

# CIVILIZATION STUDIES

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Civilization studies provide an in-depth examination of the development and accomplishments of one of the world's great civilizations through direct encounters with significant and exemplary documents and monuments. These sequences complement the literary and philosophical study of texts central to the humanities sequences, as well as the study of synchronous social theories that shape basic questions in the social science sequences. Their approach stresses the grounding of events and ideas in historical context and the interplay of events, institutions, ideas, and cultural expressions in social change. The courses emphasize texts rather than surveys as a way of getting at the ideas, cultural patterns, and social pressures that frame the understanding of events and institutions within a civilization. And they seek to explore a civilization as an integrated entity, capable of developing and evolving meanings that inform the lives of its citizens.

Unless otherwise specified, courses should be taken in sequence. Note the prerequisites, if any, included in the course description of each sequence. Some civilization sequences are two-quarter sequences; others are three-quarter sequences. Students may meet the civilization requirement with two courses from a three-quarter sequence. Additionally, to fulfill the requirement, students must take at least one course from a UChicago civilization sequence.

Because civilization studies sequences offer an integrated, coherent approach to the study of a civilization, students cannot change sequences. Students can neither combine courses from a civilization sequence with a freestanding course nor combine various freestanding courses to create a civilization studies sequence. Students who wish to use such combinations are seldom granted approval to their petitions, including petitions from students with curricular and scheduling conflicts who have postponed meeting the civilization studies requirement until their third or fourth year in the College.

## CIVILIZATION STUDIES COURSES ON CAMPUS

### **CRES 24001-24002-24003. Colonizations I-II-III.**

This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies. This three-quarter sequence critically unsettles the concept of 'civilization' by focusing on the histories and discourses of power, resistance, and political possibility that have given shape to the modern world. We explore modern forms of colonialism across the globe: their dynamics of dispossession, exploitation and domination; their contradictions and unforeseen consequences; their relationships with processes of resistance, revolution, freedom and independence; and their legacies in the present. The sequence also centers colonialism's fundamental entanglement with capitalism and with the processes of race/racialization, labor/class, gender, and sexuality that have come to configure political identities today.

#### **CRES 24001. Colonizations I: Colonialism, Enslavement and Resistance in the Atlantic World. 100 Units.**

This quarter examines the making of the Atlantic world in the aftermath of European colonial expansion. Focusing on the Caribbean, North and South America, and western Africa, we cover the dynamics of invasion, representation of otherness, enslavement, colonial economies and societies, as well as resistance and revolution.

Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Autumn Spring Winter

Note(s): This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies. This course is offered every year. These courses can be taken in any sequence.

Equivalent Course(s): ANTH 24001, RDIN 24001, SOSC 24001, HIST 18301

#### **CRES 24002. Colonizations II: Imperial Expansion, Anti-Imperialism, and Nation in Asia. 100 Units.**

This quarter covers the histories of modern European and Japanese colonialism in South and East Asia and the Pacific. Themes examined include the logics and dynamics of imperial expansion and rule; Orientalist discourses; uprisings and anti-imperial movements; the rise of nationalisms; and paths to decolonization in the region.

Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Autumn Spring Winter

Note(s): This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies. These courses can be taken in any sequence.

Equivalent Course(s): SALC 24002, HIST 18302, RDIN 24002, SOSC 24002, ANTH 24002

#### **CRES 24003. Colonizations III: Decolonization, Revolution, Freedom. 100 Units.**

The third quarter considers the processes and consequences of decolonization both in newly independent nations and former colonial powers. Through an engagement with postcolonial studies, we explore the problematics of freedom and sovereignty; anti-colonial movements, thinking and struggles; nation-making and nationalism; and the enduring legacies of colonialism.

Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Autumn Spring Winter

Note(s): This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies. These courses can be taken in any sequence.

Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 24003, SALC 20702, RDIN 24003, HIST 18303, ANTH 24003

### **EALC 15411-15412-15413. East Asian Civilization I-II-III.**

NEED SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION

**EALC 15411. East Asian Civilization I, Ancient Period-1600. 100 Units.**

This course examines the politics, society, and culture of East Asia from ancient times until c. 1600. Our focus will be on examining key historical moments and intellectual, social, and cultural trends with an emphasis on viewing the region as a whole. Students will read and discuss culturally significant texts and be introduced to various approaches to analyzing them. This will include discussions of differences in how we approach textual and non-textual evidence (such as archaeological artifacts and reconstructed climate data), and especially the challenges of recovering other meanings from texts that were written and/or later used to legitimate particular regimes, or to project current practices back into the distant past so that they seem to be manifestations of a society's defining traditions.

Instructor(s): K. Pomeranz and S. Burns Terms Offered: Autumn

Prerequisite(s): HIST 15411-15412-15413 meets the general education requirement in civilization studies via three civilization courses. HIST 15411-15412, HIST 15411-15413, or HIST 15412-15413 meets the general education requirement in civilization studies via two civilization courses.

Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 25411, HIST 15411

**EALC 15412. East Asian Civilization II, 1600-1895. 100 Units.**

Second quarter of East Asian civilization sequence covering what are now China, Japan, and Korea from roughly 1600-1895. Major themes include demographic and economic change, plus the social and cultural effects of widespread but uneven commercialization; state formation, rebellion, and political change; migration, urbanization, and territorial expansion; changes in family and gender roles; changes in the "natural" environment, particularly as related to agricultural expansion; changes in religion, ideology, and relationships between "elite" and "popular" culture; and increasingly consequential encounters with Western Europeans, Russians, and Americans, especially in the 19th century. The course aims to treat East Asia as a single, interacting region, rather than as three (or more) sharply separated proto-nations; however, it will also call attention to the enormous diversity both among and within China, Japan, and Korea, treating those differences as constantly evolving, and as something to be explained rather than assumed.

Instructor(s): S. Burns and K. Pomeranz Terms Offered: Winter

Prerequisite(s): HIST 15411-15412-15413 meets the general education requirement in civilization studies via three civilization courses. HIST 15411-15412, HIST 15411-15413, or HIST 15412-15413 meets the general education requirement in civilization studies via two civilization courses.

Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 25412, HIST 15412

**EALC 15413. East Asian Civilization III, 1895-Present. 100 Units.**

The third quarter of the East Asian civilization sequence covers the emerging nation-states of China, Korea, and Japan in the context of Western and Japanese imperialism and the rise of an interconnected global economy. Our themes include industrialization and urbanization, state strengthening and nation-building, the rise of social movements and mass politics, the impact of Japanese colonialism on the homeland and the colonies, East Asia in the context of US-Soviet rivalry, and the return of the region to the center of the global economy in the postwar years. Similar to the first and second quarters, we will look at East Asia as an integrated region, connected by trade and cultural exchange even when divided into opposing blocs during the Cold War. As much as possible, we will look beyond nation-states and their policies to explore the underlying trends shared by the three East Asian nations, such as mass culture, imperialism, and the impact of the cold war.

Instructor(s): Y. Dong & J. Eyferth Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): HIST 15411-15412-15413 meets the general education requirement in civilization studies via three civilization courses. HIST 15411-15412, HIST 15411-15413, or HIST 15412-15413 meets the general education requirement in civilization studies via two civilization courses.

Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 25413, HIST 15413

**GNSE 15002-15003. Gender and Sexuality in World Civilizations I-II.**

This two-quarter sequence aims to expand students' exposure to an array of texts—theoretical, historical, religious, literary, visual—that address the fundamental place of gender and sexuality in the social, political, and cultural creations of different civilizations. This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies.

**GNSE 15002. Gender and Sexuality in World Civilizations I. 100 Units.**

The first quarter of the GNSE Civ sequence offers a historical examination of bodies, sex, and gender. Through a series of readings that include historical primary sources and examples of cultural production from antiquity to the present, we will investigate how bodies across a variety of cultures become sexed and gendered. In particular, we will ask how the very categories of sex and gender not only produce social meaning from bodies and their anatomical differences but may also be complicit in acts of violence, oppression, and colonization. Thematically we will pay attention to the emergence and critique of the distinction between sex and gender; resistances to the gender binary; the relationship between gender, power, and authority; feminism and critiques of Western feminism; the category of woman as an object of scientific knowledge; and the flourishing of and violence against trans life. Finally, while we will be dealing with historical accounts in this course, the aim is to understand how the regulation of bodies in the past has informed and may challenge our understanding of the diversity of embodied experience in the present.

Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Autumn

Note(s): This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies. This course is not available for First Year Preregistration.

**GNSE 15003. Gender and Sexuality in World Civilizations II. 100 Units.**

The second half of the civ sequence will extend our earlier interrogation of bodies, sex, and gender into an examination of sexualities and socialities. Through an encounter with theoretical texts, literature, and art, we will investigate a series of important critiques of biopower, or statist strategies for regulating bodies and controlling populations. These interventions include critiques of nationalism, colonialism, capitalism, and heteronormativity, all of which, as we will see, contribute to our understanding of sexuality. Throughout the course, feminist and queer critique will fundamentally frame our analyses of power, desire, and sexuality.

PQ: GNSE 15002.

Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Winter

Prerequisite(s): GNSE 15002

Note(s): This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies.

**HIPS 18300, HIPS 18400–18403, and HIPS 18500–18503 Science, Culture, and Society in Western Civilization**

These courses focus on the origins and development of science in the West. They aim to trace the evolution of the biological, psychological, natural, and mathematical sciences as they emerge from the culture and social matrix of their periods and, in turn, affect culture and social. In order to satisfy the general education requirement in civilization studies, students must take a course in two or three of the following chronological periods: ancient (numbered HIPS 18300), early modern (HIPS 18400–18403), and modern (HIPS 18500–18503). Taking these courses in sequence is recommended but not required. Only one course per category may count toward the requirement unless special approval is granted.

**HIST 10101-10102-10103. Introduction to African Civilization I-II-III.**

African Civilization introduces students to African history in a three-quarter sequence. Part one considers literary, oral, and archeological sources to investigate African societies and states from the early Iron Age through the emergence of the Atlantic World. We will study the empires of Ghana and Mali, the Swahili Coast, Great Zimbabwe, and medieval Ethiopia. We will also explore the expansion of Islam, the origins and effects of European contact, and the transatlantic trade in enslaved human beings.

**HIST 10101. Introduction to African Civilization I. 100 Units.**

Part one considers literary, oral, linguistic, and material sources to investigate African societies and states from the early Iron Age through the emergence of the Atlantic World. Case studies include: the empires of Ghana and Mali, the Swahili Coast, Great Zimbabwe, Nok of Nigeria, and medieval Ethiopia. We also consider religious and spiritual transformation, including Islam in Africa, as well as the origins and effects of European contact, and the emergence of the transatlantic trade in enslaved human beings. Students examine these times and places through primary sources (such as cultural artifacts, visual representations, myths, and memoirs) which illuminate African perspectives on these different places and times. Assignments: oral presentations, document analyses, essays, and team projects.

Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): ANTH 20701, CRES 20701, SOSC 20101, MDVL 10101

**HIST 10102. Introduction to African Civilization II. 100 Units.**

This course examines the transformations of African societies in the long nineteenth century. At the beginning of the era, European economic and political presence was mainly coastal, but by the end, nearly the entire continent was colonized. This course examines how and why this process occurred, highlighting the struggles of African societies to manage internal reforms and external political, military, and economic pressures. Students examine these processes through various primary sources (such as visual and material sources, cultural artifacts, and personal accounts) that highlight African perspectives on these processes.

Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 20202, CRES 20802, ANTH 20702

**HIST 10103. Introduction to African Civilization III. 100 Units.**

African Civilization III examines Africa and the African diaspora in the modern era. Topics may include the end of colonialism and decolonization, the legacies of slavery and its racial logics, identity and cultural expression, theories of personhood, gender and sexuality, migration, governance, and language. Readings vary widely, including primary sources by African and diasporic authors, social theory, and works of art and literature - written, spoken, and performed.

Instructor(s): S. Fury Childs Daly and A. Olugbuyiro Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies.

Note(s): Taking these courses in sequence is recommended but not required.

Equivalent Course(s): ANTH 20703, CRES 20303, SOSC 20203

**HIST 13001-13002-13003. History of European Civilization I-II-III.**

Has Europe ever been civilized? This sequence, which satisfies the general education requirement in civilization studies, invites students to discuss the simultaneously creative and destructive forces inherent in centuries of European history. While resisting shallow critiques and caricatures of Europe's role in the world, students examine in depth major themes in the history of European ideas about civilization, including the interplay of

faith, reason, and secularism; the individual, family, and mass society; and monarchy, revolution, and democracy. Students not only grapple with big questions and transformative ideas but also consider unique perspectives and ordinary people by reading a variety of different kinds of historical evidence. The sequence provides students with foundational skills and knowledge for the University of Chicago general education core curriculum more broadly, which owes much of its intellectual project to European ideas of knowledge and education. In keeping with the traditions of the core curriculum, students contextualize and interrogate sources in small, rigorous, and textually immersive classes. Learn to think historically! There are three parts to this sequence. Parts I and II cover the period from approximately the fall of Rome to the present and should be taken in sequence in the Autumn-Winter or Winter-Spring Quarters. The optional Part III treats specialized topics in greater depth in the Spring Quarter.

**HIST 13001. History of European Civilization I. 100 Units.**

The first part of the sequence examines the period from approximately 500 to 1700 in European history. It challenges students to question two-dimensional, rigid narratives about the fall of Rome, the Dark Ages, the Renaissance and Reformation, and the early Enlightenment by reading historical sources with empathy and attention to their authors' own perspectives. For example, we explore the entanglement of the political, economic, and religious by reading a chronicle written by a monk; we examine gender relations and daily life by reading men's and women's personal letters; and we investigate the earliest contacts between Europeans and the peoples of the Americas by reading eyewitness accounts of their interactions. In the process of recovering the lived experiences of medieval and early modern Europeans, the course engages with the sophisticated societies and cultures of premodern Europe, which many subsequent generations post-1700 would come to label backwards and uncivilized.

Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Autumn Winter

Prerequisite(s): Students must take a minimum of two quarters of European Civilization to fulfill the general education requirement.

