

# HUMN 2: CULTURES, CIVILIZATIONS & IDEAS: OF EMPIRES & CONFLICT

## Foothill College Course Outline of Record

Heading	Value
Effective Term:	Summer 2023
Units:	4
Hours:	4 lecture per week (48 total per quarter)
Advisory:	One of the following: ENGL 1A or 1AH or ESLL 26; not open to students with credit in HUMN 1B.
Degree & Credit Status:	Degree-Applicable Credit Course
Foothill GE:	Area I: Humanities
Transferable:	CSU/UC
Grade Type:	Letter Grade (Request for Pass/No Pass)
Repeatability:	Not Repeatable

## Student Learning Outcomes

- Define the cultural significance of the Islamic Golden Age apart from its significance to science.
- Analyze how certain religious values return in the artistic expressions of the Middle Ages.
- Synthesize critical thinking, imaginative, cooperative and empathetic abilities as whole persons in order to contextualize knowledge and make meaning.

## Description

An interdisciplinary and thematic approach to the history of human culture and ideas. Major eras covered include India's Pala Empire; China's Song and Ming Dynasty; the Mongol Empire; Japan's Muromachi period; culture, people and empires of North, Central and South America; the Islamic Golden Age; and the European Middle Ages. Class discussions, projects and lectures address the development of worldviews, moral and ethical values and the arts in civilizations across the globe and throughout time.

## Course Objectives

The student will be able to:

- engage in critical, creative, and independent thinking.
- stimulate curiosity about intellectual and artistic life.
- broaden perspectives on the diversity and dilemmas of human experience and knowledge.
- apply critical approaches to the analysis of various modes of cultural production in relation to the political, economic, social, and religious context of the time.
- explain the relationship between art, social organization and political institutions in both Western and non-Western contexts.
- use diverse historical periods and cultural traditions as a framework for a more complex understanding of the contemporary world.
- analyze cultural production as both instruments of social control and ideological change.

- develop the habit of learning and responding to new ideas and challenges.
- think through moral and ethical problems and to examine one's own assumptions.
- improve both oral and written communication, especially through critical reading and analysis.

## Course Content

- India and China's empires
  - Pala Empire
  - The Mongol Empire
  - Song and Ming Dynasty
- Japan
  - Muromachi period
- Societies and empires in Africa
  - Efe
  - Berbers
  - Mutapa
  - Yoruba
  - Kingdom of Ghana
  - Kingdom of Mali
  - Kingdom of Benin
  - Almoravid Empire
- Culture, people and empires in the Americas
  - The Anasazi
  - The Olmecs
  - Mayan civilization
  - Aztec and Inca civilization
- Islamic Golden Age
  - Scholasticism
  - Gothic architecture
  - The Crusades
  - Dante and the birth of world literature
- European Medieval culture
  - Scholasticism
  - Gothic architecture
  - The Crusades
  - Dante and the birth of world literature

## Lab Content

Not applicable.

## Special Facilities and/or Equipment

When taught as an online section, students and faculty need ongoing and continuous internet and email access.

## Method(s) of Evaluation

Methods of Evaluation may include but are not limited to the following:

- Three or four objective/subjective mid-term exams
- Three or more one-page response papers
- One term paper
- Final examination

## Method(s) of Instruction

Methods of Instruction may include but are not limited to the following:

- Lecture
- Discussion
- Cooperative learning exercises
- Oral presentations

## **Representative Text(s) and Other Materials**

Fiero, Gloria K.. The Humanistic Tradition, Book 2, 7th ed.. 2015.

Although this text is older than the suggested "5 years or newer" standard, it remains a seminal text in this area of study.

Excerpts from primary texts, such as:

Quetzalcoatl: The Feathered Serpent

Huitzilopochtli: The God of sun and War

The Book of One Thousand and One Nights

Ibn al-Nafis, Theologus Autodidactus

Renga poetry

Otogizoshi (illustrated short stories)

Analects of Confucius

Confucius, The Great Learning

The Journey to the West

Song of Roland

Dante Alighieri, The Divine Comedy

Note: The texts listed above are classics that are no longer under copyright protection and thus freely available on the internet, in various anthologies and countless editions.

## **Types and/or Examples of Required Reading, Writing, and Outside of Class Assignments**

A. Reading textbook and other material, including web: 30 pages a week

B. Continuous essay questions relating to the SLOs: 25-30 pages of writing per quarter

## **Discipline(s)**

Humanities