Course Details

NELC/2600

Life Along the Rivers: Introduction to Ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia

Term: TBD

3 Credit Hours

Asynchronous Online

Course overview

Instructor

- Dr. Schellinger
- schellinger.1@osu.edu
- Office Hours: Online discussion board on Carmen, or by appointment on Zoom
  - Dr. Schellinger's virtual office

Note: My preferred method of contact is a direct email (schellinger.1@osu.edu) not a Carmen message.

Course description

How did people build whole worlds along the Nile, Tigris, and Euphrates Rivers? This course introduces students to the histories of ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia: two regions where early cities, writing systems, and powerful states first took shape. Students will engage with a variety of archaeological evidence, images, and translated texts to learn how historians and archaeologists make sense of the ancient past. Along the way, we'll compare Egypt and Mesopotamia and think about why these

civilizations still matter today. No background in ancient history is required, just curiosity and a willingness to explore how civilizations emerged thousands of years ago.

General Education Goals and Expected Learning Outcomes

As part of the Foundation: Historical Studies category of the General Education curriculum, this course is designed to prepare students to be able to do the following:

Goals - Cultural Studies:

1. Evaluate significant cultural phenomena and ideas to develop capacities for aesthetic and cultural response, judgment, interpretation and evaluation.

Expected Learning Outcomes - Cultural Studies:

1. Successful students are able to:
   1.1. Analyze and interpret selected major forms of human thought, culture, ideas or expression.
   1.2. Describe and analyze selected cultural phenomena and ideas across time using a diverse range of primary and secondary sources and an explicit focus on different theories and methodologies.
   1.3. Use appropriate sources and methods to construct an integrated and comparative perspective of cultural periods, events or ideas that influence human perceptions, beliefs and behaviors.
   1.4. Evaluate social and ethical implications in cultural studies.

NELC 2600 addresses all of these objectives in multiple ways. It engages with historical and cultural factors – political, social, and cultural – that contributed to the creation of the Mesopotamian and Egyptian civilization through primary and secondary sources. Because the course covers two distinct civilizations, it also provides many opportunities for cross-cultural comparison, not only among those civilizations covered, but also between them and our contemporary context. The course lectures, readings,

discussion sections, quizzes/exams, and written assignments are designed to enhance the student's overall critical and analytic abilities through objective and subjective assessments. By the end of this course, students will have developed an analytical and interpretive vocabulary that can be applied to a wide range of historical and cultural sources found in other courses and disciplines.

How this online course works

Mode of delivery

This course is 100% online. There are no required sessions when you must be logged in to Carmen at a scheduled time.

Pace of online activities

Each week, students will be expected to watch posted recorded lectures and/or videos (2 hours per week) and read the assigned textbook pages (2 hours per week). Each lecture will begin with a recap of the previous lecture's material and an outline of what students should expect from the new material. Beginning in Week 3, students will have either a quiz or a written assignment to assess their understanding of the material covered (3 hours per week to be allotted for preparing for and completing the assessment). These assessments must be completed by 11:59pm on the Sunday concluding that week. Over the course of the semester, students are expected to participate in an 10 online discussions with their peers (1 hour) where they will engage with the week's materials from recorded lectures, videos, and readings. Videos explaining how to complete each type of assignment will be provided.

Credit hours and work expectations

This is a **3-credit-hour course**. According to Ohio State policy (go.osu.edu/credithours), students should expect around 9 hours of engagement with the class each week to receive a grade of (C) average. Actual hours spent will vary by student learning habits and the assignments each week.

