UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
HUM 1000: WORLD CIVILIZATION COURSE SYLLABUS
CREDIT: 3 UNITS
INSTRUCTOR:
DAY/TIME:
VENUE:
CONSULTATION HOURS:

"Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." George Santayana.

"The farther backward you look, the farther forward you are likely to see." Winston Churchill.

1.   MISSION:

The General Education (GE) Program is designed to equip students with a broad base of knowledge, skills and attitudes that lay a solid foundation for successful progress in their programs and professional development in the global perspective.

2.   PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES:

The overall objectives of the GE Program are to promote:
- ✓ Higher order thinking
- ✓ Global understanding and multicultural perspective.
- ✓ Literacy.

3.   COURSE DESCRIPTION:

World Civilizations is designed as a foundation course for first time university students. It is an overview of historical, cultural, and conceptual aspects of major civilizations from the ancient world to the present. Many factors that come together to create what is referred to as 'civilization' are explored. These factors include social, political and economic systems; as well as philosophy, technology and the arts. As part of USIU's General Education System, World Civilization also offers an introduction to essential university level practices such critical thinking, synthesis of concepts from diverse sources and clear expression of ideas.

4.   COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of this course students should:
- ✓ Have a common body of basic knowledge concerning the origins and development of human cultures, with an emphasis on the major world civilizations.
- ✓ Appreciate the art, thoughts, and achievements of humans living under an enormous variety of conditions.
- ✓ Develop a broad international perspective on cultural development as a background for understanding the contemporary world.
- ✓ Develop abilities to recognize and analyze problems; to think critically and to ask questions; to synthesize diverse kinds of information and to express ideas clearly and cogently.
- ✓ Identify lessons that humankind has learnt from past experiences, if any.

5.   COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Students are expected to read and follow the schedule in the course syllabus, to read assigned text chapters, to read assigned lecture notes, and to seek and read additional suggested resources as provided by the course text and instructor. In addition, students are expected to be alert and attentive with note taking in class and have a

demonstrated desire to participate in any discussion. Supplementary revision notes can be downloaded from web-ct. Use your student I.D number as your username and password. The default username and password are hum1000.

Students will be divided into groups and are expected to work with their group members on a topic that has been assigned to them by the instructor. Each group will, as indicated in the course schedule, present their findings to the class. Each class presentation will be limited to 20 minutes with 10 minutes of class discussions. In order to maximize the quality of their fellow students' learning experience, students are required to discuss their assigned topic outlines with the instructor and give frequent updates on the progress of their research work prior to the commencement of class presentations. In addition, presenters are encouraged to either prepare handouts or use visual aids such as Power Point. The following instructions should be followed precisely in the case of Power Point presentations:
Do not use more than fifteen slides (for the entire presentation.)
The font size should not be less than Times New Roman 28.

The presenting group should also provide a final paper (both soft copy and hard copy) to the instructor on the day of the presentation. The final paper should be between 10 and 15 pages long, Times New Roman, font size 12, 1.5 or double spacing. It should be written in an essay style (no bullet points); that is with discernible introduction, body and conclusion (with possible recommendations), which respectively explain, test and evaluate the topic assigned. Students must use citations to acknowledge ideas from other authors. Students will be graded on how effectively they have mastered and communicated the subject matter to the class as well as the substantive quality of the group paper. For additional information on how to write the group paper, refer to the Writing Guide on web-ct. In addition, each student should submit their individual research work through www.turnitin.com. The class I.D is 2722535 and the password is hum1000.

6.   ATTENDANCE POLICY:

An attendance roster is kept and students are expected to attend all sessions on time and as scheduled. If a session is to be missed for circumstances beyond the student's control, permission from the instructor must be obtained. As per the university rules, any student who has more than four absenteeism will get grade F.

7.   ACADEMIC AND CLASS CONDUCT:

Students are expected to conduct themselves appropriately at all times. Academic and classroom misconduct will not be tolerated. Students must read the "Code of Student Conduct" in the *New Student Handbook* for an understanding of what will be expected of them within the academic setting.

Faculty regulations require that all cases of suspected plagiarism and cheating be referred to the Dean. This matter is taken very seriously within the university and punishment in past cases has been severe. Both the *USIU Student Handbook* and the *USIU Student Catalogue* clearly state that instructional offences may result in failure in the course or expulsion from the degree program. Plagiarism occurs when students quote or adopt ideas from any source, without appropriate attribution (by the use of citations). Similarly, direct quotes must be attributed and indicated by quotation marks. It is also an academic offence to copy or to allow someone else to copy your examination.

8.   COURSE TEXTS:

1. Esler, Anthony, *The Human Venture,* Volumes I and II, Fifth Edition, (Upper Saddle River, N. J.: Prince-Hall, 2004).

2. Class Handouts.

9.   COURSE CONTENT:

WEEK 1-2:
NATURE AND ORIGIN OF CIVILIZATIONS IN AFRICA

Learning Outcomes
- ✓ Define key terms concerning the origins and development of civilization.
- ✓ Describe the origin of civilization in Africa.
- ✓ Identify and explain the art, thoughts, and achievements of key African civilizations.

Discussion Topics
- Definition of key terms
- Ancient Egyptian Civilization.

Reading Assignments
Human Venture, Fifth Edition, pp. 7-26, 45-60,
124-128. *Human Venture,* Fourth Edition, pp. 1-25,
41-54. Webct Notes.

