



## Walters State Community College Course Syllabus

### Course Information

**Course Number and Name:** HIST 2310 Early World History

**Section ID:** 80833.202380

**Semester and Year:** Fall 2023

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Start Date:** August 21, 2023

**End Date:** December 08, 2023

**Course Format:** WEB - Web Classes

**Catalog Course Description:** Major economic, political and social developments from ancient times to 1500. Writing emphasis course (3000 words). Prerequisite(s): Completion of all Learning Support competencies in Reading and Writing. **F, S, Su.** (T)

**General Education Course Designation:** General Education Course

**Meeting Details:** TBD

**Course Drop Deadline:** October 27, 2023

### Instructor Information

**Name:** Paul Coker

**Office Location:** ACAD 220

**Office Hours:** <https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/PaulCoker@ws.edu/bookings/>

**Office Phone:** 865-774-5847

**Email:** Paul.Coker@ws.edu

**Supervisor Name:** Suzanne Stephens

**Supervisor Phone:** 423.585.6785

**Secretary Name:** Lisa Horner

**Secretary Phone:** 423.585.2633

### Required Textbook(s) and Materials

**Macmillan Achieve (digital platform) Ways of the World, A Brief Global History With Sources, Volume 1**

**Edition:** 5th

**Additional Information**

The Ways of the World digital textbook is automatically available to students enrolled in the class. Access readings and assignments on the Achieve platform via the link on the course's eLearn homepage.

## Supplemental or Optional Materials

Additional materials available on course eLearn site.

## Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives

- SLO 1: Write a critical essay over a topic relevant to the material contained within this course.
- SLO 2: Describe the major economic, political, and social developments in World History from Ancient times to 1500 CE.
- SLO 3: Identify and be able to compare and contrast the complexities of the global cultures and societies that developed from Ancient times to 1500 CE.
- SLO 4: Differentiate between primary and secondary sources and integrate these sources into the study of history.
- SLO 5: Identify concepts within this course that relate to modern society.

## Instructional Approach and Methods

1. This is an "asynchronous" web course. We do not have real-time meetings as a class; instead, course content is available for you to access when it best suits your schedule as you complete assignments by given deadlines.
2. You will be expected to read/view the assigned readings and other course materials and complete "LearningCurve" reading quizzes.
3. You will be expected to complete perform satisfactorily on discussions and essays.
4. Although we do not have regular class meetings, I recommend that you check the course website and eLearn email daily for important announcements, grade updates, and other

correspondence. I also am glad to meet with you individually via video conference by appointment.

## Assessment, Evaluation and Testing Procedures

12 Reading Quizzes (5 points each)	60 points
5 Discussions (10 points each)	50 points
6 Essays (10 points each)	60 points
History and Hollywood Discussion	<u>30 points</u>
	<b>200 total points possible</b>

## Grading Scale

A	90-100% (179-200 total pts)
B	80-89% (159-178 pts)
C	70-79% (139-158 pts)
D	60-69% (119-138 pts)
F	Below 60% (Less than 119 pts)

## Assignments

**Academic Honesty, Plagiarism, and AI:** The expectation in this course is that you will do your own work and carefully indicate your sources for words or ideas that are not your own. This includes cases where you may be paraphrasing or providing details (not just direct quotes). When in doubt, cite your sources.

Each assignment uploaded to eLearn is scanned for plagiarism/AI. Submissions flagged for plagiarism/AI will require a meeting with me and may result in severe penalties ranging from a "0" for the assignment to an "F" for the course. See the section below on "Academic Honesty" for more details about college-wide policies.

**Reading Quizzes (12 quizzes x 5 points each = 60 points total):** The purpose of reading quizzes is to familiarize yourself with major social, economic, political, and cultural developments in early world history (see SLO 2 & 3 under Student Learning Outcomes). To complete these activities, answer multiple choice and fill in the blank questions until you reach a target score. Once you reach the target

score, you will receive full credit (a grade of 100%) for completing the activity. As you answer the questions, you have access to hints, links to specific ebook pages, and are given immediate feedback after each question. Questions get harder as you answer more questions correctly, but harder questions are worth more points and help you reach the target score to complete the assignment faster. There is no time limit on the quizzes, as long as you complete them by the due dates. You may complete a reading quiz activity after the deadline for half credit. See the course eLearn site for more details and due dates.