Participation requirements

Because this is an online course, your attendance is based on your online activity and participation. The following is a summary of students' expected participation:

Participating in online activities

Over the course of the semester, students are expected to participate in 10 online discussions with their peers where they will engage with the week's materials from recorded lectures, videos, and readings. Each student is required to make one substantive (200-300 words) post responding to the week's prompt, and to actively engage with the other students' posts including the following for all of the assigned readings:

1. At least one *thoughtful* comment about what you learned from the readings and discussions.

2. At least one *engaging* question you still have about the topics discussed.

3. At least one *substantial* response to one of your fellow students' comments/questions.

To receive credit, you must post each week no later than Sunday by 11:59pm to the discussion board on Carmen. Once a discussion has closed, it will not be reopened. The rubric for how your discussions will be graded is included with the assignments in Carmen.

Office hours and live sessions (optional)

There will not be any live scheduled events for the course. If you need to schedule a live office hours session with me, please email me and we will schedule a meeting.

Course communication guidelines

Students can expect to be able to communicate with the Professor through a live discussion board that will also serve as primary office hours. This discussion board will be visible to the entire class. If a student needs to speak with me about an issue that they do not want to share with the entire class, the student should email me directly (schellinger.1@osu.edu) and we will arrange a time to meet via Zoom.

Writing style

Students are expected to use proper grammar and spelling in all written works including but not limited to emails to the Professor, the online discussion board, written assignments, etc. Students should also remember that when addressing the Professor, they should maintain a formal writing style as they are not contacting a peer.

Tone and civility

It is imperative that there be an atmosphere of trust and safety in any classroom, whether in-person or online. It is my goal to foster an environment in which each student is able to be heard and respected. It is critical that each student shows respect to others even in an online classroom. Please let me know if something is said or done that is particularly troubling or causes discomfort or offense. While the intention may not be to cause discomfort or offense, the impact of what happens throughout the course is not to be ignored and is something that I consider to be very important and deserving of attention.

If I notice that students are not being civil to each other, particularly in the online discussions, the offending students will be required to meet with me via Zoom to discuss their behavior. If the behavior does not improve following the meeting, the instructor will block the student from participating in online discussions which will impact the student's course grade.

Citing your sources

Students are expected to cite all sources in course assessments using the Chicago Manual of Style. Information about this citation style can be found here.

Protecting and saving your work

It is highly encouraged that students compose their assignments in documents or word processing tools outside of Carmen where they can ensure their work will be saved. This will ensure your work gets backed up in case you encounter any issues with browser time-outs, failed submission attempts, or lack of internet connectivity.

Course materials and technologies

Textbooks

Required

1. William H. Stiebing Jr. and Susan N. Helft, *Ancient Near Eastern History and Culture*, 2017. Available as an e-book through the Ohio State University Libraries.
2. Additional materials will be made available through Carmen.

Other fees or requirements

There are no other fees or requirements.

Course technology

Technology support

For help with your password, university email, Carmen, or any other technology issues, questions, or requests, contact the Ohio State IT

Service Desk. Standard support hours are available at it.osu.edu/help, and support for urgent issues is available 24/7.

- Self-Service and Chat support: it.osu.edu/help
- Phone: 614-688-4357(HELP)
- Email: 8help@osu.edu
- TDD: 614-688-8743

Technology skills needed for this course

- Basic computer and web-browsing skills
- Navigating Carmen (go.osu.edu/canvasstudent)
- CarmenZoom virtual meetings (go.osu.edu/zoom-meetings)

Required Equipment

- Computer: current Mac (MacOs) or PC (Windows 10) with high-speed internet connection
- Webcam: built-in or external webcam, fully installed and tested
- Microphone: built-in laptop or tablet mic or external microphone
- Other: a mobile device (smartphone or tablet) to use for BuckeyePass authentication

Required software

- Microsoft Office 365: All Ohio State students are now eligible for free Microsoft Office 365. Full instructions for downloading and installation can be found at go.osu.edu/office365help.

