HST 320: Introduction to the Ancient Near East

Course Name: Introduction to the Ancient Near East
Course Number: HST 320
Credits: 4
Instructor name: Timothy Sorg
Instructor email: sorgt@oregonstate.edu

Course Description
A detailed survey of the peoples and cultures of the ancient Near East, including Assyria, Babylon, Egypt, Israel, Mesopotamia, and Persia, from the earliest recorded beginnings of civilization to about 500 B.C. Particular attention is given to the art, religion, law, and literature of these civilizations.

This course may fulfill the following requirements:
- Core, Perspectives: Cultural Diversity
- Liberal Arts Humanities Core
- Liberal Arts Non-Western Core

Course credits (4)
This course combines about 120 hours of instruction, online activities, and assignments for 4 credits.

Learning Resources
The following books are required for HST320:

The following book is optional for HST 320:

Pre-Requisite Knowledge & Skills Statement
Oregon State University does NOT require students to take specific prerequisite courses in order to enroll in HST 320: Introduction to the Ancient Near East.

Student learning outcomes for Cultural Diversity (CD) requirement:
1. Identify and analyze characteristics of a cultural tradition outside of European /American culture.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of how perspectives can change depending on cultural or historical contexts.
3. Describe aspects of Non-Western culture that influence or contribute to global cultural, scientific, or social processes.
Evaluation of Student Performance
I will grade all assignments within one calendar week of the assignment’s initial due date. I will promptly post all evaluations to the Grade Tool in Canvas.

| Weekly Discussion Boards (6 boards x 10 points each) | 60 points |
| Weekly Quizzes (6 quizzes x 10 points each) | 60 points |
| Midterm Exam (Week 5) | 60 points |
| Final Essay, Part 1: Research Topic (Week 7) | 10 points |
| Final Essay, Part 2: Preliminary Research (Week 8) | 20 points |
| Final Essay, Part 3: Final Draft (Week 10) | 80 points |
| Final Exam (Week 10) | 80 points |
| **Total** | **370 points** |

Grading Scale

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>A-</th>
<th>B+</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>B-</th>
<th>C+</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>C-</th>
<th>D+</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>D-</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Points</strong></td>
<td>100-93%</td>
<td>92.9-90%</td>
<td>89.9-87%</td>
<td>86.9-83%</td>
<td>82.9-80%</td>
<td>79.9-77%</td>
<td>76.9-73%</td>
<td>72.9-70%</td>
<td>69.9-67%</td>
<td>66.9-63%</td>
<td>62.9-60%</td>
<td>59.9-0%</td>
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Course Content