**Unit Discussions (5 discussions x 10 points each = 50 points possible):** The purpose of discussion assignments is to join a conversation interpreting big historical questions with your classmates (see SLO 3 & 5). You are welcome post as often and to write as much as you like in each discussion forum, but to earn a passing score you must post 1) at least one substantive post by the due date and 2) at least two additional substantive replies to other peoples' posts sometime before the discussion closes. By "substantive," I mean posts that cite specific examples with page numbers from the assigned readings and explain how these specific examples shaped your thinking on the questions. Aim for 300-400 words for the initial post and another 100-150 words per reply for at least 2 replies. See the course eLearn site for the questions and more details about each discussion assignment, including due dates for your first response and replies.

**Unit Essays (6 papers x 10 points each = 60 points total):** The purpose of these short papers is to practice writing critical essays exploring the primary source materials in the "Working With Evidence" sections of your Ways of the World textbook (see SLO 1 & 4). Historians use the term "primary source" to refer to first-hand accounts and other direct evidence dating to the time and place we are studying.

Focus your analysis on the primary sources in the Working With Evidence section. Essays should be organized with clear paragraphs, including an introductory paragraph with a strong thesis statement (a brief statement of your specific answer to the question). Upload your work to the assignment dropbox in Word or PDF format by the assignment deadline. Papers should be at least 2 full pages in length and must be typed with 1-inch margins, double-spacing, and 12 point Times New Roman font. A separate title page is not necessary; simply put your name and the date at the top of page 1.

VERY IMPORTANT: Cite your sources, including page numbers when possible for any specific examples with either footnotes or parenthetical notes—you must cite page numbers for your examples whether you paraphrase or use a direct quote. Your grade is based first and foremost on your response to assigned materials, and you are not required to consult additional outside sources—but if you do, you must cite these carefully as well.

**History and Hollywood Discussion (30 points possible):** Does Hollywood and popular culture help or harm our understanding of history? We will explore this question together through a group discussion forum this semester (SLO 5). In your initial post in this forum you should discuss 1 movie that you think helps our understanding of history and 1 movie that you think does more harm than

good to our understanding of history. In this first post you should 1) explain with specific examples why you think these particular movies are helpful/harmful, 2) cite pages from assigned materials where we can find more information on the subjects from those movies, and 3) if possible include internet links for trailers for each movie. Finally, to earn a passing score you must post at least 2 additional substantive replies in the forum responding to other peoples' posts before the discussion closes. See the detailed course schedule or the course eLearn site for due dates for your first response and followup comments. To earn a passing score, you must post at least 2 substantive replies to other peoples' posts before the discussion closes. Suggested length for First Response: 300-400 words. Suggested length per reply: 100-150 words.

**Makeup/Late Work:** Unit Essays are normally penalized -10% per day late. Reading quizzes may be completed after the due date for 50% credit. However, once a discussion has closed, the course policy is not to offer makeup opportunities for missed discussions. Discussions are a group activity, and it is impossible to contribute to the group if you don't join in a timely way. Plan to join the discussions early—a situation that arises in the 24 hours before a discussion closes will not normally be an acceptable excuse for missing an entire discussion.

I will announce extra credit opportunities on eLearn during the semester that can help you make up for a missing assignment or two, but if you find yourself in circumstances where you are concerned about your ability to keep up, please reach out ASAP so we can address your individual situation. My goal is for you to be successful.

## Academic Honesty

Faculty expect all students to refrain from acts of academic misconduct including but not limited to:

1. Plagiarism - refers to using another person's ideas or writing without giving proper credit to the original source. Indulging in this type of conduct will subject the student to disciplinary sanctions, which may be imposed through the regular institutional procedures of Walters State Community College as outlined in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism will result in a grade of "0" for the paper/exam/presentation. Student Conduct and Disciplinary Sanctions contained in the college Catalog/Student Handbook apply (see policy 04:18:02 Disciplinary Sanctions).

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to the following:

- a. Using cut/paste tool from original document with no references given.
- b. Copying another student's work and submitting it as one's own.
- c. Forging or otherwise altering signatures.
- d. Giving or falsifying academic documents or materials.