Note(s): The two-quarter sequence may also be supplemented by a third quarter, in which students will have the opportunity to explore in greater depth a particular topic in the history of European civilization.

Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 28001

**HIST 13002. History of European Civilization II. 100 Units.**

The second part of the sequence examines the period from approximately 1700 to the present in European history. Major topics include the Enlightenment, the French Revolution, industrialization, the world wars, and the European Union. This course challenges students to do more than simply define conceptual terms like imperialism, nationalism, liberalism, capitalism, and communism. We situate these and other grand narratives in new ideas of progress, new technologies and forms of knowledge production, and the material transformations of everyday life. Changes in media (newspapers, radio, films, etc.) and the rise of mass production and consumption in these centuries were both the cause and effect of many of the events we will be discussing. Sources include nineteenth-century novels, eyewitness accounts to revolution and the Holocaust, and speeches and manifestos of the political and cultural avant-garde. Throughout the course, we will continuously examine the paradoxes that have shaped modern Europe: its resilience and fragility, its great experiments in liberty and tragic acts of violence.

Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Spring Winter

Prerequisite(s): HIST 13001

Note(s): The two-quarter sequence may also be supplemented by a third quarter, in which students will have the opportunity to explore in greater depth a particular topic in the history of European civilization.

Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 28002

**HIST 13003. History of European Civilization III. 100 Units.**

Students who plan to complete a three-quarter sequence register for HIST 13003 in Spring Quarter after completing HIST 13001-13002. In the third part of the History of European Civilization sequence, students will have the opportunity to explore in greater depth a particular aspect of European history. This course will provide an overview of early modern European colonialism, from the Spanish conquest of the New World to the Haitian Revolution. Using exclusively primary documents, we will examine debates in sixteenth century Spain over the treatment of indigenous populations, the mutual formation of property and dispossession in the British American colonies, the transatlantic slave trade and the expansion of plantation economies in the Caribbean, the development of ideas about race and culture in the eighteenth century, and resistance to colonialism at the end of the eighteenth century.

Instructor(s): S. Zamir Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): For the 3-qr sequence register for HIST 13003 after completing HIST 13001-13002. Only HIST 13001-13002 complete the 2-qr sequence.

Note(s): Students may not combine HIST 13003 with one other quarter of European Civilization to fulfill the general education requirement. Spring 23 topic: TBD

Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 28003

**HIST 13100-13200-13300. History of Western Civilization I-II-III.**

Available as a three-quarter sequence (Autumn-Winter-Spring) or as a two-quarter sequence (Autumn-Winter or Winter-Spring). This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies. The purpose of this sequence is threefold: (1) to introduce students to the principles of historical thought, (2) to acquaint them with some of the more important epochs in the development of Western civilization since the sixth century

BC, and (3) to assist them in discovering connections between the various epochs. The purpose of the course is not to present a general survey of Western history. Instruction consists of intensive investigation of a selection of original documents bearing on a number of separate topics, usually two or three a quarter, occasionally supplemented by the work of a modern historian. The treatment of the selected topics varies from section to section. This sequence is currently offered twice a year. The amount of material covered is the same whether the student enrolls in the Autumn-Winter-Spring sequence or the Summer sequence.

**HIST 13100. History of Western Civilization I. 100 Units.**

This first course of the History of Western Civilization sequence focuses on the history of classical civilization, beginning with the world of Homer and ending with the world of St. Augustine. Key topics covered through discussions of texts include the development of the Greek Polis and the Peloponnesian War; the Roman Republic and Empire; and the development of Christianity in the Roman Empire.

Instructor(s): K. Weintraub, Autumn; J. Boyer, Summer Terms Offered: Autumn Summer

Prerequisite(s): These courses must be taken in sequence.

Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 28110

**HIST 13200. History of Western Civilization II. 100 Units.**

This second course of the History of Western Civilization sequence explores major themes in the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, and the Reformation. Key topics explored through discussions of texts include the development of monasticism; the structures of manorialism and feudalism; the consolidation of the papacy and the Holy Roman Empire; and the challenges to these structures seen in the ideas of the humanists and reformers.

Instructor(s): J. Boyer Terms Offered: Winter

Prerequisite(s): These courses must be taken in sequence.

Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 28210

**HIST 13300. History of Western Civilization III. 100 Units.**

This third course of the History of Western Civilization undertakes a detailed study of the French Revolution and charts the rise of liberal, anti-liberal, and post-liberal states and societies in nineteenth- and twentieth-century European history. The sequence closes with an appraisal of the condition of European politics, culture, and society at the end of the twentieth century.

Instructor(s): D. Koehler Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): These courses must be taken in sequence.

Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 28310

**HIST 13500-13600-13700. America in World Civilization I-II-III.**

The America in World Civilization sequence examines America as a contested idea and a contested place by reading and writing about a wide array of primary sources. In the process, students gain a new sense of historical awareness and of the making of America. The course is designed both for history majors and non-majors who want to deepen their understanding of the nation's history, encounter some enlightening and provocative voices from the past, and develop the analytical methods of historical thinking. Together, HIST 13600-13700 (II and III) meet the general education requirement in civilization studies via two civilization courses. Students who take HIST 13500 (I) must also take HIST 13600-13700 to meet the general education requirement via three civilization courses. HIST 13500-13600-13700 courses do not need to be taken in sequence.

**HIST 13500. America In World Civilization I. 100 Units.**

America in World Civilization I examines foundational texts and moments in American culture, society, and politics, from early European incursions into the New World through the early republic of the United States, roughly 1500-1800. We will examine encounters between Native Americans and representatives of imperial powers (Spain, France, and England) as well as the rise of African slavery in North America before 1700.

We will consider the development of Anglo-American society and government in the eighteenth century, focusing especially on the causes and consequences of the American Revolution.

Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Autumn

Prerequisite(s): HIST 13600-13700 (II and III) meet the general education requirement in civilization studies via two civilization courses. Students who take HIST 13500 (I) must also take HIST 13600-13700 to meet the general education requirement via three civilization courses.

Equivalent Course(s): AMER 13500, SOSC 28500

**HIST 13600. America in World Civilization II. 100 Units.**

The nineteenth-century quarter of America in World Civilization explores the confrontation of democracy with inequality. This course focuses on themes and problems that include empire and indigenous-US relations; slavery, antislavery, the Civil War, and emancipation; reform and revivalism; women's rights; and the development of industrial capitalism, consumer culture, and urbanism.

Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Summer Winter

Prerequisite(s): HIST 13600-13700 (II and III) meet the general education requirement in civilization studies via two civilization courses. Students who take HIST 13500 (I) must also take HIST 13600-13700 to meet the general education requirement via three civilization courses.

Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 28600

**HIST 13700. America in World Civilization III. 100 Units.**

The third quarter America in World Civilization focuses on multiple definitions of Americanism in a period characterized by empire, transnational formations, and America's role in the world. We explore the construction of social order in a multicultural society; culture in the shadow of war; the politics of race, ethnicity, and gender; the rise and fall of new social movements on the left and the right; the emergence of the carceral state and militarization of civil space; and the role of climate change and the apocalyptic in shaping imagined futures.

Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Spring Summer

Prerequisite(s): HIST 13600-13700 (II and III) meet the general education requirement in civilization studies via two civilization courses. Students who take HIST 13500 (I) must also take HIST 13600-13700 to meet the general education requirement via three civilization courses.

Equivalent Course(s): SO5C 28700

**HIST 13900-14000-14100. Russia and Eurasia: Empires, Societies, Cultures I-II-III.**

This sequence is an introduction to the histories of Russia and Eurasia between the ninth century and the present. Rather than treat Russia as a stable entity, we ask how Russia was constituted under different political formations. What political and cultural notions animated Russian expansionism and Russia's relations with other countries and neighboring peoples? What role did violence play in the making of Russian and Soviet polities, societies, and empires? How did literature and the arts represent the social order, interact with power, and condition individual choices and identities? And how did individuals, Russian and non-Russian alike, shape their lives within, and against, social, political, and imperial structures? In pursuing these questions, we take a comparative view, locating Russia in regional and transnational contexts. We analyze a wide array of primary sources: oral legends, hagiographies, and iconic literary texts; political treatises, diplomatic missives, government decrees, and secret police reports; city plans, paintings and photographs, film, and pop and rock music. We read authors who wrote in Russian about Russia, and also about Bashkortostan, Chechnya, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Estonia, Uzbekistan, and more. And we examine authors, artists, and filmmakers who spoke about themselves--and about Russia--in Georgian, Ukrainian, Yiddish, Uzbek, Armenian, Latvian, and Estonian. All readings are in English translation.

**HIST 13900. Russia and Eurasia: Empires, Societies, Cultures I (formerly Introduction to Russian Civilization) 100 Units.**

The first quarter spans the centuries between early medieval Rus', which furnished modern Ukraine, Russia, and Belarus with a story of origins, to the intellectual, social, and national mobilization in the mid-19th century. Major themes include: the influence of Byzantine, Mongol-Tataric, and Western cultures; medieval principalities, city-states, and the rise of the centralized state, its oversized role in Russian and regional social and economic development, its hyper-modernizing schemes and its periodic collapse; cross-cultural interactions in the steppe and the Baltic and Black Seas littorals; Russia's wars and the emergence of the Russian empire; varieties of resistance, from peasant uprisings and flight to religious dissent to aristocratic opposition, and the emergence of the repressive machinery of the state; forces of change and continuity in political, intellectual, and cultural life.

Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Autumn

Note(s): Taking these courses in sequence is recommended but not required. When taken with Hist 14000, this course meets the general education requirement in Civilization Studies.

Equivalent Course(s): SO5C 24000, REES 26011

**HIST 14000. Russia and Eurasia: Empires, Societies, Cultures II (formerly Introduction to Russian Civilization) 100 Units.**

The second quarter focuses on nearly two centuries of upheaval, from the radical movements of the late 19th century to the birth, life, and death of the Soviet Union and the emergence of post-Soviet states. Our topics include Russian imperialism, colonial conquests, and the reconstitution of the Russian empire as the Soviet Union; systems of social and political legitimization; political violence, the evolution of the repressive machinery, and the enduring problem of the rule of law; religious, national, and sexual minorities, practices of everyday life, social order and disorder; resistance, dissent, and liberation movements; creativity, experimentation, and self-expression under censorship.

Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Winter

Note(s): Taking these courses in sequence is recommended but not required. When taken with Hist 13900, this course meets the general education requirement in Civilization Studies.

Equivalent Course(s): REES 26012, SO5C 24100

**HIST 14100. Russia and Eurasia: Empires, Societies, Cultures III (formerly Introduction to Russian Civilization). 100 Units.**

The third quarter is thematic, rather than chronological, and offers an in-depth or comparative exploration of special topics. Topics vary from year to year. Previously, we have examined Russia's cultures of war in the 20th century; Soviet and East European dissent; Russia and the West since the 18th century; gender and revolutionary violence in Russia; transitions to capitalism across the socialist bloc; and art and anarchism in the Russian Empire, the Soviet Union, and post-Soviet Russia.

Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Spring

Note(s): When taken following Hist 13900 and Hist 14000, this course meets the general education requirement in Humanities, Civilization Studies, and the Arts. Please note: this course does not meet the



two-quarter Civilization Studies requirement and cannot be combined with the first or second quarter for Civilization Studies credit.

Equivalent Course(s): REES 26015, SOSC 24200

### **HIST 16700-16800-16900. Ancient Mediterranean World I-II-III.**

Available as a three-quarter sequence (Autumn-Winter-Spring) or as a two-quarter sequence (Autumn-Winter or Winter-Spring). This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies. It surveys the social, economic, and political history of Greece to the death of Alexander the Great (323 BC), the Roman Republic (509 to 27 BC), and late antiquity (27 BC to the fifth century AD).

#### **HIST 16700. Ancient Mediterranean World I: Greece. 100 Units.**

This course surveys the social, economic, and political history of Greece from prehistory to the Hellenistic period. The main topics considered include the development of the institutions of the Greek city-state, the Persian Wars and the rivalry of Athens and Sparta, the social and economic consequences of the Peloponnesian War, and the eclipse and defeat of the city-states by the Macedonians.

Instructor(s): J. Hall Terms Offered: Autumn

Prerequisite(s): This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies.

Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 27710, CLCV 20700

#### **HIST 16800. Ancient Mediterranean World II: Rome. 100 Units.**

Part II surveys the social, economic, and political history of Rome, from its prehistoric beginnings in the twelfth century BCE to the end of the Severan dynasty in 235 CE. Throughout, the focus will be upon the dynamism and adaptability of Roman society, as it moved from a monarchy to a republic to an empire.

The course will also cover the questions of social organization (free and unfree people, foreigners), gender relations, religion, and specific forms of the way of life of the Romans. It will be based both on lectures and on discussions of textual or archaeological documents in smaller discussion groups.

Instructor(s): C. Ando Terms Offered: Winter

Prerequisite(s): This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies.

Equivalent Course(s): CLCV 20800, SOSC 16800

#### **HIST 16900. Ancient Mediterranean World III: Late Antiquity. 100 Units.**

Part III examines late antiquity, a period of paradox. The later Roman emperors established the most intensive, pervasive state structures of the ancient Mediterranean, yet yielded their northern and western territories to Goths, Huns, Vandals, and, ultimately, their Middle Eastern core to the Arab Muslims.

Imperial Christianity united the populations of the Roman Mediterranean in the service of one God, but simultaneously divided them into competing sectarian factions. A novel culture of Christian asceticism coexisted with the consolidation of an aristocratic ruling class notable for its insatiable appetite for gold.

The course will address these apparent contradictions while charting the profound transformations of the cultures, societies, economies, and political orders of the Mediterranean from the conversion of Constantine to the rise of Islam.

Instructor(s): R. Payne Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies.

Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 27910, CLCV 20900, MDVL 16900

### **HIST 17521-17522. Energy in World Civilizations.**

This two-quarter course sequence explores the historical roots of climate change and other global environmental problems by focusing on the social use of energy over time. Part I covers energy systems across the world from prehistory to the end of the nineteenth century. Part II investigates global energy systems from the early twentieth century to the present. The courses should be taken in chronological sequence. Taken together, they fulfill the general education requirement in civilization studies.