WEEK 3 – 4:
ORIENTAL CIVILIZATION
Learning Outcomes

- ✓ Describe the origin of civilization in the Middle East and Asia.
- ✓ Identify and explain the art, thoughts, and achievements of key Oriental civilizations.
- ✓ Use basic knowledge on the development of the Oriental civilizations to understand the contemporary world.

Discussion Topics
- The Development of Civilization in Mesopotamia.
- The Hebrew Civilization.
- The Ancient Persians.
- The Indian Civilization.
- The Ancient Chinese Civilization.

Reading Assignments
Human Venture, Fifth Edition, pp. 35-44, 64-74, 149-165, 94-106, 176-185, 108-119, 186-197.
Human Venture, Fourth Edition, pp. 26-39, 56-64, 88-115, 166-175.
Webct Notes.

WEDNESDAY: CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT TEST I (WEEK 1-4)

WEEK 5:
EUROPEAN CIVILIZATION

Learning Outcomes
- ✓ Describe the origin of civilization in Europe.
- ✓ Identify and explain the art, thoughts, and achievements of key European civilizations.
- ✓ Use basic knowledge on the development of the European civilizations to understand the contemporary world.

Discussion Topics
- The Greek Civilization.
- The Roman Civilization.
- The Rise of Christian Dominance.

Reading Assignments
Human Venture, Fifth Edition, pp. 74-89, 157-172, 225-247.
Human Venture, Fourth Edition, pp. 66-84, 145-165.
Webct Notes.

WEEK 6:
ISLAMIC CIVILIZATION

Learning Outcomes
- ✓ Describe the origin of the Islamic Civilization.
- ✓ Identify and explain the art, thoughts, and achievements of the Islamic civilization.
- ✓ Use basic knowledge on the development of the Islamic civilization to understand the contemporary world.

Discussion Topics
- The Origins of Islam.
- The Spread of Islam.
- Islamic Achievements.

Reading Assignments
Human Venture, Fifth Edition pp. 251-267, 314-324.
Human Venture, Fourth Edition, pp. 255-268, 310-320.
Webct Notes.

MID-SEMESTER EXAM: WEDNESDAY,

WEEK 8:
THE RENAISSANCE, REFORMATION, AND EXPLORATIONS

Learning Outcomes
- ✓ Identify and explain the art, thoughts, and achievements of these periods in European history.
- ✓ Use basic knowledge about these periods to understand the contemporary world.

Discussion Topics
- The Formation of the Modern State.
- Protestantism.
- The Age of European Explorations.

Reading Assignments
Human Venture, Fifth Edition pp. 363-381, 445-469.
Human Venture, Fourth Edition, pp. 344-360, 427-441.
Webct Notes.

WEEK 9:
ENLIGHTENMENT AND THE REVOLUTIONS
Learning Outcomes

✓ Identify and explain the art, thoughts, and achievements of these periods in European history.
✓ Use basic knowledge about these periods to understand the contemporary world.

Discussion Topics

- The Development of Modern Scientific Thought in Europe.
- The Industrial Revolution.
- The French Revolution.
- The American Revolution.

Reading Assignments
Human Venture, Fifth Edition pp. 474-497, 506-517.
Human Venture, Fourth Edition, pp. 442-455, 483-500.
Webct Notes.

CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT TEST II (WEEK 8-9)

WEEK 10:
NATIONALISM AND WESTERN IMPERIALISM

Learning Outcomes
✓ Define and explain the development of the two isms.
✓ Identify and explain the art, thoughts, and achievements of these periods in European history.
✓ Use basic knowledge about these concepts to understand the contemporary world.

Discussion Topics
- The Development of Modern Scientific Thought in Europe.
- The Industrial Revolution.
- The French Revolution.
- The American Revolution.

Reading Assignments
Human Venture, Fifth Edition pp. 566-590.
Human Venture, Fourth Edition, pp. 521-538.
Webct Notes.

WEEK 11:
WORLD WARS

Learning Outcomes
✓ Explain the causes and consequences of the World Wars.

Discussion Topics
- The First World War.
- The Second World War.
- Anti – Colonialism.
- The Cold War.

Reading Assignments
Human Venture, Fifth Edition pp. 599-611, 654-675.
Human Venture, Fourth Edition, pp. 543-572, 606-635.
Webct Notes.

WEEK 11 – 13:
GROUP PRESENTATIONS
Learning Outcomes

- ✓ Develop a broad international perspective on cultural development as a background for understanding the contemporary world.
- ✓ Develop abilities to recognize and analyze problems; to think critically and to ask questions; to synthesize diverse kinds of information and to express ideas clearly and cogently.
- ✓ Identify lessons that humankind has learnt from past experiences, if any.

Discussion Topics
- Selected Topics on Current Affairs and Globalization and its Effects.

Reading Assignments
Human Venture, Fifth Edition pp. 680-705, 709-736, 762-782.
Human Venture, Fourth Edition, pp. 639-677, 696-708, 725-736.
Individual Literature Review.

Week 14
FINAL EXAM

10.   COURSE EVALUATION

Attendance and Participation   10%
Continuous Assessment Test I   10%
Continuous Assessment Test II   10%
Group Presentations   10%
Mid-Semester Exam   30%
Final Exam   30%
TOTAL   **100%**

11.   GRADING

90	-	100	A	70	-	73	C
87	-	89	A-	67	-	69	C-
84	-	86	B+	64	-	66	D+
80	-	83	B	62	-	63	D
77	-	79	B-	60	-	61	D-
74	-	76	C+	59 and below			F