the class when you were absent.

Deadlines and Late Submission of Work
Quizzes are due at 3 p.m. on the day of class.
Writing assignments are due at 11:59 p.m. on the assigned day. Because this is hybrid class all deadlines are final. Exceptions can be made in the cases stated above as excused absences. In cases where a late submission of work is granted, the grade on any late writing assignment is automatically reduced by one-third of a letter for each day the paper is late (for example, a B+ becomes a B; the number of points varies by assignment), including Saturday and Sunday. No writing assignments will be accepted after more than one week past the deadline. No regular course work will be accepted after 11:59 p.m. on April 15, 2019.

Changes to the Syllabus
I reserve the right to make changes to this syllabus to facilitate better learning.

/Dr. Erika Harlitz-Kern

SCHEDULE

Week 1
Wednesday, January 8 Introduction.

Week 2
Wednesday, January 15 What is History? The Mediterranean as a System.
• In-class:
  Required reading: Arnaud, “Conclusion” (.pdf on Canvas);
• Out-of-class:
  Syllabus Quiz.
  Writing Technique Power Point (.pdf on Canvas).
  Required Reading Quiz week 3.

Week 3
Wednesday, January 22 Mesopotamia
• In-class:
  Out-of-class:
  Required Watching Quiz week 4.

**Week 4**
Wednesday January 29 *Nubia*
• In-class: For week 4, you are required to watch, study, and take a quiz on Episode 1 of the PBS series *Africa’s Great Civilizations*.
  Required watching: *Africa’s Great Civilizations* Part 1 (FIU library link on Canvas).
• Out-of-class:
  Required Reading Quiz week 5.

**PAPER 1 DEADLINE FRIDAY JANUARY 31.**

**Week 5**
Wednesday, February 5 *Egypt*
• In-class:
• Out-of-class:
  Required Reading Quiz week 6.

**Week 6**
Wednesday, February 12 *Greece I*
• In-class:
• Out-of-class:
  Required Reading Quiz week 7.

**Week 7**
Wednesday February 19 *Greece II*
• In-class:
  McKay, “War and Turmoil in the Classical Period,” “Classical Greek Life and Culture,” Philip de Souza, “The Athenian Maritime Empire of the Fifth Century B.C.” (.pdf on Canvas); Out-of-class:
  Required Reading Quiz for week 9.

**PAPER 2 DEADLINE FRIDAY FEBRUARY 21.**

**Week 8** SPRING BREAK
Week 9
Wednesday, February 25 The Persian Empire.
  • In-class:
    Required reading: McKay, “Empire of the Persian Kings,” Matt Walters “Cyrus and the Achaemenids” (.pdf on Canvas); chapter from Karen Radner (ed.), State Correspondence in the Ancient World (.pdf on Canvas).
  • Out-of-class:
    Required Reading Quiz week 10.

Week 10
Wednesday, March 4 The Hellenistic World
  • In-class:
  • Out-of-class:
    Required Reading Quiz for week 11.

Week 11
Wednesday, March 11 Carthage.
  • In-class:
  • Out-of-class:
    Required Reading Quiz for week 11.

Week 12
Wednesday, March 18 Rome I.
  • In-class:
  • Out-of-class:
    Required Reading Quiz for week 13.
    Start group work for The World in the Classroom.

Week 13
Wednesday, March 25 Rome II
  • In-class:
  • Out-of-class:
    Required Reading Quiz for week 14.
    Continue group work for The World in the Classroom.
Week 14
Wednesday, April 8 Rome III.
• In-class:
  There will be no in-class meeting during week 14. However, you are still required to
  study for and take the Required Reading Quiz for Week 14, as well as continue working
  on your Paper 3 and World in the Classroom group presentations.
  Required reading: McKay, “The Empire in Disarray” (in Chapter 6), “Reconstruction
  under Diocletian and Constantine” and “The Coming of Christianity” (both in Chapter 7).
• Out-of-class:
  Finish group for work for The World in the Classroom.

• DEADLINE PAPER 3 FRIDAY APRIL 10.

Week 15
Wednesday, April 15 The World in the Classroom.
• In-class:
  This class is your Community Engagement activity. You must show that you attend this class.
  You will not have an opportunity to make it up if you are absent.

Week 16
Finals Week.
• Out-of-class:
  Cumulative Reading Quiz for week 16.