2. Cheating - construed as attempting to deceive or mislead which includes, but is not limited to the following:
- a. Utilizing old tests, projects, notes or written papers.
  - b. Providing unauthorized information to a fellow student about exam content.
  - c. Receiving unauthorized aid from any source with quizzes, examinations, or other assignments.
  - d. Seeking information in an unacceptable manner during/preceding an exam or other assigned work (cheat sheet, verbal exchange, looking at another person's paper or electronic device, utilizing headphones, using textbook when the test/quiz is not an open book test/quiz, using textbook test bank etc.).
  - e. Consulting with a classmate or others when taking a computerized test.
  - f. Disregarding other specific policies and procedures outlined for a particular class.
  - g. Utilizing unapproved technology/electronic equipment during testing (i.e.: mobile devices such as cell phones, smart devices, or tablets, etc.).
  - h. Using the same Internet Protocol network address (IP address) as another student for testing without approval from the course faculty.
3. The use of any generative artificial intelligence (AI) tool, such as OpenAI's ChatGPT, Google's Bard, or any other pre-trained language model (commonly referred to as "chatbot"), must be cited for any assignment where it has been used and may not be used unless specifically allowed by your instructor. Please see your instructor or the course policies within the syllabus if you have questions.

## Student Resources

### TUTORING SERVICES

Students in need of tutoring assistance are encouraged to contact the Office of Student Tutoring located as follows:

- Morristown Campus - Student Services Building Room L107 - (423) 585-6920
- Niswonger Campus - GRNV 226 - (423) 798-7982
- Sevierville Campus - MMH Room 210 - (865) 286-2787
- Claiborne Campus - Room 123A - (423) 851-4761

Specific tutoring assistance in mathematics and writing is available in-person and online as follows:

- Morristown Campus - English Learning Lab - HUM 120 - (423) 585-6970

[Walters State English Learning Lab \(opens in new window\)](#)  
[ws.edu/academics/humanities/writing-lab](http://ws.edu/academics/humanities/writing-lab)

- Morristown Campus - Mathematics Lab - MBSS 222 - (423) 585-6872

[Walters State Mathematics Learning Lab \(opens in new window\)](#)  
[ws.edu/academics/mathematics/learning-lab](http://ws.edu/academics/mathematics/learning-lab)

## **TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT**

Students who need assistance with computing and technology issues should contact the IET Helpdesk by phone at Morristown: (423) 318-2742; Niswonger: (423) 798-8186; or Sevierville: (865) 286-2789 or on-line access.

[Walters State Helpdesk \(opens in new window\)](#)  
[helpdesk.ws.edu](http://helpdesk.ws.edu)

## **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES SUPPORT SERVICES**

Students with disabilities must register with Student Support Services each semester in the Student Services Building, Room U134 (phone (423) 585-6892) if they need any special facilities, services, or consideration.

[Walters State Student Support Services \(opens in new window\)](#)  
[ws.edu/student-services/disability/](http://ws.edu/student-services/disability/)

## **SUICIDE PREVENTION STATEMENT**

Walters State is committed to and cares about all students. Support services are available for any person at Walters State who is experiencing feelings of being overwhelmed, hopelessness, depression, thinking about dying by suicide, or is otherwise in need of assistance. For immediate help, contact the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline by calling or texting 9-8-8 or the Trevor Lifeline at 1-866-488-7386. Veterans may also contact the Veterans Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255 (press 1) or Text 838255.

Walters State has a relationship in place with the following community agencies to provide services (may include crisis referral services, prevention screenings, etc.):

- Cherokee Health Systems 423-586-5032
- Frontier Health 423-467-3600

## **College Policies**

## **STUDENTS HANDBOOK AS OFFICIAL GOVERNING DOCUMENT**

This class is governed by the policies and procedures stated in the current Walters State Community College Student Handbook. All students attending Walters State Community College, regardless of the time, location, or format of the class, must abide by the rules and regulations outlined in the current Walters State Catalog/Student Handbook and the current Walters State Timetable of Classes.