#### **HIST 17521. Energy in World Civilizations I. 100 Units.**

This two-quarter course explores the historical roots of climate change and other global environmental problems with a special attention to how energy use shapes human societies over time. Part I covers energy systems across the world from prehistory to the end of the nineteenth century.

Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Winter

Prerequisite(s): Parts I and II should be taken in sequence. This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies.

Equivalent Course(s): CEGU 27521, HIPS 17521, ENST 27521, SOSC 27521

#### **HIST 17522. Energy in World Civilizations II. 100 Units.**

This two-quarter course explores the historical roots of climate change and other global environmental problems with a special attention to how energy use shapes human societies over time. Part II covers energy systems across the world from the early twentieth century to the present, examining themes such as the uneven globalization of energy-intensive lifestyles, the changing geopolitics of energy, and possible futures beyond fossil-fuel dependence.

Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): Parts I and II should be taken in sequence. This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies.

Equivalent Course(s): HIPS 17522, ENST 27522, SOSC 27522, CEGU 27522

**HMRT 10100-10200. Human Rights in World Civilizations I-II.**

This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies. These courses must be taken in sequence.

**HMRT 10100. Human Rights in World Civilizations I. 100 Units.**

The first quarter begins with a set of conceptual problems and optics designed to introduce students to the critical study of human rights, opening up questions of the universal, human dignity, and the political along with the practices of witness and testimony. It is followed by two thematic clusters. "Anti-Slavery, Humanitarianism, and Rights" focuses on the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries to historicize notions of dignity, sympathy, and witness. "Declarations as a Human Rights Genre" examines revolutionary eighteenth-century rights declarations in France, the United States, and Haiti against the aspirations of the 1948 UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Instructor(s): B. Laurence, A. Wang, Staff Terms Offered: Autumn

Note(s): This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies. These courses must be taken in sequence.

Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 24900

**HMRT 10200. Human Rights in World Civilizations II. 100 Units.**

Four thematic clusters structure the second quarter. "Migration, Minorities, and Refugees" examines minority rights, the evolution of legal norms around refugees, and human trafficking. "Late Twentieth Century Human Rights Talk" explores the contestations between rights claims in the political-civil and socio-economic spheres, calls for sexual rights, and cultural representations of human rights abuses. "Global Justice" considers forms of international criminal law, transitional justice, and distributive justice. "Indigenous Rights as Human Rights" takes up the relatively new domain of the rights of indigenous peoples and how they relate to contemporary human rights practice.

Instructor(s): B. Laurence, A. Wang, N. Gonzalez, Staff Terms Offered: Winter

Prerequisite(s): SOSC 24900

Note(s): This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies. These courses must be taken in sequence; students must have taken SOSC 24900 to enroll in this course.

Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 24901

**JWSC 12000. Jewish Civilization I: Ancient Beginnings to Medieval Period. 100 Units.**

Jewish Civilization is a three-quarter sequence that explores the development of Jewish culture and tradition from its ancient beginnings through its rabbinic and medieval transformations to its modern manifestations. Through investigation of primary texts-biblical, Talmudic, philosophical, mystical, historical, documentary, and literary-students will acquire a broad overview of Jews, Judaism, and Jewishness while reflecting in greater depth on major themes, ideas, and events in Jewish history. Jewish Civilization I will deal with antiquity through the Middle Ages. Its readings will include material from the Bible and writings from the second temple, Hellenistic, rabbinic, and medieval periods. All sections of this course will share a common core of readings; individual instructors will supplement with other materials. It is recommended, though not required, that students take the three Jewish Civilization courses in sequence. Students who register for the Jewish Civilization I course will automatically be preregistered for the Jewish Civilization II segment the next quarter. In the Spring Quarter students have the option of taking a third unit of Jewish Civilization, a course whose topics will vary (JWSC 120XX).

Instructor(s): Larisa Reznik Terms Offered: Autumn Winter

Equivalent Course(s): NEHC 22010, RLST 22010, MDVL 12000, HIST 11701

**JWSC 12001. Jewish Civilization II: Early Modern Period to 21st Century. 100 Units.**

Jewish Civilization is a three-quarter sequence that explores the development of Jewish culture and tradition from its ancient beginnings through its rabbinic and medieval transformations to its modern manifestations. Through investigation of primary texts-biblical, Talmudic, philosophical, mystical, historical, documentary, and literary-students will acquire a broad overview of Jews, Judaism, and Jewishness while reflecting in greater depth on major themes, ideas, and events in Jewish history. Jewish Civilization II will begin with the early modern period and continue to the present. It will include discussions of mysticism, the works of Spinoza and Mendelssohn, the nineteenth-century reform, the Holocaust and its reflection in writers such as Primo Levi and Paul Celan, and literary pieces from postwar American Jewish and Israeli authors. All sections of this course will share a common core of readings; individual instructors will supplement with other materials. It is recommended, though not required, that students take the three Jewish Civilization courses in sequence. Students who register for the Jewish Civilization I course will automatically be preregistered for the Jewish Civilization II the next quarter. In the Spring Quarter students have the option of taking a third unit of Jewish Civilization, a course whose topics will vary (JWSC 1200X).

Instructor(s): Kenneth Moss Larisa Reznik Sheila Jelen Terms Offered: Spring Winter

Equivalent Course(s): RLST 22011, NEHC 22011, HIST 11702

**LACS 16100-16200-16300. Introduction to Latin American Civilization I-II-III.**

Taking these courses in sequence is not required. This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies. This sequence is offered every year. This course introduces the history and cultures of Latin America (e.g., Mexico, Central and South America, and the Caribbean Islands).



**LACS 16100. Introduction to Latin American Civilization I. 100 Units.**

Autumn Quarter examines the origins of civilizations in Latin America with a focus on the political, social, and cultural features of the major pre-Columbian civilizations of the Maya, Inca, and Aztec. The quarter concludes with an analysis of the Spanish and Portuguese conquest, and the construction of colonial societies in Latin America. The courses in this sequence may be taken in any order.

Instructor(s): Kouri; Newman; Borges; Brittenham Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): HIST 16101, ANTH 23101, RDIN 16100, CRES 16101, SOSC 26100

**LACS 16200. Introduction to Latin American Civilization II. 100 Units.**

Winter Quarter addresses the evolution of colonial societies, the wars of independence, and the emergence of Latin American nation-states in the changing international context of the nineteenth century.

Instructor(s): Winter: Hicks; Schwartz-Francisco; Tenorio Autumn: Borges Terms Offered: Autumn Winter

Equivalent Course(s): CRES 16102, HIST 16102, RDIN 16200, SOSC 26200, ANTH 23102

**LACS 16300. Introduction to Latin American Civilization III. 100 Units.**

Spring Quarter focuses on the twentieth century, with special emphasis on the challenges of economic, political, and social development in the region.

