



World History (WHIST) 1A Syllabus

Course Name

WHIST 1A

World History – Semester A

Course Information

WHIST 1A is the first semester of this two-semester course.

Welcome to World History 1A! You are about to take an exciting journey through world history. World History 1A is the first semester of this two-semester course. As you prepare for the course, please note that it is very important for you to have access to the online version of the McGraw-Hill *World History* textbook. We will reference specific features in that digital book in every lesson. It is also a good idea to have a notebook with you as you go through the course so you can write down thoughts, ideas, and information you encounter as you read through the chapters. You never know what little nugget might strike a chord in your soul. Let's get started!

Course Delivery Method

Online

Contacting Your Instructor

You may contact your instructor through the Blackboard messaging system. Technical support is available 24/7 at www.k12.ttu.edu.

Course Objectives

After completing this course, you should be able to:

1. understand the history of the world from pre-history through the Age of Absolutism in Europe;
2. identify the methodology used by archaeologists, anthropologists, and historians;

3. describe periods including the Development of River Valley Civilizations, the Classical Era of Greece and Rome, Medieval Period, European Renaissance, and the birth of the Atlantic World;
4. understand the impact of geography on historical events and major turning points in history;
5. use geography skills and tools to collect, analyze, and interpret data;
6. recognize the origins of modern economic systems such as free enterprise and socialism;
7. identify the characteristics of government systems such as monarchies, theocracies, and republics;
8. distinguish between political systems such as democracy, republics, oligarchy, limited monarchy, and absolute monarchy;
9. understand the significance of political choices made by individual groups and nations;
10. identify the origins of rights such as trial by jury, innocent until proven guilty, and equality before the law;
11. describe the historical origins of religious and philosophical traditions;
12. interpret the changing roles of women, children, and the family throughout history;
13. summarize the fundamental ideas that shaped Asian and Western cultures, respectively;
14. pinpoint the origin and diffusion of major ideas in mathematics, science, and technology from the river valley civilizations, classical Greece and Rome, classical India, the Islamic caliphates, and classical China; and
15. practice social studies skills such as using terminology correctly, standard grammar, spelling, and sentence structure, and interpret primary and secondary sources.

WHIST addresses the required Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). These can be found at the [Texas Education Agency](http://www.tea.state.tx.us) website.

Textbook and Materials

Textbook(s)

The required digital textbook for this course is:

- Spielvogel, Jackson J. (2016). *World History: Texas Edition*. Glencoe Publishing Co. ISBN: 978-0-07-660601-6

This digital textbook can only be purchased through the TTU K-12 partner bookstore. You can find the link to the bookstore in the Current Students section of the [TTU K-12](http://www.ttu.edu) website. Once you have purchased the digital textbook, you will receive a username and password via email. Once you have the credentials, refer to **How to Access the**

Online Textbook in the Syllabus section of the course to learn how to use these online resources.

If you would like a printed book, you can purchase the optional printed text:

- Spielvogel, Jackson J. (2016). *World History: Texas Edition*. Glencoe Publishing Co. ISBN: 978-0-07-660599-6.

Technical Requirements

- Internet access – preferably high speed (for accessing Blackboard)
- Email
- Word processing software such as Microsoft Word
- Adobe Reader (download from Adobe.com)
- Audio and video capabilities (for watching/listening to course content)
- PDF app (free options available)

Technical Skill Requirements

Be comfortable with the following:

- using a word processor
- Internet search engines and browsers
- creating PDFs (see **Requirements for Creating PDFs** in the Syllabus section of your course)

Course Organization

This course consists of 16 lessons and a final examination. Each lesson contains the following:

- Introduction and Instructions
- Learning Objectives and Curriculum Standards
- Vocabulary
- Assignments

Each lesson includes several activities that present content knowledge. Each lesson also includes multiple graded assignments to ensure that you learn the content that has been presented in the activities. Some of the assignments are automatically-graded quizzes, and some are written assignments or activities that your instructor will grade. Be sure you read all instructions carefully and ask your instructor for help if something is not clear.