Carmen Access

You will need to use BuckeyePass (buckeyepass.osu.edu) multi-factor authentication to access your courses in Carmen. To ensure that you are able to connect to Carmen at all times, it is recommended that you take the following steps:

- Register multiple devices in case something happens to your primary device. Visit the BuckeyePass website for more information: https://buckeyepass.osu.edu/
- Request passcodes to keep as a backup authentication option. When you see the Duo login screen on your computer, click **Enter a Passcode** and then click the **Text me new codes** button that appears. This will text you ten passcodes good for 365 days that can each be used once.
- Download the Duo Mobile application to all of your registered devices for the ability to generate one-time codes in the event that you lose cell, data, or Wi-Fi service

If none of these options will meet the needs of your situation, you can contact the IT Service Desk at 614-688-4357(HELP) and IT support staff will work out a solution with you.

Honorlock

You will need to install Honorlock. Information about downloading and installing Honorlock to your device can be found here. To ensure that you are able to connect to Honorlock, it is important to confirm you have access to and are using the following elements:

- A computer (Windows/Mac computer or laptop). You cannot take the exams from mobile devices (iPhone, iPad, Android device, etc).
- Webcam (internal or external)
- Microphone (internal or external)
- A strong internet connection
- BuckID — If your instructor requires the identity verification step for your exam, we recommend you use your BuckID **not** your driver's license or other photo ID.
- Google Chrome
- Honorlock extension
- If none of these options will meet the needs of your situation, you can contact the IT Service Desk at 614-688-4357(HELP) and IT support staff will work out a solution with you.

Grading and instructor response

How your grade is calculated

Assignment Category	Points and/or Percentage
Online Discussions (13 total, 3 optional = 10)	10 @ 5 points each = 50 points
Quizzes (6 total, 1 dropped = 5)	5 @ 5 points each = 25 points
Written Assignments (6 total, 1 dropped = 5)	5 @ 5 points each = 25 points
Midterm Exam	50 points
Final Exam	50 points
Total	**200 points**

Description of major course assignments

Online Discussions

- **Description**

This course assumes an interactive approach in its structure and in its presentation, which requires engaged participation from all members of the class. You are required to participate in 10 online discussions throughout the semester of the assigned readings and

lecture materials by posting to the discussion board. This includes soliciting questions and comments from peers and professors, engaging in meaningful conversation, and actively engaging with your classmates' posts. Each student is required to make one substantive (200-300 words) post responding to the week's prompt, and to actively engage with the other students' posts including the following for all of the assigned readings:

1. At least one *thoughtful* comment about what you learned from the stories and discussions.

2. At least one *engaging* question you still have about the stories and themes discussed.

3. At least one *substantial* response to one of your fellow students' comments/questions.

To receive credit, you must post each week no later than Sunday by 11:59pm to the discussion board on Carmen. The rubric for how your discussions will be graded is included with the assignments in Carmen.

- **Academic integrity and collaboration guidelines**

Students are expected to prepare the content of their posts on their own. The use of AI, or AI-generated images, including modifications to them as a person, is not permitted on this assignment. If a student is suspected of using AI, or AI-generated images, to complete their posts, they may be charged with academic misconduct.

Quizzes

- **Description**

There will be six (6) quizzes throughout the semester, approximately every other week on Fridays. These quizzes are designed to encourage continuous review of the material and will

test your grasp of the readings, concepts, terms, and historical contexts that we have covered. They will feature a variety of question types, including multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, matching, and short answer. You are only allowed one (1) attempt. It is your responsibility to ensure your internet connection is stable and your device is fully charged to prevent disruptions during the quizzes. **Your lowest quiz grade will be dropped.**

- **Academic integrity and collaboration guidelines**

Quizzes will be taken on Carmen, and you are only allowed one (1) attempt. Once a quiz has been started, students cannot pause and restart it at a later time. **It is your responsibility to ensure your internet connection is stable and your device is fully charged to prevent disruptions during the tests**. Each student is expected to complete the quizzes on their own. No collaboration with other students is permitted. Quizzes are also closed book and closed notes. Use of outside resources to complete the tests is strictly prohibited. If a student is suspected of consulting other students or outside resources, they may be charged with academic misconduct. To ensure academic integrity, this course uses Honorlock, students are expected to accept the terms and conditions prior to beginning the quizzes.