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading Assignments</th>
<th>Learning Activities</th>
<th>Due Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Intro to the Ancient Near East</td>
<td><strong>Siebert:</strong> Ch. 1 (pp. 1-11); Ch. 2 (pp. 31-66). <strong>Pritchard:</strong> <em>Selections</em> (pp. 25-28)</td>
<td>1. Lecture 2. Week 1 Discussion 3. Week 1 Quiz</td>
<td>Discussion post, Saturday 10 pm Quiz, Sunday</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>The First Mesopotamian Empires</td>
<td><strong>Siebert:</strong> Ch. 3 (pp. 69-90). <strong>Pritchard:</strong> <em>Selections</em> (pp. 39-72; 179-182).</td>
<td>1. Lecture 2. Week 2 Discussion 3. Week 2 Quiz</td>
<td>Discussion post, Saturday 10 pm Discussion response, Sunday 10 pm Quiz, Sunday 10 pm</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>The Old Babylonian Period</td>
<td><strong>Siebert:</strong> Ch. 4 (pp. 92-115). <strong>Pritchard:</strong> <em>Selections</em> (pp. 155-179; 28-36).</td>
<td>1. Lecture 2. Week 3 Discussion 3. Week 3 Quiz</td>
<td>Discussion post, Saturday 10 pm Discussion response, Sunday 10 pm Quiz, Sunday 10 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Siebert: Ch.</td>
<td>Pritchard: Selections (pp.)</td>
<td>Assignments</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>The Egyptian Old Kingdom</td>
<td>5 (pp. 117-146)</td>
<td>1-3; 343-346; 384-388)</td>
<td>1. Lecture 2. Week 4 Discussion 3. Week 4 Quiz</td>
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<td>Discussion post, Saturday 10 pm</td>
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<td>Discussion response, Sunday 10 pm</td>
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<td>Quiz, Sunday 10 pm</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>The Egyptian Middle Kingdom</td>
<td>6 (pp. 150-171)</td>
<td>5-14; 21-24; 322-333)</td>
<td>1. Lecture 2. Proctored Midterm Exam</td>
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<td>Proctored Midterm Exam, Sunday 10 pm</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Egypt's Eighteenth Dynasty</td>
<td>7 (pp. 173-201)</td>
<td>226-234; 324-328; 429-431)</td>
<td>1. Lecture 2. Week 6 Discussion 3. Week 6 Quiz</td>
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<td>Discussion post, Saturday 10 pm</td>
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<td>Discussion response, Sunday 10 pm</td>
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<td>Quiz, Sunday 10 pm</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>The End of the Bronze Age</td>
<td>8 (pp. 205-231)</td>
<td>237-239; 234-235; 328-329)</td>
<td>1. Lecture 2. Final Essay, Part 1</td>
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<td>Final Essay, Part 1, Sunday 10 pm</td>
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<td>Schedule Final Exam, Sunday 10 pm</td>
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<td>Final Essay, Part 2, Sunday 10 pm</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Mesopotamian Supremacy</td>
<td>10 (pp. 275-309)</td>
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<td>1. Lecture 2. Week 9 Discussion 3. Week 9 Quiz</td>
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<td>Discussion post, Saturday 10 pm</td>
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<td>Discussion response, Sunday 10 pm</td>
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<td>Quiz, Sunday 10 pm</td>
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Detailed Class Schedule

**Week 1: Intro to the Ancient Near East**

**View:** Week 1 Lecture

**Read:**
1. Siebert, *Ancient Near Eastern History and Culture*, ch. 1 (pp. 1-11) and ch. 2 (pp. 31-66).
2. Pritchard, *The Ancient Near East*, selections:
   - “The Deluge” (pp. 25-28).
3. OPTIONAL: Leick, *Mesopotamia*, ch. 2, “Uruk” (pp. 30-60) and ch. 3, “Shuruppak” (pp. 61-84).

**Complete:** Week 1 Quiz

**Post:** Week 1 Discussion

**Week 2: The First Mesopotamian Empires**

**View:** Week 2 Lecture

**Read:**
2. Pritchard, *The Ancient Near East*, selections:
   - “Gilgamesh” (pp. 39-72).
   - “The Laws of Ur-Nammu” (pp. 179-182).
3. OPTIONAL: Leick, *Mesopotamia*, ch. 4, "Akkad" (pp. 85-108) and ch. 5, "Ur" (pp. 109-140).

**Complete:** Week 2 Quiz

**Post:** Week 2 Discussion

**Week 3: The Old Babylonian Period**

**View:** Week 3 Lecture

**Read:**
2. Pritchard, *The Ancient Near East*, selections:
   - “The Creation Epic” (pp. 28-36).
3. OPTIONAL: Leick, *Mesopotamia*, ch. 6, "Nippur" (pp. 30-60).

**Complete:** Week 3 Quiz

**Post:** Week 3 Discussion
**Week 4: The Egyptian Old Kingdom**

**View:** Week 4 Lecture

**Read:**
2. Pritchard, *The Ancient Near East*, selections:
   - “The Memphite Theology of Creation” (pp. 1-3).
   - “The Instruction of Vizier Ptah-hotep” (pp. 343-346).
   - “The Prophecy of Nefer-rohu” (pp. 384-388).

