

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School/Department: Social Sciences and Humanities

Programme: International History
Art History and Visual Culture

FHEQ Level: 3

Course Title: World Cultural History

Course Code: HST 3200

Total Hours 120

Timetabled Hours: 45

Guided Learning Hours: 0

Independent Learning Hours: 75

Credits: 12 UK CATS credits

6 ECTS credits

3 US credits

Course Description:

This course examines a variety ancient cultures of the Bronze and Iron ages, across the world. It aims to introduce students to the diversity and parallels that exist in human history. Students will learn about the interaction of politics, arts, ideologies and the economy in shaping the various cultures under study. Material culture and textual evidence will be used to explore how we can know about the past and begin to understand how to read secondary sources in a critical manner. Key areas of focus will be the development of early states, trade and economic development, war and diplomacy, the diverse role and status of women in the ancient world. We will explore the ideologies that acted as glue for these cultures and how they represented themselves.

Prerequisites:

None

Aims and Objectives:

- To study a range of themes in international history from the early Bronze Age to around 200AD
- To engage with the interaction of politics, arts, ideologies and the economy in shaping the development of material culture across a range of different societies.
- To provide a background for eventual careers in fields which require articulate, clear thinking individuals with a grasp of international history
- To foster the acquisition, development and consolidation of a variety of historical and transferable skills through the study of particular themes in international history
- To promote critical engagement with a wide range of primary and secondary historical sources, and the development of both a succinct writing style and the ability to present complex arguments orally

Programme Outcomes:

At the end of this course, the students will have achieved the following programme outcomes.

International History: A3(i); B3(i); C3(i); D3(i)

Art History and Visual Culture: A3(i); B3(i); C3(i); D3(i)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification. This is located at the archive maintained by Registry Services and found at:

<https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/>

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

- Critically read both primary and secondary sources at a basic level.
- Demonstrate an understanding how cultural processes vary across time and space, and how these interact with other social, political and economic developments.
- Demonstrate the ability to gather, organise and deploy abstract ideas and detailed information in order to formulate arguments cogently, and express them effectively in written and oral forms.
- Demonstrate the ability to work in a group

Indicative Content:

- Historical overview of cultures of the Bronze and Iron Ages
- Using archaeology in the study of ancient history
- An introduction to historiographical debates around the course
- Women in the Ancient World
- Trade, War, Material Culture, Religion and Politics of early world civilizations

Assessment:

This course conforms to the University Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board and located at: <https://www.richmond.ac.uk/university-policies/>

Teaching Methodology:

The course will be taught through a combination of lectures and seminar classes. Lectures are primarily designed to give an overview of the issues and problems on a particular topic, and thereby provide guidance for seminar discussion. Seminars will be used for debates and group/sub-group discussion, and are intended to provide an interactive and participatory learning environment. Students are expected to do the set readings for each week, and to be prepared to contribute to class discussion and discussion sub-groups. The general approach to classes is informal, and discussion is viewed as an essential part of learning.

See syllabus for complete reading list.

Indicative Text:

Scarre, C., B. Fagan, and C. Golden. *Ancient Civilizations*. 5th ed. New York: Routledge, 2021.

Please Note: The core and the reference texts will be reviewed at the time of designing the semester syllabus

Change Log for this CSD:

Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or LTPC)	Change Actioned by Academic Registry
Various updates as part of the UG programme review	AB Jan 2022	
Revision – annual update	May 2023	
Total Hours Updated	June 2024	