THE ANCIENT NEAR EAST AND GREECE

This course will consider the destinies of civilization in Western Eurasia from the eighth through the first millennium B.C. Special attention will be given to the following subjects:

(1) the birth of agriculture and cities in the Near East (ca. 3000-3000 B.C.), and the first urban civilizations during the Near Eastern and eastern Mediterranean Bronze Age (ca. 3000-1200 B.C.);

(2) civilization in the Near East during the early Iron Age (ca. 1200-500 B.C.);

(3) civilization in Greek World during the early Iron Age (ca. 1200-500 B.C.);

(4) the Classic Age of Greek Civilization (ca. 500-330 B.C.);

and

(5) the conquests of Alexander the Great and the juncture of Greek and Near Eastern Civilization after his death (ca. 330-100 B.C.).
SPECIAL PROJECT: THE PRESOCRATIC PHILOSOPHERS

Students who wish to complete the course without following the usual cycle of examinations and papers may participate in a colloquium on the Presocratic Philosophers -- the Greek thinkers who contemplated the nature of the universe and the meaning of life before the time of the Athenian philosopher Socrates (late 5th century B.C.). Participants will select a term paper topic -- preferably but not necessarily one which concerns the Presocratic Philosophers and related topics -- by the third week of the term. They will hand in a first draft of the term paper by Friday of the ninth week of the term, and a second draft (revised in accordance with the instructor's comments and the student's own second thoughts) by the day of the final examination.

During the semester participants in the colloquium will use a weekly discussion hour (in addition to the three lecture hours) to present one brief Presocratic philosophy, background report on an aspect of a Presocratic philosopher, and then to present a sketch of their term paper.

Participants in the colloquium may earn honors or regular credit for the course. The suggested maximum length of the term paper's second draft varies with the number of credits:

- 3 regular or honors credits -- 10 to 15 pages;
- 4 regular or honors credits -- 15 to 20 pages.
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<th>Week</th>
<th>Lecture Topic</th>
<th>Required Reading</th>
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| VII-IX | The Archaic Age (ca. 800-500 B.C.):  
(a) the development of the polis  
(b) the Greeks overseas  
(c) the world of Hesiod  
(d) shamanism and the birth of Greek philosophy  
| X-XII | The Classic Age (ca. 500-336 B.C.):  
(a) a Mediterranean showdown: Persia and Carthage against the Greeks (500-480 B.C.)  
(b) The Athenian Empire (480-430 B.C.)  
(c) the Peloponnesian War (431-404 B.C.) | **$ C. Roebuck, THE WORLD OF ANCIENT TIMES, pp. 236-346**; **%$ R. Sealey, HISTORY OF THE GREEK CITY-STATES, pp. 297-385** |  |
(History 111 -- General Course Outline, cont'd)

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<td>X-XII</td>
<td>(d) Life in Classic Athens -- the tragic vision of Sophocles</td>
<td><strong>%$ SOPHOCLES: THE THREE THEBAN PLAYS (tr. R. Fagles) pp. 129-251 (Oedipus the King);</strong></td>
<td><strong>HISTORY 111/SPECIAL HANDOUTS, pp. 31-32</strong></td>
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<td>(e) the waning of Classical Civilization and the rise of Macedonia</td>
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An announcement of the twelve weeks examination will be circulated two weeks before the examination.

|         | (a) the conquests of Alexander the Great (336-323 B.C.)                        |                                                                                  |                       |
|         | (b) Hellenistic Civilization: economic, social and political organization      |                                                                                  |                       |
|         | (c) Hellenistic Civilization: local resistance                                | Re-read &%$ F.W. Walbank, THE HELLENISTIC WORLD, pp. 221-226;                    | **HISTORY 111/SPECIAL HANDOUTS, p. 33** |
|         | The future of Greek Civilization around 200 B.C.                              |                                                                                  |                       |

AVERAGE WEEKLY READING: about 80 pages

* required text, available at the bookstores & optional text, available at the bookstores & on 3-hour reserve in H.C. White no. 1191
** required purchase, available at Econoprint, 341 State Street $ available non-circulating in the History Library 4257 Humanities Building, weekdays 8:30 until 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 until 3:30 p.m.
History 111
(General Course Outline)

PROCEDURES FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SEMESTER

1. Students taking the course for THREE REGULAR CREDITS will write a twelve weeks examination OR a short twelve weeks paper (suggested maximum length: 8 to 10 pages), and a final examination.

2. Students taking the course for FOUR REGULAR CREDITS have two options:
   a. They may write a twelve weeks examination, a final examination, and a final paper (suggested maximum length: 8 to 10 pages) which is due on the day of the final examination.
   b. They may write a final examination, and a final paper in two drafts. The first draft (suggested maximum length: 8 to 10 pages) is due on the day of the twelve weeks examination. The instructor will hand back this draft with suggestions and criticisms, and the student will submit a revised draft (suggested maximum length: 10 to 15 pages) by the day of the final examination.

N.B. FOR STUDENTS TAKING THE COURSE FOR REGULAR CREDIT, THE DEADLINE FOR SELECTING TERM PAPER TOPICS IS FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17th. THE TWELVE WEEKS EXAMINATION AND PAPER DEADLINE DATE WILL BE ANNOUNCED TWO WEEKS BEFORE THE EXAMINATION.

3. Students participating in the Colloquium on the Presocratic Philosophers hand in the first draft of their final term paper by Wednesday, November 5th. The instructor will hand back this draft with suggestions and criticisms, and the participants will then submit a revised draft by the day of the final examination. The suggested maximum length of the revised draft varies with the number of credits: 3 honors or regular credits -- 10-15 pages; 4 honors or regular credits -- 15-20 pages.