[Walters State Catalog \(opens in new window\)](https://catalog.ws.edu/)  
[catalog.ws.edu/](https://catalog.ws.edu/)

[Walters State Timetable of Classes \(opens in new window\)](https://ws.edu/admissions/registration/)  
[ws.edu/admissions/registration/](https://ws.edu/admissions/registration/)

## **PURPOSE, LIMITATIONS AND MODIFICATION OF SYLLABUS**

This syllabus sets forth the expectations for the course content, work, and grading as well as expectations for student performance and conduct. The syllabus does not constitute a contract between the student and the instructor or the College. The information contained here is subject to change at any time. The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus at any time with written notification to the students. Though changes are possible, it is expected that the course will be conducted as described in this syllabus for the semester/year specified in the Course Information section of the syllabus. This syllabus is only valid for the semester/year specified and course requirements are not guaranteed for future semesters.

## **COURSE GROUND RULES**

- Students must attend the first day of on-ground class or contact the instructor prior to the first class. Failure to do this may result in being dropped from the class. Excessive absences may substantially lower the course grade.
- Regular class attendance is a student's obligation for any course regardless of format. (See the Walters State Catalog/Student Handbook). If a student misses class, it is his or her responsibility to contact the instructor regarding missed assignments and/or activities and to be prepared for the next class assignment.
- Students enrolled in web courses must follow the course attendance policy defined for online attendance during the first week of class and throughout the term. Failure to do this may result in being dropped from the class during week one OR may result in the accrual of absences which may negatively impact the student's grade in the course.
- Students who have not paid fees on time and/or are not correctly registered for this class and whose names do not appear on official class rolls generated by the Walters State student information system (MyWS) will not be allowed to remain in class or receive credit for this course.



- Electronic devices must not disrupt the instructional process or college-sponsored academic activity. Use of electronic devices is prohibited unless use of the device is relevant to the activity and use is sanctioned by the faculty member in charge. Electronic devices that are not relevant to the activity or sanctioned by the faculty member in charge should be set so that they will not produce an audible sound during classroom instruction or other college-sponsored academic activity.

## **FINANCIAL AID**

Students receiving any type of financial aid or scholarship should contact the Financial Aid Office before making any changes to their schedule. Schedule changes without prior approval may result in loss of award for the current term and future terms.

All forms of student Financial Aid may be jeopardized or lost due to the lack of Satisfactory Academic Progress in one or multiple courses. Lack of Satisfactory Academic Progress may negatively impact a student's degree/certificate completion pace and further jeopardize Financial Aid eligibility.

## **CANCELLATION OF CLASSES AND ACADEMIC CONTINUITY**

For information related to the cancellation of classes due to inclement weather or other events, please check the Senators Emergency Text system or the college's Web site at:

[Walters State Homepage \(opens in new window\)](#)

[ws.edu/home/](http://ws.edu/home/)

[Walters State Facebook page \(opens in new window\)](#)

<https://www.facebook.com/WaltersState/>

[Walters State Twitter page \(opens in new window\)](#)

<https://twitter.com/waltersstate>

or call the college's student information line, 1-800-225-4770, option 1; the Sevier County Campus, (865) 774-5800, option 7; the Niswonger Campus (423) 798-7940, option 7; or the Claiborne County Campus, 423-636-6200, option 7. Also, please monitor local TV and radio stations for further announcements.

When an event or disaster interrupts the scheduled operations of the college and the ability to proceed with the academic course activities as planned, the college and your instructor may alter the course plan outlined in the syllabus. Should an event occur, students should refer to their course e-Learn pages and/or class materials previously delivered to receive guidance from their instructor. Students should continue to monitor the official college channels of communication listed in the above paragraph. If you would like to sign up for the Senators Emergency Text system, please go to the following Web site:

[Senator Emergency Text System \(opens in new window\)](#)  
[ws.edu/set/](#)

Dual Enrollment students attending on a high school campus should refer to the high school inclement weather cancellations.

## **LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

Brightspace (commonly known as eLearn or D2L) is the college's Learning Management System (LMS).

Brightspace is committed to accessibility by "deliver[ing] a learning experience that meets the needs of all people, regardless of age or ability." [Brightspace Accessibility Standard \(opens in new window\)](#)

Brightspace is also committed to guarding student data and privacy. [Brightspace Privacy Policy \(opens in new window\)](#)