

WORLD CIVILIZATIONS I & II (UGC 111 - 112)

The *World Civilizations* course is a two-semester, six-credit sequence designed for freshmen. The course is about the peoples, forces and ideas that have shaped the way people have experienced (and still do experience) the world. The perspective is global: its focus is on the origins and development, geographical context and interactions of world cultures. While one aspect of the course is change over time, instructors are encouraged to include other forms of analysis, such as long term structures or constants, regional or cultural comparisons, analysis of patterns and interactions in space.

Taught by faculty from a variety of disciplines, including History, Geography, Anthropology, Classics, Art History, Philosophy, Linguistics, Modern Languages and Literatures, and Law, the course provides students an introduction to a variety of disciplines within the humanities, social sciences and fine arts by providing models of how faculty trained in different disciplines bring their own perspectives to the understanding of the topics presented by the course.

A World Civilization committee is responsible for promoting and ensuring that there is some commonality of content in the various sections of the course. Commonality may be achieved by the selection and approval of appropriate textbooks, by inclusion in the content of lectures and recitations examples of common themes, common topics, common regions and perhaps common methodologies.

The course is designed as a large lecture course meeting twice weekly with once-weekly recitation sections.

GOALS AND STANDARDS

(Approved by the World Civilization Subcommittee October 16, 1990)

(Accepted by the UGC Curriculum Committee October 18, 1990)

Preamble

The World Civilization course assumes that faculty from a broad range of disciplines will voluntarily share in the planning, development and presentation of the World Civilization courses and that the students will benefit from a coherent and common educational experience.

Description

1. The World Civilization course is about the peoples, forces and ideas which have shaped the way people have experienced (and still do experience) the world.
2. The perspective of the course is global; its focus is on the origins and development, geographical context and interactions of world cultures.
3. While one aspect of the course is change over time, instructors are encouraged to include other forms of analysis, such as long term structures or constants, regional and cultural comparisons, analysis of patterns and interactions in space.
4. The World Civilization Committee will be responsible for promoting and ensuring that there is some commonality of content in the various sections of the course. Commonality may be achieved by the selection and approval of appropriate textbooks, by inclusion in the content of

lectures and recitations examples of common themes, common topics, common regions and perhaps common methodologies.

5. Because students may change sections between the first and second semesters, instructors need to establish spatial linkage and chronological continuity between one section and another. The World Civilization committee is responsible for ensuring linkage and continuity.
6. The course provides the opportunity for introducing the students to a variety of disciplines within the humanities, social sciences and fine arts by providing models of how faculty trained in different disciplines bring their own perspectives to the understanding of the topics presented by the course.

Procedures for Achieving Goals

1. There are few experts in world civilization. This course, therefore, has its origins in a group of voluntary faculty from diverse specialties whose discussions and interactions help define the focus, methodology and pedagogy of the course. The continued recruitment of such faculty is essential.
2. Invitations to interested faculty to attend World Civilization committee meetings, discuss ideas for courses and prepare syllabi and readings for courses are essential to the recruitment of faculty. Potential instructors of the course are expected to participate in these meetings and discussions.
3. Faculty Development: The Undergraduate College should develop formal faculty development programs as well as encourage informal meetings between individual faculty to assist in the continued development of the course, to discuss pedagogy and exchange materials.
4. For those faculty committed to teaching this course, the Undergraduate College should continue to offer summer development grants to assist in the preparation of lectures, readings, audio-visual materials and syllabi.
5. Development, with the assistance of the Undergraduate Library, of student instructional programs for those courses whose faculty wish to include training in research and writing as part of their World Civilization sections.
6. Periodic review and approval of new and current textbooks.