Writing Assignments

- **Description**

You will complete six (6) written assignments (400-500 words each) approximately every other week. These assignments will follow a variety of formats designed to improve your observational, descriptive, and analytical skills. Several will take the form of short essays on the cultural backgrounds and material culture remains associated with the historical periods we have examined. The rubric for how your assignments will be graded is included with the assignment instructions in Carmen. **Your lowest assignment grade will be dropped.**

- **Academic integrity and collaboration guidelines**

All student assignments will be submitted through Turnitin, an online plagiarism checker which compares each student writing with others submitted for the course, and for other courses at Ohio State and other universities and educational institutions nationwide. Student written work, including papers, short writings, projects, and exams are to be researched and written by each individual student and should not be completed as group work unless otherwise indicated. Use of AI, unless authorized by the Professor, is strictly prohibited and constitutes plagiarism. If a student is suspected of using AI or other students to complete the written assignments, they may be charged with academic misconduct.

To receive credit, you must submit each writing assignment no later than Sunday by 11:59pm on Carmen.

Midterm Exam

- **Description**
- There will be a midterm exam held during Week 8. This exam will assesses your proficiency with the material covered during the first half of the semester on ancient Mesopotamia. The format is closed book and closed notes and will consist of several types of questions including multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, true/false, matching, image identification, and short answer questions. As with the quizzes, you are only allowed one (1) attempt. **It is your responsibility to ensure your internet connection is stable and your device is fully charged to prevent disruptions during the final exam**.
- **Academic integrity and collaboration guidelines**

The Midterm Exam will be taken on Carmen, and you are only allowed one (1) attempt. The exam will be available for a 24-hour

window and must be completed within 75 minutes. Once the exam has been started, students cannot pause and restart it at a later time. **It is your responsibility to ensure your internet connection is stable and your device is fully charged to prevent disruptions during the exam**. Each student is expected to complete the exam on their own. No collaboration with other students is permitted. The Midterm Exam is also closed book and closed notes. Use of outside resources to complete the exam is strictly prohibited. If a student is suspected of consulting other students or outside resources, they may be charged with academic misconduct. To ensure academic integrity, this course uses Honorlock, students are expected to accept the terms and conditions prior to beginning the exam.

Final Exam

- **Description**
- There will be a final exam (non-cumulative) held during the university-appointed finals week. This exam will assesses your proficiency with the material covered during the second half of the semester on ancient Egypt. The format is closed book and closed notes and will consist of several types of questions including multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, true/false, matching, image identification, and short answer questions. As with the quizzes, you are only allowed one (1) attempt. **It is your responsibility to ensure your internet connection is stable and your device is fully charged to prevent disruptions during the final exam**.
- **Academic integrity and collaboration guidelines**

The Final Exam will be taken on Carmen, and you are only allowed one (1) attempt. The exam will be available for a 24-hour window and must be completed within 75 minutes. Once the exam has been started, students cannot pause and restart it at a later

time. **It is your responsibility to ensure your internet connection is stable and your device is fully charged to prevent disruptions during the exam**. Each student is expected to complete the exam on their own. No collaboration with other students is permitted. The Final Exam is also closed book and closed notes. Use of outside resources to complete the exam is strictly prohibited. If a student is suspected of consulting other students or outside resources, they may be charged with academic misconduct. To ensure academic integrity, this course uses Honorlock, students are expected to accept the terms and conditions prior to beginning the exam.

Late assignments

Late assignments will be accepted with a penalty of 10% per day late and will not be accepted after three (3) days following the deadline.