Instructor(s): Fischer; Saramago; Schwartz-Francisco Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): HIST 16103, ANTH 23103, SOSC 26300, CRES 16103

**MUSI 12100-12200. Music in Western Civilization I-II.**

This two-quarter sequence explores musical works of broad cultural significance in Western civilization. We study pieces not only from the standpoint of musical style but also through the lenses of politics, intellectual history, economics, gender, cultural studies, and so on. Readings are taken both from our music textbook and from the writings of a number of figures such as St. Benedict of Nursia and Martin Luther. In addition to lectures, students discuss important issues in the readings and participate in music listening exercises in smaller sections.

**MUSI 12100. Music and Euro-American Cultures. 100 Units.**

This course, part of the Social Sciences Civ core, looks at musics in different moments of Euro-American history and the social contexts in which they originated, with some comparative views on other world traditions. It aims to give students a better understanding of the social contexts of European music over this period; aids for the basic sound structures of pieces from these different moments; and convincing writing in response to prompts based on source readings or music pieces. Our first quarter (MUS 12100 etc.) spans roughly the period between Charlemagne's coronation as Holy Roman Emperor (800 CE) and the dissolution of the Empire (1806) with the triumph of Napoleon across Western Europe.

Instructor(s): R. Kendrick Terms Offered: Autumn

Note(s): Prior music course or ability to read music not required. Students must confirm enrollment by attending one of the first two sessions of class. This two-quarter sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies; it does not meet the general education requirement in the arts. Please note that MUSI 12100-12200 will not be offered on campus in 2024-25. The sequence will be offered in Vienna through Study Abroad in Autumn 2025 and Spring 2027.

Equivalent Course(s): HIST 12700, SOSC 21100

**MUSI 12200. Music and Euro-American Cultures II (1810-present) 100 Units.**

This course, part of the Social Sciences Civ core, looks at musics in different moments of Euro-American history and the social contexts in which they originated, with some comparative views on other world traditions. It aims to give students a better understanding of the social contexts of European music over this period; aids for the basic sound structures of pieces from these different moments; and convincing writing in response to prompts based on source readings or music pieces. Our second quarter (MUS 12200 etc.) runs from the beginning of European Romanticism around 1800 to the turn of the 21st century.

Terms Offered: Winter

Note(s): Prior music course or ability to read music not required. Students must confirm enrollment by attending one of the first two sessions of class. This two-quarter sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies; it does not meet the general education requirement in the arts. Please note that MUSI 12100-12200 will not be offered on campus in 2024-25. The sequence will be offered in Vienna in Spring 2025 and 2027.

Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 21200, HIST 12800

**NEHC 20001-20002-20003. Ancient Near Eastern History and Society I-II-III.**

This sequence meets the general education requirement for civilization studies.

**NEHC 20001. Ancient Near Eastern History and Society I: Egypt. 100 Units.**

This course surveys the political, social, and economic history of ancient Egypt from pre-dynastic times (ca. 3400 B.C.) until the advent of Islam in the seventh century of our era.

Instructor(s): Brian Muhs, Robert Ritner Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): NEHC 30001, SOSC 20001

**NEHC 20002. Ancient Near Eastern History and Society II. 100 Units.**

This course offers an overview of the history of Mesopotamia from its origins down to the Achaemenid and Hellenistic periods, when Mesopotamia became part of larger empires. Weeks 1 to 5, preceding mid-term exam, cover the periods ranging from the late Chalcolithic down to the end of the Middle Bronze age (late

fifth to mid-second millennia BCE). Weeks 6 to 10 study the developments of the Late Bronze and Iron Ages, from the period of the archives of El-Amarna in the fourteenth century BCE down to the time of Alexander the Great in the late fourth century BCE.

Instructor(s): Hervé Reculeau Terms Offered: Winter

Prerequisite(s): Taking these courses in sequence is not required. This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies.

Equivalent Course(s): NEHC 30002, SOSC 20002

**NEHC 20003. Ancient Near Eastern History and Society III. 100 Units.**

This course introduces students to the history of ancient Anatolia and its neighbors from the first historical texts around 2000 BCE, with a short detour through prehistory and the appearance of Proto-Indo-European culture, to the arrival of Alexander the Great. Some of the famous ancient Near Eastern civilizations that we encounter include the Assyrians, Hittites, Phrygians, Lydians, Persians, and Israelites. We will focus on the information provided by inscriptions - especially political and socioeconomic history - as well as the relevant archaeological and art historical records. No prior knowledge of Anatolian or Near Eastern history is required.

Instructor(s): Petra Goedegebuure Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 20003, NEHC 30003

**NEHC 20004-20005-20006. Ancient Near Eastern Thought and Literature I-II-III.**

This sequence surveys the thought and literature of the Near East. Each course in the sequence focuses on a particular culture or civilization. Texts in English. This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies. Taking these courses in sequence is not required.

**NEHC 20004. Ancient Near Eastern Thought and Literature I: Mesopotamian Literature. 100 Units.**

This course gives an overview of the richness of Mesopotamian Literature (modern Iraq) written in the 3rd-1st millennium BC. We will read myths and epics written on clay tablets in the Sumerian and Akkadian language in English translation and discuss content and style, but also the religious, cultural and historic implications. Particular focus will be on the development of stories over time, the historical context of the literature and mythological figures. The texts treated cover not only the famous Epic of Gilgamesh, but also various legends of Sumerian and Akkadian kings, stories about Creation and World Order, and destruction. The topics covered range from the quest for immortality, epic heroes and monsters, sexuality and love.

Instructor(s): Susanne Paulus Terms Offered: Autumn

Note(s): Taking these courses in sequence is not required. This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies.

Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 20004

**NEHC 20005. Ancient Near Eastern Thought & Literature II: Anatolian Lit. 100 Units.**

The goal of this class is to get an overview of Hittite literature, as "defined" by the Hittites themselves, in the wider historical-cultural context of the Ancient Near East. Some of the most important questions we can ask ourselves in reading ancient texts are: why were they written down, why were they kept, for whom were they intended, and what do the answers to these questions (apart from the primary content of the texts themselves) tell us about - in our case - Hittite society?

Instructor(s): Petra Goedegebuure Terms Offered: Spring

Note(s): Taking these courses in sequence is not required. This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies.

Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 20005

**NEHC 20006. Ancient Near Eastern Thought & Literature III: Ancient Egyptian Literature. 100 Units.**

This course employs English translations of ancient Egyptian literary texts to explore the genres, conventions and techniques of ancient Egyptian literature. Discussions of texts examine how the ancient Egyptians conceptualized and constructed their equivalent of literature, as well as the fuzzy boundaries and subtle interplay between autobiography, history, myth and fiction.

Instructor(s): Margret Geoga Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 20006

**NEHC 20011. Ancient Empires I: The Hittite Empire. 100 Units.**

This course introduces students to the Hittite Empire of ancient Anatolia. In existence from roughly 1750-1200 BCE, and spanning across modern Turkey and beyond, the Hittite Empire is one of the oldest and largest empires of the ancient world. We will be examining their history and their political and cultural accomplishments through analysis of their written records - composed in Hittite, the world's first recorded Indo-European language - and their archaeological remains. In the process, we will also be examining the concept of "empire" itself: What is an empire, and how do anthropologists, archaeologists, and historians study this unique kind of political formation?

Instructor(s): James Osborne Terms Offered: Winter

Note(s): Taking these courses in sequence is not required. This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies.

Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 20011, HIST 15602, CLCV 25700

**NEHC 20012. Ancient Empires II: The Ottoman Empire. 100 Units.**

The Ottomans ruled in Anatolia, the Middle East, South East Europe and North Africa for over six hundred years. The objective of this course is to understand the society and culture of this bygone Empire whose legacy continues, in one way or another, in some twenty-five contemporary successor states from the Balkans to the Arabian Peninsula. The course is designed as an introduction to the Ottoman World with a focus on the cultural history of the Ottoman society. It explores identities and mentalities, customs and rituals, status of minorities, mystical orders and religious establishments, literacy and the use of the public sphere.

Instructor(s): Hakan Karateke Terms Offered: Autumn

Note(s): Taking these courses in sequence is not required. This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies.

Equivalent Course(s): MDVL 20012, HIST 15603, CLCV 25800, SOSC 20012

**NEHC 20013. Ancient Empires III :The Egyptian Empire of the New Kingdom. 100 Units.**

For most of the duration of the New Kingdom (1550-1069 BC), the ancient Egyptians were able to establish a vast empire and becoming one of the key powers within the Near East. This course will investigate in detail the development of Egyptian foreign policies and military expansion which affected parts of the Near East and Nubia. We will examine and discuss topics such as ideology, imperial identity, political struggle and motivation for conquest and control of wider regions surrounding the Egyptian state as well as the relationship with other powers and their perspective on Egyptian rulers as for example described in the Amarna letters.

Instructor(s): Brian Muhs Terms Offered: Winter

Note(s): Taking these courses in sequence is not required. This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies.

Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 20013, HIST 15604, CLCV 25900

**NEHC 20014. Ancient Empires IV: the Achaemenid Empire. 100 Units.**

This course introduces students to the Achaemenid Empire, also known as the First Persian Empire (ca. 550-330 BCE). We will be examining the political history and cultural accomplishments of the Achaemenids who, from their homeland in modern-day Iran, quickly rose to become one of the largest empires of the ancient world, ruling from North Africa to North India at their height. We will also be examining the history of Greek-Persian encounters and the image of the Achaemenids in Greek and Biblical literature. The students will visit the Oriental Institutes' archive and object collection to learn more about the University of Chicago's unique position in the exploration, excavation, and restoration of the Persian Empire's royal architecture and administrative system through the Persian Expedition carried out in the 1930s.

Instructor(s): Mehrnoush Soroush Terms Offered: Autumn

Note(s): Taking these courses in sequence is not required. This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies.

Equivalent Course(s): HIST 25602, CLCV 21722

**NEHC 20015. Ancient Empires V: The Umayyad. 100 Units.**

The Umayyads ruled over the last "great empire" of late antiquity: the early Islamic empire, spanning from the Atlas to the Hindu Kush, from the Atlantic to the Amu Darya, and embracing regions with different cultural and political traditions. This course introduces to the history of the Umayyad caliphate, focusing on some of the visible legacies its inhabitants left behind: texts, objects, and monumental buildings that are still standing in cities of the Middle East and Europe. But we will also reflect upon less material legacies: for example, cities with a long-lasting urban culture, infrastructures for communicating across a vast empire, the consolidation of religious traditions, and exchanges and cohabitation of different religious groups.

Instructor(s): Cecilia Palombo Terms Offered: Winter

Note(s): Taking these courses in sequence is not required. This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies.

Equivalent Course(s): RLST 20315, HIST 25706

**NEHC 20016. Ancient Empires VI: The Assyrian Empire. 100 Units.**

This course will examine the concept and definition of empire and the practices of imperial control through a case study of Mesopotamia's best-known empire, the Neo-Assyrian (first half of the 1st millennium BCE). At its peak, the Assyrians ruled a vast area covering most of modern Iraq and Syria, plus parts of Iran, Turkey and the Levant, with aspirations to control Egypt. The gradual expansion of this empire from late 2nd millennium BCE beginnings and its extremely rapid collapse in ca. 612 BCE provide an excellent example of the tensions within trajectories of empire. The course themes include warfare and political strategies, identity and ethnicity, imperial bureaucracy, and the practical and ideological purposes of infrastructure building. Evidence examined will include texts (in translation) and the archaeological record at various scales, from settlements through artworks. We will also examine paradoxes, such as the contrast between textual claims of hegemony and limited archaeological evidence for this, and the power of visual propaganda versus its select audience.

Instructor(s): Augusta McMahon Terms Offered: Spring

Note(s): Taking these courses in sequence is not required. This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies.

Equivalent Course(s): HIST 20405

**NEHC 20017. Ancient Empires VII: Sumerians and Akkadians. 100 Units.**

The course introduces students to the first 'empires' in the ancient Middle East. We will study the earliest attempts under both Sumerian and Akkadian leadership at unifying the old Sumerian city states in what is today southern Iraq in the mid-third millennium BCE. Our focus will then be on the two successful empires that arose from these attempts, namely the one founded by Sargon of Akkade in ca. 2300 BCE and the one ruled by the Third Dynasty of Ur from 2092-2003 BCE. While exploring a rich variety of sources, both textual and from archaeological contexts, we will pay particular attention to understanding expansionist efforts, strategies of empire building, the establishment of a centralized state bureaucracy, ideologies of kingship, ethnicity and identity, as well as rebellions against the new political system and theories about why these early empires began to crumble after only a few generations. Since these new forms of dominion were tested and developed for the first time in this formative period and kings of these dynasties acquired a special status in Mesopotamian cultural memory, this course provides a solid base for understanding the later development of ancient Middle Eastern history but can also be studied for the sake of understanding early empire formation.

Instructor(s): Jana Matuszak Terms Offered: Spring

Note(s): Taking these courses in sequence is not required. This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies.

Equivalent Course(s): HIST 20406

**NEHC 20416-20417-20418. Semitic Languages, Cultures, and Civilizations I-II-III.**

This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies.

**NEHC 20416. Semitic Languages, Cultures, and Civilizations I. 100 Units.**

This course looks at the attestations of Semitic, the development of the language family and its individual languages, the connection of language spread and political expansions with the development of empires and nation states (which can lead to the development of different language strata), the interplay of linguistic innovation and archaism in connection with innovative centers and peripheries, and the connection and development of language and writing.

Terms Offered: TBD

Equivalent Course(s): NEHC 30416, SOSC 20416, HIST 15702

**NEHC 20417. Semitic Languages, Cultures, and Civilizations II. 100 Units.**

This course explores various peoples of the ancient Near East from the third through the first millennium BC. The shared characteristic of those peoples is their use of Semitic languages. The focus is on major cultural traditions that later become of interest for the modern Middle East and for the Western world. This course provides a background to understand contemporary problems in a historical context. This includes a close examination and discussion of representative ancient sources, as well as readings in modern scholarship to help us think of interpretative frameworks and questions. Ancient sources include literary, historical, and legal documents. Texts in English.