**Complete:** Week 4 Quiz

**Post:** Week 4 Discussion

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**Week 5: The Egyptian Middle Kingdom**

**View:** Week 5 Lecture

**Read:**
1. Siebert, *Ancient Near Eastern History and Culture*, ch. 6 (pp. 150-171).
2. Pritchard, *The Ancient Near East*, selections:
   - “The Story of Sinuhe” (pp. 5-11).
   - “The Story of Two Brothers” (pp. 11-14).
   - “The Tradition of Seven Lean Years In Egypt” (pp. 21-24).
   - “The Excroration of Asiatic Princes” (pp. 322-333).

**Complete:** Proctored Midterm Exam

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**Week 6: Egypt’s Eighteenth Dynasty**

**View:** Week 6 Lecture

**Read:**
2. Pritchard, *The Ancient Near East*, selections:
   - “The Expulsion of the Hyksos” (pp. 226-228).
   - “The Battle of Megiddo” (pp. 228-234).
   - “The Hymn of Aton” (pp. 324-328).
   - “The Amarna Letters” (pp. 429-431).

**Complete:** Week 6 Quiz

**Post:** Week 6 Discussion

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**Week 7: The End of the Bronze Age**

**View:** Week 7 Lecture

**Read:**
2. Pritchard, *The Ancient Near East*, selections:
• “The War Against the Sea Peoples” (pp. 237-239).
• “A Campaign of Seti I in Northern Palestine” (pp. 234-235).
• “Hymn of Victory of Merneptah” (pp. 328-329).

Complete: Final Essay, Part 1

Week 8: Recovery and Reformation

View: Week 8 Lecture

Read: 1. Siebert, Ancient Near Eastern History and Culture, ch. 9 (pp. 234-271).
  2. Pritchard, The Ancient Near East, selections:
     • “The Journey of Wen-Amon to Phoenicia” (pp. 14-21).
     • “Ashurnasirpal II” (pp. 250-255).
     • “Shalmaneser III” (pp. 255-258).
     • “Adad-nirari III” (pp. 258-259).
     • “The Moabite Stone” (pp. 287-288).

  3. OPTIONAL: Leick, Mesopotamia, ch. 8, “Ashur” (pp. 194-217).

Complete: Final Essay, Part 2

Week 9: Mesopotamian Supremacy

View: Week 9 Lecture

Read: 1. Siebert, Ancient Near Eastern History and Culture, ch. 10 (pp. 275-309).
  2. Pritchard, The Ancient Near East, selections:
     • “Tiglath-pileser III” (pp. 264-266).
     • “Sargon II” (pp. 266-269).
     • “Sennacherib” (pp. 269-271).
     • “Nebuchadnezzar II” (pp. 273-275).

  3. OPTIONAL: Leick, Mesopotamia, ch. 9, “Nineveh” (pp. 218-244) and ch. 10, “Babylon” (pp. 245-274).

Post: Week 9 Discussion

Week 10: The Achaemenid Empire

View: Week 6 Lecture

Read: 1. Siebert, Ancient Near Eastern History and Culture, ch. 11 (pp. 312-343).
  2. Pritchard, The Ancient Near East, selections:
     • “Cyrus” (pp. 282-284).

Complete: Final Essay, Part 3

Final Exam Week
Complete: Proctored Final Exam

Canvas
This course will be delivered via Canvas where you will interact with your classmates and with your instructor. Within the course Canvas site, you will access the learning materials, such as the syllabus, class discussions, assignments, projects, and quizzes. To preview how an online course works, visit the Ecampus Course Demo. For technical assistance, please visit Ecampus Technical Help.

Technical Assistance
If you experience computer difficulties, need help downloading a browser or plug-in, assistance logging into the course, or if you experience any errors or problems while in your online course, contact the OSU Help Desk for assistance. You can call (541) 737-3474, email osuhelpdesk@oregonstate.edu or visit the OSU Computer Helpdesk online.