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Writing Tips

Essay Writing Tips and How to Use the Essay Rubric

You will write several essays in this course. Your instructor will give you some valuable feedback on your essays, but here are a few quick tips for how to be successful with those assignments.

1. **Clearly understand the prompt and do research for your answer.**
Make sure you have read the prompt thoroughly and understand all you will need to know to answer the question. Use notes you have taken from your reading and, if necessary, reread the lesson resources and text involved in the prompt.
2. **Review the essay rubric.**
Each time you write an essay, reread the Essay Rubric in the Resources section of the course. In the rubric, you will see five different levels across the top of the rubric. A level zero represents an essay that does not meet the requirement at all. A level 4 represents an essay that meets the requirement fully. The other levels are somewhere in the middle. An excellent essayist will strive to meet level 4 in each of the requirements. If you have any questions about the rubric, direct them to your instructor.
3. **Write your thesis statement.**
A thesis statement is a one-sentence response to the prompt that will be fully explained in the essay you write. Make sure you are clear about the answer you plan to give for the prompt before you write your essay.
4. **Make an outline.**
Before you start writing your essay, start with an outline or diagram of what you plan to say in each part of the essay. Here is an example of an outline, although you may use any technique that works for you.
 - a. Introduction / Thesis Statement
 - b. Body Paragraph 1 / Support (Evidence)
 - c. Body Paragraph 2 / Support (Evidence)
 - d. Body Paragraph 3 / Support (Evidence)
 - e. Conclusion
5. **Write a draft of your essay.**
Now that you have an outline, it's time to start writing. The expectation for this course is that you are able to express yourself clearly using correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation.

6. Review your essay for submission.

After you have a complete draft of your essay, take time to reread it before submitting it for grading. You will be amazed at the errors you will catch with just one additional, careful reading of your essay. Make sure you have met the level 4 expectations from the Essay Rubric and turn it in!

Course Outline

Please note that some assignments will be hidden from you when you start the course. As you move through the lessons and complete assignments, more will unlock for you.

Lesson	Topic	Approximate Time for Completion
Lesson 1	Understanding Civilizations	One week
Lesson 2	The Ancient World	One week
Lesson 3	Classical Greek Culture: Birth of Democracy	One week
Lesson 4	The Rise of Asian Empires	One week
Lesson 5	The Roman World	One week
Lesson 6	The Byzantine Empire: Eastern and Western Europe	One week
Lesson 7	The Rise of Islam and Eastern Civilizations	One week
Lesson 8	Medieval Times	One week
Lesson 9	Crusades to the Holy Land	One week
Lesson 10	Medieval Africa	One week
Lesson 11	Pre-Columbian Cultures	One week
Lesson 12	A European Renaissance	One week
Lesson 13	The Protestant Reformation	One week
Lesson 14	The Birth of the Atlantic World	One week
Lesson 15	Conflict and Absolutism in Europe	One week
Lesson 16	Final Project	One week
Final Exam		

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Assignment Schedule

Each of the following must be completed to complete the course. Items with an asterisk (*) indicate that these are summative assessments for the course.

Lesson	Weeks	Assignments
1	1	Checkpoint 1 (Non-graded) Assignment 1.1: Discussion Assignment 1.2: Israelite People Graphic Organizer Assignment 1.3: Fertile Crescent Mapping Activity Assignment 1.4: Creation Accounts Essay Assignment 1.5: Written Responses *Lesson 1 Exam
2	2	Assignment 2.1: Discussion Assignment 2.2: Hammurabi's Code Primary Source Assignment 2.3: Empire Timeline Graphic Organizer Assignment 2.4: Persian Empire Mapping Activity Assignment 2.5: Written Responses *Lesson 2 Exam
3	3	Assignment 3.1: Discussion Assignment 3.2: Philosophers Graphic Organizer Assignment 3.3: Alexander the Great Biography Activity Assignment 3.4: Spartans Primary Source Assignment 3.5: Written Responses *Lesson 3 Exam Checkpoint 2 (Non-graded)
4	4	Assignment 4.1: Religions Graphic Organizer Assignment 4.2: Discussion Assignment 4.3: Silk Road Mapping Activity Assignment 4.4: Asian Religions Essay Assignment 4.5: Written Responses *Lesson 4 Exam
5	5	Assignment 5.1: Roman Legion Graphic Organizer Assignment 5.2: Discussion Assignment 5.3: Biography Activity Assignment 5.4: Written Responses Assignment 5.5: Roman Empire Mapping Activity *Lesson 5 Exam
6	6	Assignment 6.1: Timeline of Christianity Graphic Organizer Assignment 6.2: Discussion