Terms Offered: TBD

Note(s): Not open to first-year students

Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 20417, HIST 15703, NEHC 30417

**NEHC 20418. Semitic Languages, Cultures, and Civilizations III. 100 Units.**

The course studies how various groups in the Middle East imagined the ancient Semitic heritage of the region. We examine how Semitic languages (in particular, Arabic and Hebrew) came to be regarded as the national markers of the peoples of the Middle East. We likewise explore the ways in which archeologists, historians, novelists, and artists emphasized the connectivity between past and present, and the channels through which their new ideas were transmitted. The class thus highlights phenomena like nationalism, reform, and literary and print capitalism (in both Hebrew and Arabic) as experienced in the Middle East.

Terms Offered: TBD

Note(s): Not open to first-year students

Equivalent Course(s): JWSC 21100, SOSC 20418, HIST 15704, NEHC 30418

**NEHC 20501-20502-20503. Islamic History and Society I-II-III.**

This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies. This sequence surveys the main trends in the political history of the Islamic world, with some attention to economic, social, and intellectual history. Taking these courses in sequence is recommended but not required.

**NEHC 20501. Islamic History and Society I: The Rise of Islam and the Caliphate. 100 Units.**

This course covers the period from ca. 600 to 1100, including the rise and spread of Islam, the Islamic empire under the Umayyad and Abbasid caliphs, and the emergence of regional Islamic states from Afghanistan and eastern Iran to North Africa and Spain.

Instructor(s): Ahmed El Shamsy Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): CMES 30501, HIST 25704, NEHC 30501, ISLM 30500, RLST 20501, SOSC 20501, MDVL 20501, HIST 35704

**NEHC 20502. Islamic History and Society II: The Middle Period. 100 Units.**

This course covers the period from ca. 1100 to 1750, including the arrival of the Steppe Peoples (Turks and Mongols), the Mongol successor states, and the Mamluks of Egypt and Syria. We also study the foundation of the great Islamic regional empires of the Ottomans, Safavids, and Moghuls.

Instructor(s): J. Woods Terms Offered: Winter

Prerequisite(s): Not open to first-year students

Equivalent Course(s): MDVL 20502, CMES 30502, HIST 25804, ISLM 30600, HIST 35804, NEHC 30502, SOSC 20502

**NEHC 20503. Islamic History and Society III: The Modern Middle East. 100 Units.**

This course covers the period from ca. 1750 to the present, focusing on Western military, economic, and ideological encroachment; the impact of such ideas as nationalism and liberalism; efforts at reform in the Islamic states; the emergence of the "modern" Middle East after World War I; the struggle for liberation from Western colonial and imperial control; the Middle Eastern states in the cold war era; and local and regional conflicts.

Instructor(s): Holly Shissler Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): Not open to first-year students

Note(s): This course does not apply to the medieval studies major or minor.

Equivalent Course(s): HIST 35904, NEHC 30503, HIST 25904, SOSC 20503

**NEHC 20601-20602-20603. Islamic Thought and Literature I-II-III.**

This sequence explores the thought and literature of the Islamic world from the coming of Islam in the seventh century C.E. through the development and spread of its civilization in the medieval period and into the modern world. Including historical framework to establish chronology and geography, the course focuses on key aspects of Islamic intellectual history: scripture, law, theology, philosophy, literature, mysticism, political thought, historical writing, and archaeology. In addition to lectures and secondary background readings, students read and discuss samples of key primary texts, with a view to exploring Islamic civilization in the direct voices of the people who participated in creating it. All readings are in English translation. No prior background in the subject is required. This course sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies. Taking these courses in sequence is recommended but not required.

**NEHC 20601. Islamic Thought and Literature I. 100 Units.**

In the first quarter of Islamic Thought and Literature, students will explore the intellectual and cultural history of the Islamic world in its various political and social contexts. Chronologically, the course begins with emergence of Islam in the 7th century CE and continues through the Mongol conquests until the rise of the "gunpowder empires" circa 1500. Students will leave the course with a historical and geographical framework for understanding the history of the Middle East and a familiarity with the major forms of premodern Islamic cultural production (e.g., history-writing, scriptural exegesis, poetry, philosophy, jurisprudence, etc.). Students will also develop the skills and contextual knowledge necessary for analyzing these sources in English translation; they will thus come to appreciate premodern Islamic cultural products on their own terms while engaging in the collective work of historical interpretation. No prior background in the subject is required. This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies.

Instructor(s): O'Malley, Austin, Jack Buredn Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): RLST 20401, MDVL 20601, HIST 25610, SOSC 22000

**NEHC 20602. Islamic Thought and Literature II. 100 Units.**

In the second quarter of Islamic Thought and Literature, students will explore the Islamic world in its various political, social, and intellectual aspects. Chronologically, the course begins with the consolidation of the "gunpowder empires" in the 16th Century and continues into the modern era. Students will leave the course with a historical and geographical framework for understanding the history of the Middle East and a familiarity with the major debates such as state reform efforts, Islamic modernism, and nationalism; new genres (e.g., the novel); and new modes of communication, such as journals and newspapers. No prior background in the subject is required. Participation in the first quarter of the sequence is assumed. This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies.

Instructor(s): Holly Shissler, Murat Bozluolcay Terms Offered: Winter

Note(s): Taking these courses in sequence is recommended but not required. This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies.

Equivalent Course(s): RLST 20402, HIST 25615, SOSC 22100, MDVL 20602

**NEHC 20603. Islamic Thought and Literature III. 100 Units.**

This course covers the period from ca. 1700 to the present. It explores Muslim intellectuals' engagement with tradition and modernity in the realms of religion, politics, literature, and law. We discuss debates concerning the role of religion in a modern society, perceptions of Europe and European influence, the challenges of maintain religious and cultural authenticity, and Muslim views of nation-states and nationalism in the Middle East. We also give consideration to the modern developments of transnational jihadism and the Arab Spring. This course sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies.

Instructor(s): Orit Bashkin Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 22200, RLST 20403, HIST 25616

**SALC 20100-20200. Introduction to the Civilizations of South Asia I-II.**

This sequence introduces core themes in the formation of culture and society in South Asia from the early modern period until the present. This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies. These courses must be taken in sequence.

**SALC 20100. Introduction to the Civilizations of South Asia I. 100 Units.**

The first quarter focuses on Islam in South Asia, Hindu-Muslim interaction, Mughal political and literary traditions, and South Asia's early encounters with Europe.

Instructor(s): Muzaffar Alam Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 23000, HIST 10800, ANTH 24101, MDVL 20100, SALC 30100

**SALC 20200. Introduction to the Civilizations of South Asia II. 100 Units.**

The second quarter analyzes the colonial period (i.e., reform movements, the rise of nationalism, communalism, caste, and other identity movements) up to the independence and partition of India.

Instructor(s): Dipesh Chakrabarty Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): SALC 20100, ANTH 24101, HIST 10800, SASC 20000, SOSC 23000

Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 23100, HIST 10900, ANTH 24102

**CIVILIZATION STUDIES ABROAD PROGRAMS**

Students may also complete their civilization studies requirement by participating in one of the College's Study Abroad programs. For more information about these programs, consult the Study Abroad (<http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/offcampusstudyprograms/>) section of this catalog or visit [study-abroad.uchicago.edu](http://study-abroad.uchicago.edu) (<http://study-abroad.uchicago.edu>).