Course “Attendance”
You are required to log onto the HST 320 Canvas site at least 3-4 times per week. This is the way that you will “attend the class.” During your visits to the site, you will access readings, view lectures, take assessment quizzes, turn in assignments, and engage in online-discussions with your Instructor and fellow classmates.

Discussion Participation
In this course, there are five Discussion Boards. While there is great flexibility in online courses, this is not a self-paced course. You will need to participate in our discussions on at least two different days on the assigned week, with your first post due no later than Thursday evening, and your response by Sunday evening. You should plan on visiting the Discussion Board every time you log in so that you may periodically read and comment on the posts of your classmates.

Weekly Quizzes
In this course, there are five quizzes. Each quiz is worth 5 points total and will cover the material from the lectures, assigned readings, and online content. You may consult your readings, notes, and other class resources while taking the quiz. Each quiz will consist of five questions, and each question is worth one point. You must submit your quizzes by Sunday at 10 pm.

Late Work Policy
Late work may be submitted up to one week past the original due date. Any assignment submitted after the due date is subject to late work penalties. A late work penalty equivalent to 10% of the assignment’s total possible value will be assessed for each day the assignment is late, up to seven days week. For example, if you submit a Discussion Board Post (worth 5 points) late, a 1/2-point penalty will be assessed.

Proctored Exams
This course requires that you take exams under the supervision of an approved proctor. Proctoring guidelines and registration for proctored exams are available online through the Ecampus testing and proctoring website. It is important to submit your proctoring request as early as possible to avoid delays.

Makeup Exams
Makeup exams will be given only for missed exams excused in advance by the instructor. Excused absences will not be given for airline reservations, routine illness (colds, flu, stomach aches), or other common ailments. Excused absences will generally not be given after the absence has occurred, except under very unusual circumstances.
Incompletes
Incomplete (I) grades will be granted only in emergency cases (usually only for a death in the family, major illness or injury, or birth of your child), and if the student has turned in 80% of the points possible (in other words, usually everything but the final paper). If you are having any difficulty that might prevent you completing the coursework, please don’t wait until the end of the term; let me know right away.

Guidelines for a Productive and Effective Online Classroom
Students are expected to conduct themselves in the course (on discussion boards, email) in compliance with the university’s regulations regarding civility.

Civility is an essential ingredient for academic discourse. All communications for this course should be conducted constructively, civilly, and respectfully. Differences in beliefs, opinions, and approaches are to be expected. In all you say and do for this course, be professional. Please bring any communications you believe to be in violation of this class policy to the attention of your instructor.

Active interaction with peers and your instructor is essential to success in this online course, paying particular attention to the following:

• Unless indicated otherwise, please complete the readings and view other instructional materials for each week before participating in the discussion board.
• Read your posts carefully before submitting them.
• Be respectful of others and their opinions, valuing diversity in backgrounds, abilities, and experiences.
• Challenging the ideas held by others is an integral aspect of critical thinking and the academic process. Please word your responses carefully, and recognize that others are expected to challenge your ideas. A positive atmosphere of healthy debate is encouraged.

Statement Regarding Students with Disabilities
Accommodations for students with disabilities are determined and approved by Disability Access Services (DAS). If you, as a student, believe you are eligible for accommodations but have not obtained approval please contact DAS immediately at 541-737-4098 or at http://ds.oregonstate.edu. DAS notifies students and faculty members of approved academic accommodations and coordinates implementation of those accommodations. While not required, students and faculty members are encouraged to discuss details of the implementation of individual accommodations.

Accessibility of Course Materials
Canvas, the learning management system through which this course is offered, provides a vendor statement certifying how the platform is accessible to students with disabilities.

Expectations for Student Conduct
Student conduct is governed by the university’s policies, as explained in the Student Conduct Code.

Academic Integrity
You are required do your own work. Your essays, quizzes, discussion board posts, and final project should represent your own efforts, be expressed in your own words, and, where appropriate, should properly attribute all source materials with clear citations.

