JEFFERSON COLLEGE

COURSE SYLLABUS

HST210

ASIAN CIVILIZATION

3 Credit Hours

Prepared by:
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by
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Arts and Science Education
Dr. Mindy Selsor, Dean
I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

A. Prerequisite: none

B. 3 Credit Hours

C. Asian Civilization is a general introduction to the political, social, religious and cultural history of the Indian subcontinent, China and other countries of Asia. It traces development from the beginning of civilization to the present. This course is a "non-western" history course. Asian Civilization will partially fulfill the humanities requirement for the associate degree. (F,S)

II. EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES/ASSESSMENT MEASURES

| Demonstrate a mastery of significant data concerning the nations of Asia (topography, capitals, seaports, key cities, significant cultural/religious sites, governmental centers, etc.) and demonstrate confidence in discussing the interaction of geography and culture. | Examples include Map projects (take home and/or examination format) with written explanations of significance of items |
| Demonstrate an understanding of the ancient and complex cultures of the various region of Asia with special focus on the highlights of historical development of selected nations (i.e., India, China, Japan). | Examples include country analysis research projects, submission of notes on multimedia presentations and examination essay questions |
| Demonstrate familiarity with the current political status of the states of Asia, including significant recent events and contemporary leaders with special reference to American interaction, past, present and future. | Examples include country analysis research projects, submission of notes on multimedia presentations and examination essay questions |
| Display understanding of the enormous problems and pressures at work currently in this part of the world | Examples include country analysis research projects, submission of notes on multimedia presentations and examination essay questions |
| Compare and contrast the key beliefs and practices of Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Confucianism and other significant faiths, their historic development and current status. | Examples include take home essay projects comparing and contrasting students’ prior knowledge of their own religion/philosophy/way of life with concepts found in distinctive Asian ones |
III. COURSE OUTLINE WITH UNIT OBJECTIVES

A. Introduction to the Scope of the Course
   1. Develop effective note-taking and study techniques.
   2. Discuss textbooks and supplementary readings.
   3. Discuss common cultural generalizations of Asia.

B. Geography of Asia
   1. Develop a comprehensive overview of the physical geography of Asia stressing topographical features, water features, islands, peninsulas, and seas.
   2. Demonstrate mastery of Asian cultural data such as political boundaries, population locations, capitals and other cities, and key cultural and historical sites.
   3. Discuss, compare and contrast Asian social and cultural generalizations with Western concepts.

C. Philosophies and Religions of Asia
   1. Outline the key aspects of Asian philosophies.
   2. Examine aspects, history, origins, and the key beliefs and principles of Hinduism, Islam, Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism and Shintoism.
   3. Discuss deities and literature of the above philosophies.
   4. Discuss variations, changes, and exceptions to key beliefs.
   5. Display knowledge of sects and deviations both within and without the philosophies and religions.

D. Indian Subcontinent
   1. Examine the geography of the region of South Asia.
   2. Examine the prehistoric origins of Indian culture.
   3. Assess the impact of the Aryan invasion upon the native Dravidians/Harappans.
   4. Discuss the concept of caste and the rise of Vedic culture.
   5. Outline the key periods of Imperial rise and fall of Medieval Indian empires: Mauryan, Gupta.
   6. Assess the impact of Islam on the history of the subcontinent, including the Mughal Dynasty.
   7. Analyze the influence of the European imperialistic ventures upon the subcontinent, including the British Conquest.
   8. Outline the high points of India’s long march to independence from British rule.
   9. Evaluate the significance of Gandhi for India.
   10. Discuss the chaotic decades of subcontinent history since 1947.

E. China
   1. Examine the geography of East Asia and analyze its influence on the China of the past and present.
   2. Examine the prehistoric period of China's development.
   3. Discuss the significance of the traditional Chinese philosophies of
Confucianism, Taoism, and Legalism.

4. Compare and contrast the beliefs and practices of Confucianism, Taoism and Buddhism.

5. Outline the highlights of Imperial China's dynasties, e.g. Shang, Tang, Ming to the rise of the Manchu Empire.

6. Demonstrate an understanding of the causes of Imperial China's collapse, including European involvement and the rise of nationalism.

7. Discuss Chinese Communism, its early years, successes, and failures and final triumph under Mao Zedong.

8. Analyze the essential elements of Chinese Communism.

9. Evaluate the situation in modern China.

F. Japan
1. Summarize the impact of geography upon the historical development of Japan.
2. Analyze the influence of the Japanese imperial myths.
3. Explain the development of the Shogunate.
4. Assess the impact of European and American contact with Japan including the Meiji restoration.
5. Consider the causes of World War II from the Japanese point of view.
6. Outline the course of the war in the Pacific Theatre.
7. Evaluate the role of Japan since 1945 in international politics and economics.

G. Southeast Asia
1. Examine the geography and the early histories of peninsular and insular Asia.
2. Discuss the events in the 20th century in Indo-China, Korea and Indonesia.

IV. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

A. Instructor lectures supplemented by use of visuals, maps, films and selected objects of historical/cultural significance

B. Preparation of maps

C. Instructor prepared information for student study

D. Student book review projects

E. Topical semester research projects

F. Multimedia presentations

V. REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

A. Textbooks may include:

B. And/or recently published histories of India, China and Japan, South Asia, East Asia and Southeast Asia

VI. REQUIRED MATERIALS

A. Additional readings as assigned
B. Course outline: Instructor generated
C. Access to a current atlas
D. Internet Access to course webpage

VII. SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES

Current Library Resources are adequate: atlases; appropriate periodicals; discipline-specific DVDs and films

VIII. METHODS OF EVALUATION

A. Map assignments and/or map quizzes
B. Examinations consisting of short answer questions, definitions, item identifications, essays, objective questions and map location questions
C. Book review semester project
D. Attendance and class participation
E. Optional extra credit activities (i.e., attendance at ethnic festivals or other such events, book reviews, selected TV programs, culinary experience)
F. Non-graded Assessment techniques
G. Attendance and class participation

IX. ADA STATEMENT

Any statement requiring special accommodations should inform the instructor and the Coordinator of Disability Support Services (Library; phone 636-797-3000, ext. 169)
X. ACADEMIC HONESTY STATEMENT

All students are responsible for complying with campus policies as stated in the Student Handbook (see College Website)