

# Humanities 124.007

## *The Ancient World*

Class Meetings:      Monday                      11:25 AM – 12:35 PM      LH 005  
                                 Tuesday / Thursday      11 AM – 12:10 PM      KH034

Instructor:            James Driggers

Office:                    236 Karpen Hall

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Office Hours:        Monday – Thursday 2 – 3 PM  
                                 or by appointment

### Course Goals:

- To lead students to realize that they are the heirs of ages of accumulated thought, decisions, and productions, and co-creators of contemporary culture.
- To familiarize students with major trends in the development of Western civilizations; with aspects of the development of other cultures; and with human accomplishments which are both noteworthy and representative.
- To develop awareness of the validity of different perspectives, and to go beyond relativism to appreciate underlying human values.
- To understand the concept of “community” and to realize the ways in which individuals both develop, and are developed by, their communities; to question social conventions critically and responsibly; and to realize the effects of one’s decisions upon the community.
- To realize the presence and role of power-structures throughout history, and to understand their effects upon human development

A complete overview and description of the objectives and skill assessments for the Humanities program at UNCA may be found at: <http://www.unca.edu/humanities/goals.htm>

### Course Description:

This course is the first of UNCA’s four interdisciplinary Humanities courses. Our focus is the ancient world, from Mesopotamia to China, and how in each culture human beings relate to themselves, to others, to nature, and to deity. Our goal is to think seriously and critically about ourselves and our world.

### Texts:

These specific titles and editions are available at the UNCA bookstore.

- Fiero, Gloria K. *The Humanistic Tradition*, 5<sup>th</sup> edition, Vol 1
- Hook, Moseley, Peters, eds., *The Asheville Reader*, Vol 1
- Miller, ed., *The Bhagavad-Gita*
- Weller, ed., *Plato, The Trial and Death of Socrates*
- Kovacs, ed., *The Epic of Gilgamesh*
- Fagels, ed., *The Iliad*
- Clay, trans., *Euripides, The Trojan Women*
- Virgil, *The Aeneid*

### Grading Policy:

A+	98 – 100
A	94 – 97
A-	90 – 93
B+	88 – 89
B	84 – 87
B-	80 – 83
C+	78 – 79
C	74 – 77
C-	70 – 73
D+	67 – 69
D	64 – 66
D-	60 – 63
F	0 – 59

### Attendance:

Attendance is important and is expected for all classes, including weekly lectures. We will sit together as a class. Our area of the auditorium may be found at the Humanities 124 website. I will have a sign-in sheet for the weekly lecture.

There will be an outline posted for each of the lectures on the Humanities 124 website. You should print a copy of the outline and bring it to the lecture for reference.

Students are expected to be prepared to participate in class discussions and assignments.

If you are more than 10 minutes late, you will be marked as absent for the day.

You may miss up to three classes (including weekly lectures) without any penalty. After three absences, you may lose up to five points from your final grade for each class missed.

Students are responsible for any material covered, assigned or due during an absence.

### Late Work:

All assignments are due at the beginning of class on the assigned date.

Late work is subject to a 5 point penalty for each class period beyond the due date.

Make-up exams may be made possible only in the most extreme, unusual, and documented circumstances. Any make-up exam must be taken within one week of the original exam. The Final Exam is to be taken within finals week, as scheduled by the University.

### Reading Quizzes:

We will have short reading quiz over the week's reading assignments and the lecture each Wednesday at the beginning of class. Because you may drop the lowest grade(s), you may not make up a quiz.

Exams:

Reading Quizzes:	10%
Exam #1	10%
Exam #2	10%
Exam #3	10%
Exam #4	15%
Essays (2 @ 15%)	30%
Cultural Events Responses (3 @ 5%)	15%

Essays: Students will write two analytical essays and three cultural events responses for the class. Since the amount of reading required for the class is so great, the two analytical essays will use those readings as primary source materials for the essays. While secondary research is encouraged, it is not required. The essays should build on your knowledge and understanding of the material read for the course.

Essay Format: Please adhere to the following guidelines for your analytical essays and cultural events responses:

1. The final copy should be prepared and printed on a computer following correct MLA or CMS guidelines.
2. An academic heading (your name, course designation and section, my name and due date) should appear on upper left margin of the first page of the final draft above the title of any assignments turned in. Please do not use any type of cover.
3. All papers should be double spaced in standard 12 point type.
4. I do not accept handwritten assignments (except for those completed in class).
5. I do not accept essays sent as emails or as attachments to emails. It is your responsibility to make sure you have a printed copy ready to turn in at the assigned class meeting.

Plagiarism: Since one of the primary aims of the course is to develop your writing voice, it is expected that the work you submit be your own. If you submit plagiarized material as your own, you fail the assignment.

Equity: This is a class where it is vital to be able to express personal viewpoints, ideas, beliefs in a safe, open forum for discussion. I pledge to act, and I will expect you to act with civility and integrity. We will strive to engage in equitable behavior with respect to all differences – whether arising from age, sex, race, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, or any other condition of our respective personal backgrounds.

**Special Needs:** If you are a person with a disability requiring accommodations – especially learning disabilities related to language processing –speak to me either in person or through e-mail. Also, you must contact the Disability Services Coordinator in LH 107 to arrange those accommodations. Please have paperwork completed by January 30, 2009.

**Cultural Events:** Students are required to attend three approved cultural events during the semester.

**Late Start:** If we miss a class due to bad weather / snow, prepare the work for the next scheduled class day.

UNCA Snow Line: (828) 259-3050

#### **Late Start Schedule**

<b>Regular Schedule</b>	<b>Late Start Schedule</b>
<b>11 AM – 12:10 PM</b>	<b>12:05 – 1:05 PM</b>

**Due Dates / Exams:**

- Assignment due dates and exams are posted on the class Weekly Calendar
- These deadlines are subject to change depending on class progress.
- I will give you a more detailed outline / weekly calendar for each project / unit of study.
- If we miss a class due to bad weather / snow, prepare the work for the next scheduled class day.

Course information/assignments will be posted:

- on my website:  
[http://facstaff.unca.edu/jdrigger/Humanities%20124/humanities\\_124%20index.htm](http://facstaff.unca.edu/jdrigger/Humanities%20124/humanities_124%20index.htm)
- Moodle
- OnePort.

I will be communicating with you frequently by email on your UNCA Account. Should you choose to receive your mail at a different email address, it is your responsibility to have mail forwarded to that account.