Lesson	Weeks	Assignments
		Assignment 6.3: Splitting Rome Mapping Activity Assignment 6.4: Written Responses *Lesson 6 Exam
7	7	Assignment 7.1: Religion Comparison Graphic Organizer Assignment 7.2: Discussion Assignment 7.3: Silk Road Mapping Activity Assignment 7.4: Genghis Khan Essay Assignment 7.5: Written Responses *Lesson 7 Exam
8	8	Assignment 8.1: Feudalism Graphic Organizer Assignment 8.2: Discussion Assignment 8.3: Medieval Trade Mapping Activity Assignment 8.4: Town Charter Primary Source Assignment 8.5: Written Responses *Lesson 8 Exam
9	9	Assignment 9.1: Crusades Graphic Organizer Assignment 9.2: Discussion Assignment 9.3: Black Death Mapping Activity Assignment 9.4: Purpose of Crusades Primary Source Assignment 9.5: Biographies Essay *Lesson 9 Exam
10	10	Assignment 10.1: Mali Graphic Organizer Assignment 10.2: Discussion Assignment 10.3: Trade in West Africa Mapping Activity Assignment 10.4: Religions Essay Assignment 10.5: Short Story *Lesson 10 Exam
11	11	Assignment 11.1: Native Americans Graphic Organizer Assignment 11.2: Discussion Assignment 11.3: Mapping Activity Assignment 11.4: Anasazi Legend Primary Source Assignment 11.5: Written Responses *Lesson 11 Exam
12	12	Assignment 12.1: Discussion Assignment 12.2: Leonardo da Vinci Graphic Organizer Assignment 12.3: Renaissance Project Assignment 12.4: Courtier Primary Source

Lesson	Weeks	Assignments
		Assignment 12.5: Renaissance Family *Lesson 12 Exam
13	13	Assignment 13.1: Martin Luther Graphic Organizer Assignment 13.2: Discussion Assignment 13.3: Biography Posters Assignment 13.4: Augsburg Confession Primary Source Assignment 13.5: Written Responses *Lesson 13 Exam
14	14	Assignment 14.1: Discussion Assignment 14.2: Slave Trade Graphic Organizer Assignment 14.3: Colonization Timeline Graphic Organizer Assignment 14.4: Letters Primary Source Assignment 14.5: Written Responses *Lesson 14 Exam
15	15	Assignment 15.1: Spanish Armada Graphic Organizer Assignment 15.2: Discussion Assignment 15.3: Biography Graphic Organizer Assignment 15.4: Witchcraft Trial Primary Source Assignment 15.5: Written Responses *Lesson 15 Exam
16	16	*Assignment 16: Final Project Checkpoint 3 (Non-graded)
		Final Exam

Course Credit

The course grade will be calculated as follows:

- 50% coursework average;
- 50% summative assessment average, including the final exam;
- A passing course grade is 70 or higher.

Students must attempt all assignments in the course. The final exam will not be available until all assignments have been accepted and graded by the teacher.

Students who score below 70% on the final exam will be eligible for one re-exam opportunity.

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Coursework

The graded assignments within each lesson are formative in nature. This means that they are designed to assist you in applying and demonstrating the lesson concepts, as well as identifying areas in which you need additional review. You may use all the lesson's learning activities to assist you as you complete the graded assignments.