Grading Scale

- 93-100: A
- 90-92.9: A–
- 87-89.9: B+
- 83-86.9: B
- 80-82.9: B–
- 77-79.9: C+
- 73-76.9: C
- 70-72.9: C–
- 67-69.9: D+
- 60-66.9: D
- Under 59.9: E

Instructor feedback and response time

Students can expect to receive a grade and feedback on assignments within a week of the due date. If a student submits an assignment after the deadline, they can expect to receive a grade and feedback within a week of their submission date. If a student has any questions about a grade or the feedback they received, they may email the Professor directly (schellinger.1@osu.edu), and we will arrange a time to meet via Zoom and discuss their questions or concerns.

Grading and feedback

Students can expect to receive a grade and feedback on assignments within a week of the due date. If a student submits an assignment after the deadline, they can expect to receive a grade and feedback within a week of their submission date.

Preferred contact method

Students can expect to receive a response to a question or concern sent to the Instructor within 48 hours of receiving the message. Please note that messages sent over the weekend or during a University-scheduled break may take longer.

Academic policies

Note: the most recent versions of these syllabus statements are also available at:

https://ugeducation.osu.edu/academics/syllabus-policies-statements/standard-syllabus-statements

Academic integrity policy

See **Descriptions of major course assignments**, above, for my specific guidelines about collaboration and academic integrity in the context of this online class.

Academic integrity is essential to maintaining an environment that fosters excellence in teaching, research, and other educational and scholarly activities. Thus, The Ohio State University and the Committee on Academic Misconduct (COAM) expect that all students have read and understand the University's Code of Student Conduct, and that all students will complete all academic and scholarly assignments with fairness and honesty. Students must recognize that failure to follow the rules and guidelines established in the University's Code of Student Conduct and this syllabus may constitute Academic Misconduct.

The Ohio State University's Code of Student Conduct (Section 3335-23-04) defines academic misconduct as: Any activity that tends to compromise the academic integrity of the University or subvert the educational process. Examples of academic misconduct include (but are not limited to) plagiarism, collusion (unauthorized collaboration), copying the work of another student, and possession of unauthorized materials during an examination. Ignorance of the University's Code of Student Conduct is never considered an excuse for academic misconduct, so please review the Code of Student Conduct and, specifically, the sections dealing with academic misconduct.

If an instructor suspects that a student has committed academic misconduct in this course, the instructor is obligated by University Rules to report those suspicions to the Committee on Academic Misconduct. If COAM determines that a student violated the University's Code of Student Conduct (i.e., committed academic misconduct), the sanctions for the misconduct could include a failing grade in the course and suspension or dismissal from the University.

If students have questions about the above policy or what constitutes academic misconduct in this course, they should contact the instructor.

Religious accommodations

Ohio State has had a longstanding practice of making reasonable academic accommodations for students' religious beliefs and practices in accordance with applicable law. In 2023, Ohio State updated its practice to

align with new state legislation. Under this new provision, students must be in early communication with their instructors regarding any known accommodation requests for religious beliefs and practices, providing notice of specific dates for which they request alternative accommodations within 14 days after the first instructional day of the course. Instructors in turn shall not question the sincerity of a student's religious or spiritual belief system in reviewing such requests and shall keep requests for accommodations confidential.

With sufficient notice, instructors will provide students with reasonable alternative accommodations with regard to examinations and other academic requirements with respect to students' sincerely held religious beliefs and practices by allowing up to three absences each semester for the student to attend or participate in religious activities. Examples of religious accommodations can include, but are not limited to, rescheduling an exam, altering the time of a student's presentation, allowing make-up assignments to substitute for missed class work, or flexibility in due dates or research responsibilities. If concerns arise about a requested accommodation, instructors are to consult their tenure initiating unit head for assistance.

A student's request for time off shall be provided if the student's sincerely held religious belief or practice severely affects the student's ability to take an exam or meet an academic requirement and the student has notified their instructor, in writing during the first 14 days after the course begins, of the date of each absence. Although students are required to provide notice within the first 14 days after a course begins, instructors are strongly encouraged to work with the student to provide a reasonable accommodation if a request is made outside the notice period. A student may not be penalized for an absence approved under this policy.

