



North South University  
Department of History & Philosophy  
**HIS102: Introduction to World Civilizations**  
Spring 2023

FACULTY: NISHAT ANJUM BINI

FACULTY INITIAL: NIB

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FACULTY ROOM: NAC1144

SECTION: 21

CLASS ROOM: [NAC 1079](#)

LECTURE HOURS: [MW 09:10 AM-10:10 AM](#)

OFFICE HOURS: MW 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM  
MW 1:50 PM to 2:50 PM

### Course Contents:

The course "Introduction to World Civilizations, has been designed to provide a brief overview of the history of civilized life since its inception some 5,000 years ago. It encompasses the evolution of civilization in both the East and the West throughout history. Its narrative spans every significant era, but the coverage of themes is selective and conforms to distinct hierarchies and patterns. The course explicitly focuses toward social and cultural subjects as well as the long-term processes that have an impact on millions of people's lives, in contrast to the traditional historical approach which highlights the deeds of "the kings and the queens." Warfare and diplomatic agreements receive minimal attention than the development of law and the influence of religion on early administration, for instance. The emergence of industrial working classes in cities is also given greater emphasis than government trade policies.

### Aims of the Course:

1. To enable the students to examine the main features and achievements of civilizations
2. To guide the students to learn about cross-cultural encounters among different civilizations
3. To develop students' knowledge of the key events, ideas, and processes that have shaped today's world.
4. To provide students with an empirical and theoretical foundation for the further study of international studies in general, and civilizations in particular.

## Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this module, the student should be able to

1. Possess a thorough understanding of social, political, religious, and economic trends of the ancient world
2. Explain the features and contributions of civilizations to world history
3. Distinguish major theoretical perspectives on global civilization and compare their value for the analysis of specific problems of international politics as well as their basic assumptions and the world views they generate.
4. Identify the main actors in international politics and relate them to the contexts in which they operate.
5. Evaluate analysis of international politics from a theoretically grounded point of view.

## Roadmap

### **PART-1: INTRODUCTION**

**Class 1 Ice Breaking Session: Introduction to the course**

**Class 2 Concept and definition of civilization: Approaches to the study of Civilizations**

**Class 3 Pre-historic Age and Background of Human Settlement**

### **PART II: UNDERSTANDING EARLY CIVILIZATIONS**

**Class 4 Mesopotamian Civilization**

**Class 5 Quiz-1**

**Class 6 Egyptian Civilization**

**Class 7 Indus Valley Civilizations; Brahmaputra civilization**

**Class 8 Chinese Civilizations**

**Class 9 Persian Civilization**

**Class 10 Quiz 2**

**Class 11 Hebrew Civilization**

**Class 12 Ancient civilizations in South America: Maya, Inca, Aztec Societies**

Class 13 Rise of the Western Civilizations: 1) Greek Civilization;

Class 14 Rise of the Western Civilizations: 2) Roman Civilization

*Class 15 Quiz 3*

### **PART III: CIVILIZATIONS OF THE EUROPEAN MIDDLE AGES**

Class 16 Feudalism in Medieval Europe

Class 17 The Crusades

Class 18 Rise of Trade & Towns:

*Class 19 Mid Term Exam*

### **PART IV: MEDIEVAL CIVILIZATIONS IN THE EAST**

Class 20 Advent of Islam and Arab Civilization

Class 21 The Civilizations of Asia: China, Japan

Class 22 The Civilizations of Asia: Mughal India

### **PART V: CIVILIZATIONS IN THE MODERN AGES**

Class 23 Renaissance in Europe and its influences

*Class 24 Quiz-4*

Class 25 The Age of Discovery

Class 26 Rise of Imperialism, and Colonialism

Class 27 Reformation of Religion

Class 28 The Scientific Revolution

Class 29 The Age of Enlightenment

Class 30 The French Revolution

Class 31 The Industrial Revolution and 19<sup>th</sup> century society

Class 32 Neo-imperialism: Asia and Africa

Class 33: Learning Outcome/ Comprehensive Viva-Voce

Class 34: Learning Outcome/ Comprehensive Viva-Voce

Class 35: Review/Wrap up Session-1

Class 36: Review/Wrap up Session-2

### ***HIS103 Final Examination***

#### **Grade Table:**

Numerical Scores	Letter Grade	Grade Points Per Credit	Numerical Scores	Letter Grade	Grade Points Per Credit
93 and above	A Excellent	4.0	90 - 92	A-	3.7
87 - 89	B+	3.3	83 - 86	B Good	3.0
80 - 82	B-	2.7	77 - 79	C+	2.3
73 - 76	C Average	2.0	70 - 72	C-	1.7
67 - 69	D+	1.3	60 - 66	D Poor	1.0
Below 60	F* Failure	0.0	Incomplete	I	0.0
Withdrawal	W	0.0	Retaken	R	0.0

## Marks distribution:

Attendance and class participation	10%
Continuous learning tasks (Better two quizzes out of four will be counted)	20%
Mid-Term Examination	20%
Presentation/ Assignment	10%
Comprehensive Viva-Voce Session	10%
Final Examination	30%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

Recommended Movies: Cleopatra, The Messenger, North & South, Mohenjo-Daro

### Recommended Reference Books:

- Burns, E.M. & others(1986), **World Civilizations**, W.W. Norton & Company: New York
- Wallbank,T. Walter, Bailkey,Nels M., Taylor, Alastair M.(1985), **Civilization: Past and Present**, Scott Foresman/Addison-Wesley: New York
- Huntington, P. Samuel (1996), **The Clash of Civilizations and the Remaking of World Order**, Simon & Schuster: New York
- Toynbee, J. Arnold (1955), **A Study of History**, Oxford University Press: London,6<sup>th</sup> Impression
- Buckler, John & others (2006), **A History of Western Society**, Houghton Mifflin Company: Boston

**Note:** Quizzes might take place in Class 5, 10, 15 and 24, comprising three/four topics covered each as indicated. The topics covered in the mid term might be excluded from the final examinations, but should be included in the Comprehensive Viva-voce and Learning Outcome.

Students will receive lecture slides, additional articles, and book chapters from time to time for consultation. The chronology of the classes, number of quizzes, exam topics, viva topics, may be subjected to changes.

*Thank you* 