INTRODUCTION

WELCOME TO EAST ASIAN CIVILIZATION. THIS IS A RELATIVELY NEW EXPERIENCE FOR ME TO TEACH VIA THE INTERNET, BUT IT IS ALWAYS A GOOD THING TO TRY SOMETHING NEW. I HAVE BEEN TEACHING FOR MORE THAN THREE DECADES. EACH YEAR I FIND SOMETHING DIFFERENT AND CHALLENGING ABOUT TEACHING. SO FAR EVERYTHING HAS SEEMED TO BE GETTING BETTER ABOUT THE NATURE OF EDUCATION. WHAT I HAVE FOUND OUT ABOUT INTERNET TEACHING IS THAT I EXPERIENCE THE STUDENT WHO IS FREED FROM ALL THE DISTRACTIONS OF THE PHYSICAL. I NEVER SEE YOUR FACE BUT I DO GET TO SEE YOUR TALENTS AND THINKING. PERHAPS THIS VIEW, UNIMPAIRED BY DISTRACTIONS, HAS A GIFT. IT HAS TAUGHT ME THAT THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF BEING HUMAN IS IN THE MIND AND SPIRIT, RATHER THAN THE PHYSICAL BODY. SO LET OUR MINDS EYE SEE EACH OTHER AND EACH OF US TELL OUR TRUTH.

IN THE INTERNET COURSE I WILL ACTUALLY HAVE AN IMPROVED OPPORTUNITY TO COMMUNICATE WITH YOU AS INDIVIDUALS. IN A WAY THIS METHOD IS SIMILAR TO THE ENGLISH TUTORIAL SYSTEM WITH INDIVIDUAL ATTENTION BEING PAYED TO EACH STUDENT AND THEIR THINKING ON A VARIETY OF TOPICS. I PROMISE TO BE AVAILABLE TO YOU ON A PROMPT AND REGULAR BASIS. ADDITIONALLY YOU SHOULD NOTE THAT THE LECTURES ARE MEANT TO BE A COMMENTARY ON THE SUBJECTS RAISED IN THE READING ASSIGNMENTS. BOTH MUST BE EMBRACED IN ORDER TO UNDERSTAND THE CONTENT OF THE COURSE

I PLAN TO USE THE MESSAGE BOARD AS A CONTACT POINT AND A SOURCE OF FREE WHEELING DEBATE, WHICH WILL I HOPE PROVOKE A PERSONAL RESPONSE AS WELL AS
AN INTELLECTUAL ARGUMENT. THE HISTORY WE ARE DEALING WITH IS ULTIMATELY A STORY ABOUT NOT ONLY THE EAST BUT ALSO ABOUT ALL HUMANITY.

OVER THE COURSE OF THE NEXT TEN WEEKS WE WILL EXPERIENCE THE STORY OF THE RISE OF CIVILIZATION IN ASIA; IT WILL BE SHAPED BY FORCES AND EVENTS THAT ARE PRESENT IN THE ENTIRE WORLD, HOWEVER, THE ASIAN REACTION TO THESE FORCES WILL BE DIFFERENT THAN THAT OF THE WEST. THEY GIVE US A VIEW OF HOW COMPLEX AND THOUGHTFUL HUMANITY IS AND HOW WE STRUGGLE TO FIND MEANING IN OUR LIFETIMES.

WELCOME TO THIS COURSE, WELCOME TO A WORLD YOU DO NOT KNOW, BUT WILL I HOPE COME TO ADMIRE AND EVEN LOVE.

YOUR GRADE WILL BE CALCULATED UPON WEEKLY ESSAYS RESPONDING TO QUESTIONS ARISING FROM MY LECTURES AND READINGS. ADDITIONALLY I WILL ALSO GRADE YOUR BOOK REVIEWS THAT WILL COME IN THE FINAL TWO WEEKS OF CLASS. THE BOOK REVIEWS NEED TO REFLECT YOUR CUMULATIVE UNDERSTANDING ARISING FROM YOUR PRIOR WORK. WORK IS TO BE SUBMITTED PROMPTLY ON A 7-DAY ROTATION FOR EACH ASSIGNMENT. LATE PAPERS RECEIVE A 10% PENALTY. NO PAPER WILL BE ACCEPTED MORE THAN TWO WEEKS LATE. THE LAST PAPER MUST BE SUBMITTED ON THE DUE DATE.