If students have questions or disputes related to academic accommodations, they should contact their course instructor, and then their department or college office. For questions or to report discrimination or harassment based on religion, individuals should contact the Office of Civil Rights Compliance: https://civilrights.osu.edu/

Policy: Religious Holidays, Holy Days and Observances

Accessibility accommodations for students with disabilities

Requesting accommodations

The university strives to maintain a healthy and accessible environment to support student learning in and out of the classroom. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic, or temporary medical conditions), please let me know immediately so that we can privately discuss options. To establish reasonable accommodations, I may request that you register with Student Life Disability Services. After registration, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion.

If you are ill and need to miss class, including if you are staying home and away from others while experiencing symptoms of a viral infection or fever, please let me know immediately. In cases where illness interacts with an underlying medical condition, please consult with Student Life Disability Services to request reasonable accommodations. You can connect with them at slds@osu.edu; 614-292-3307; or slds.osu.edu.

Intellectual diversity

Ohio State is committed to fostering a culture of open inquiry and intellectual diversity within the classroom. This course will cover a range of information and may include discussions or debates about controversial issues, beliefs, or policies. Any such discussions and debates are intended to support understanding of the approved curriculum and relevant course objectives rather than promote any specific point of view. Students will be assessed on principles applicable to the field of study and the content covered in the course. Preparing students for citizenship includes helping them develop critical thinking skills that will allow them to reach their own conclusions regarding complex or controversial matters.

Creating an environment free from harassment, discrimination, and sexual misconduct

The Ohio State University is committed to building and maintaining a community to reflect diversity and to improve opportunities for all. All Buckeyes have the right to be free from harassment, discrimination, and sexual misconduct. Ohio State does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, pregnancy (childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or recovery therefrom), race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or protected veteran status, or any other bases under the law, in its activities, academic programs, admission, and employment. Members of the university community also have the right to be free from all forms of sexual misconduct: sexual harassment, sexual assault, relationship violence, stalking, and sexual exploitation.

To report harassment, discrimination, sexual misconduct, or retaliation and/or seek confidential and non-confidential resources and supportive measures, contact the Civil Rights Compliance Office:

Online reporting form at http://civilrights.osu.edu/,

Call 614-247-5838 or TTY 614-688-8605,

Or Email civilrights@osu.edu

The university is committed to stopping sexual misconduct, preventing its recurrence, eliminating any hostile environment, and remedying its discriminatory effects. All university employees have reporting responsibilities to the Civil Rights Compliance Office to ensure the university can take appropriate action:

All university employees, except those exempted by legal privilege of confidentiality or expressly identified as a confidential reporter, have an obligation to report incidents of sexual assault immediately.

The following employees have an obligation to report all other forms of sexual misconduct as soon as practicable but at most within five workdays of becoming aware of such information: 1. Any human resource professional (HRP); 2. Anyone who supervises faculty, staff, students, or volunteers; 3. Chair/director; and 4. Faculty member.

Copyright for instructional materials

The materials used in connection with this course may be subject to copyright protection and are only for the use of students officially enrolled in the course for the educational purposes associated with the course. Copyright law must be considered before copying, retaining, or disseminating materials outside of the course.

Statement on Artificial Intelligence and Academic Integrity

There has been a significant increase in the popularity and availability of a variety of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools, including ChatGPT, Sudowrite and others. These tools will help shape the future of work, research and technology but when used in the wrong way, they can stand in conflict with academic integrity at Ohio State.