Summative Assessments

Summative assessments are those that allow you to demonstrate mastery of the course objectives. For summative assessments, you will NOT be allowed to use the learning materials. These are opportunities for you to show what you have learned by that point in the course. Summative assessments may be proctored using the online proctoring system Proctorio. Information about Proctorio is provided in **Remote Proctoring** in the Syllabus section of your course. The summative assessments for this course are as follows:

- **Summative Assessments (20% of Course Grade)**
 - Lesson 1 Exam (49 points)
 - Lesson 2 Exam (30 points)
 - Lesson 3 Exam (40 points)
 - Lesson 4 Exam (40 points)
 - Lesson 5 Exam (40 points)
 - Lesson 6 Exam (40 points)
 - Lesson 7 Exam (30 points)
 - Lesson 8 Exam (45 points)
 - Lesson 9 Exam (42 points)
 - Lesson 10 Exam (30 points)
 - Lesson 11 Exam (30 points)
 - Lesson 12 Exam (45 points)
 - Lesson 13 Exam (45 points)
 - Lesson 14 Exam (43 points)
 - Lesson 15 Exam (45 points)
 - Assignment 16: Final Project (100 points)
- **Summative Final Exam (30% of Course Grade)**

Course Completion

- Students may not complete the course in less than 30 days.
- All courses expire six months after the enrollment date.

Academic Integrity

It is the aim of the faculty of Texas Tech University to foster a spirit of complete honesty and high standard of integrity. The attempt of students to present as their own any work

not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offenders liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension.

“Scholastic dishonesty” includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, misrepresenting facts, and any act designed to give unfair academic advantage to the student (such as, but not limited to, submission of essentially the same written assignment for two courses without the prior permission of the instructor) or the attempt to commit such an act.

Student Expectations

You will be expected to log into the Blackboard course regularly to be aware of possible announcements/reminders and to pace your progress in the course.

Students are expected to maintain an online environment conducive to learning, which includes “netiquette” (Internet etiquette). Please review the basic rules for [Online Discussion Netiquette](#). Ensure that your email messages, discussion board postings, and other electronic communications are thoughtful and respectful. Diverse opinions are welcome in this course, and you are expected to demonstrate an open mind and courtesy when responding to the thoughts and ideas of others.

The following are prohibited:

- making offensive remarks in email or the discussion board;
- using inappropriate language or discussing inappropriate topics online;
- spamming;
- hacking;
- using TTU or Blackboard email or discussion boards for commercial purposes;
- using all caps (considered shouting in online communications); and
- cyber-bullying or online harassment of any type.

Inappropriate behavior shall result in consequences ranging from a request to correct the problem, to removal from the course or even the university, depending on the severity of the behavior. Disciplinary actions will be taken according to the TTU K-12 Student Handbook.

Communication

- You can expect a reply from your instructor within 2 business days.
- Use the Blackboard Course Messages tool for sending messages to your instructor.

Submitting Assignments

You will submit all assignments through the Blackboard Assignment Tool, rather than by mail or email.

Technical Difficulties

Getting Help

For student assistance with Blackboard, visit [TTU K-12 Support](#).

Computer Problems

A working computer is necessary for online coursework. Computer problems will not be accepted as a valid reason for failure to complete course activities within the allotted time frame. Identify a second computer, before the course begins, that you can use if you experience computer problems.

Server Problems

When the Blackboard server needs to be taken down for maintenance, the Blackboard administrator will post an announcement in your course informing you of the time and date. If the server experiences unforeseen problems, your course instructor will notify you.

Lost or Corrupted Files

You must keep/save a copy of every project/assignment on an external disk or personal computer. In the event of any kind of technology failure (e.g., Blackboard server crash or virus infection, students' own computer problems, loss of files in cyberspace, etc.) or any disputes, the instructor may request or require you to resubmit the files. In some instances, the instructor may need to open another attempt within Blackboard, so communication with your instructor is critical in these circumstances.