PROMPT SUBMISSION OF PAPERS IS A REQUIREMENT. IF YOU HAVE SUBMITTED A PAPER AND IT HAS NO GRADE BY THE TIME THE NEXT PAPER IS DUE IT MAY BE THE RESULT OF FAULTY TRANSMISSION OF THE PAPER. I MIGHT NOT HAVE RECEIVED YOUR PAPER. IT IS YOUR OBLIGATION TO CONTACT ME BY EMAIL AND GIVE ME NOTICE. FAILURE TO PROVIDE NOTICE IS CONSIDERED WAIVER.
PERSONAL INSIGHT IS WELCOME IN ALL ESSAYS AND REVIEWS. EACH ESSAY WILL BE WORTH 100 POINTS AND EACH REVIEW WORTH 110 POINTS. I WILL CALCULATE THE SCALE ON 1000 POINTS TOTAL, WHICH OBVIOUSLY IMPLIES THAT THE REVIEWS PRESENT AN OPPORTUNITY TO IMPROVE YOUR GRADE WITH EXTRA POINTS. WEEKLY PAPERS SHOULD AT A MINIMUM BE 600 WORDS OR MORE. BOOK, REVIEWS SHOULD BE 1000 WORDS OR MORE. HARD WORK GETS NOTICED. ARTICULATE PAPERS GET BETTER GRADES, IMAGINATIVE PAPERS GET BETTER GRADES. MY GRADE SCALE FOR EACH PAPER IS AS FOLLOWS:

61 = D-
64 = D
67 = D+
70 = C-
73 = C
76 = C+
79 = B-
82 = B
85 = B+
88 = A-
91 = A

I ENCOURAGE DISCUSSION. A HISTORY OF VIGOROUS PARTICIPATION IN THE DISCUSSION FORUM CAN GENERATE A TOTAL OF 10 EXTRA POINTS AWARDED.

YOUR TEXT IS A BRIEF HISTORY OF CHINESE AND JAPANESE CIVILIZATIONS BY CONRAD SCHIROKAUER. ADDITIONALLY TWO OTHER BOOKS ARE REQUIRED: THREE WAYS OF THOUGHT IN ANCIENT CHINA BY WALEY, AND ZEN ENLIGHTENMENT ORIGINS AND MEANING BY DUMOULIN.

WEEK ONE
CHAPTERS 1 & 2 TEXT SCHIROKAUER

WEEK TWO
CHAPTERS 3 & 4 TEXT

WEEK THREE
CHAPTERS 5 & 6 TEXT

WEEK FOUR
CHAPTERS 7 & 8 TEXT

WEEK FIVE
CHAPTERS 9 & 10 TEXT
WEEK SIX
CHAPTERS 11 & 12 TEXT

WEEK SEVEN
CHAPTERS 13 & 14 TEXT

WEEK EIGHT
CHAPTER 15 & 16 TEXT

WEEK NINE
BOOK REPORT
THREE WAYS OF THOUGHT IN ANCIENT CHINA/ NOTE OPPORTUNITY FOR EXTRA CREDIT

WEEK TEN
BOOK REPORT
ZEN ENLIGHTENMENT, ORIGINS & MEANING / NOTE OPPORTUNITY FOR EXTRA CREDIT

Plagiarism
You are expected to submit your own work in all your assignments, postings to the discussion board, and other communications, and to clearly give credit to the work of others when you use it. Academic dishonesty will result in a grade of “F.” Link to Statement of Expectations for Student Conduct: http://oregonstate.edu/admin/stucon/achon.htm.

Students with Disabilities
Accommodations are collaborative efforts between students, faculty and Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD). Students with accommodations approved through SSD are responsible for contacting the faculty member in charge of the course prior to or during the first week of the term to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodations but who have not yet obtained approval through SSD should contact SSD immediately at 541-737-4098.

Course evaluation
We encourage you to engage in the course evaluation process each term – online, of course. The evaluation form will be available toward the end of each term, and you will be sent instructions by Ecampus. You will login to “Student Online Services” to respond to the online questionnaire. The results on the form are anonymous and are not tabulated until after grades are posted.