I will report to the head of the School of History, Philosophy, and Religion any and all instances of suspected plagiarism, cheating, misrepresentation of identity, or academic dishonesty.
Instances of academic dishonesty will result in an “F” on the assignment and may also result in failure of the course. Students are expected to comply with all regulations pertaining to academic honesty. For further information, visit Avoiding Academic Dishonesty, or contact the office of Student Conduct and Mediation at 541-737-3656.

OAR 576-015-0020 (2) Academic or Scholarly Dishonesty:

a) Academic or Scholarly Dishonesty is defined as an act of deception in which a Student seeks to claim credit for the work or effort of another person, or uses unauthorized materials or fabricated information in any academic work or research, either through the Student's own efforts or the efforts of another.

b) It includes:

   (i) CHEATING - use or attempted use of unauthorized materials, information or study aids, or an act of deceit by which a Student attempts to misrepresent mastery of academic effort or information. This includes but is not limited to unauthorized copying or collaboration on a test or assignment, using prohibited materials and texts, any misuse of an electronic device, or using any deceptive means to gain academic credit.

   (ii) FABRICATION - falsification or invention of any information including but not limited to falsifying research, inventing or exaggerating data, or listing incorrect or fictitious references.

   (iii) ASSISTING - helping another commit an act of academic dishonesty. This includes but is not limited to paying or bribing someone to acquire a test or assignment, changing someone's grades or academic records, taking a test/doing an assignment for someone else by any means, including misuse of an electronic device. It is a violation of Oregon state law to create and offer to sell part or all of an educational assignment to another person (ORS 165.114).

   (iv) TAMPERING - altering or interfering with evaluation instruments or documents.

   (v) PLAGIARISM - representing the words or ideas of another person or presenting someone else's words, ideas, artistry or data as one's own, or using one's own previously submitted work. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to copying another person's work (including unpublished material) without appropriate referencing, presenting someone else's opinions and theories as one's own, or working jointly on a project and then submitting it as one's own.

c) Academic Dishonesty cases are handled initially by the academic units, following the process outlined in the University's Academic Dishonesty Report Form, and will also be referred to SCCS for action under these rules.

SafeAssign Plagiarism Prevention

Your instructor may ask you to submit one or more of your writings to Canvas’s SafeAssign plagiarism prevention service. Your assignment content will be checked for potential plagiarism against Internet sources, academic journal articles, and the papers of other OSU students, for common or borrowed content. SafeAssign generates a report that highlights any potentially unoriginal text in your paper. The report may be submitted directly to your instructor or your instructor may elect to have you submit initial drafts through SafeAssign and you will receive the report allowing you the opportunity to make
adjustments and ensure that all source material has been properly cited. Papers you submit through SafeAssign for this or any class will be added to the OSU SafeAssign database and may be checked against other OSU paper submissions. You will retain all rights to your written work. For further information, visit Academic Integrity for Students: SafeAssign – What is it?

Conduct in this Online Classroom
Students are expected to conduct themselves in the course (e.g., on discussion boards, email postings) in compliance with the university's regulations regarding civility.

Tutoring
NetTutor is a leading provider of online tutoring and learner support services fully staffed by experienced, trained and monitored tutors. Students connect to live tutors from any computer that has Internet access. NetTutor provides a virtual whiteboard that allows tutors and students to work on problems in a real time environment. They also have an online writing lab where tutors critique and return essays within 24 to 48 hours. Access NetTutor from within your Canvas class by clicking on the NetTutor button in your course menu.

OSU Student Evaluation of Teaching
Course evaluation results are extremely important and are used to help me improve this course and the learning experience of future students. Results from the 19 multiple choice questions are tabulated anonymously and go directly to instructors and department heads. Student comments on the open-ended questions are compiled and confidentially forwarded to each instructor, per OSU procedures. The online Student Evaluation of Teaching form will be available toward the end of each term, and you will be sent instructions via ONID by the Office of Academic Programs, Assessment, and Accreditation. You will log in 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.