All students have important obligations under the Code of Student Conduct to complete all academic and scholarly activities with fairness and honesty. Our professional students also have the responsibility to uphold the professional and ethical standards found in their respective academic honor codes. Specifically, students are not to use unauthorized assistance in the laboratory, on field work, in scholarship or on a course assignment unless such assistance has been authorized specifically by the course instructor. In addition, students are not to submit their work without acknowledging any word-for-word use and/or paraphrasing of writing, ideas or other work that is not your own. These requirements apply to all students undergraduate, graduate, and professional.

To maintain a culture of integrity and respect, these generative AI tools should not be used in the completion of course assignments unless an

instructor for a given course specifically authorizes their use. Some instructors may approve of using generative AI tools in the academic setting for specific goals. However, these tools should be used only with the explicit and clear permission of each individual instructor, and then only in the ways allowed by the instructor.

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To maintain a culture of integrity and respect, these generative AI tools should not be used in the completion of course assignments unless an instructor for a given course specifically authorizes their use. Some instructors may approve of using generative AI tools in the academic setting for specific goals. However, these tools should be used only with the explicit and clear permission of each individual instructor, and then only in the ways allowed by the instructor.

Your mental health

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation.

These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance or reduce a student's ability to participate in daily activities. The Ohio State University offers services to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. If you or someone you know are suffering from any of the aforementioned conditions, you can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus via the Office of Student Life's Counseling and Consultation Service (CCS) by visiting ccs.osu.edu or calling 614-292-5766. CCS is located on the 4th Floor of the Younkin Success Center and 10th Floor of Lincoln Tower. You can reach an on-call counselor when CCS is closed at 614-292-5766 and 24 hour emergency help is also available 24/7 by dialing 988 to reach the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

Course Schedule

Refer to our Carmen course page for up-to-date assignment due dates.

Week	Date	Topics/Readings/Assignments	Assessments Due
1		**Topics: Syllabus and Introduction; Lands of Mesopotamia and Egypt** Read: Stiebing and Helft, Introduction.	Listen to syllabus audio lecture on Carmen Online discussion "Introduce Yourself" and Reply due on Carmen [does not count as one of the required 10 discussions]

Week	Date	Topics/Readings/Assignments	Assessments Due
2		**Topic: Origins of Civilizations** 2.1: Neolithic Mesopotamia 2.2: Predynastic Egypt Read: Stiebing and Helft, Chapter 1.	Online discussion #1
3		**Topic: Mesopotamian City-States** 3.1: Sumerians: Uruk 3.2: Sumerians: Ur Read: Stiebing and Helft, Chapter 2.	Online discussion #2 Quiz #1
4		**Topic: Rise of Empire in Mesopotamia** 4.1: Akkadian Period: Sargon the Great 4.2: Akkadian Period: Naram-Sin Read: Stiebing and Helft, Chapter 3, pg. 69-79; Foster, "The Land and People of Akkad," pg. 30-49.	Online discussion #3 Written Assignment #1

Week	Date	Topics/Readings/Assignments	Assessments Due
5		**Topic: Religion and Law in Mesopotamia** 5.1 Third Dynasty of Ur: Rise of the Ziggurat 5.2 Old Babylonian Period: Hammurabi Read: Stiebing and Helft, Chapter 3, pg. 79-86 and Chapter 6, pg. 148-166.	Online discussion #4 Quiz #2
6		**Topic: The Expanse of Mesopotamian Empire** 6.1 Early Neo-Assyrian Period 6.2 Late Neo-Assyrian Period Read: Stiebing and Helft, Chapter 11, pg. 324-345; Parker, “The Assyrians Abroad,” pg. 867-876.	Online discussion #5 Written Assignment #2

Week	Date	Topics/Readings/Assignments	Assessments Due
7		**Topic: Mesopotamian Empire (continued)** 7.1 Neo-Babylonian Period: Babylon 7.2 Marduk and the *Enuma Elish* ("Epic of Creation") Read: Stiebing and Helft, Chapter 11, pg. 345-359; Baker, "The Neo-Babylonian Empire," pg. 914-930.	Online discussion #6 Quiz #3
8		**Topic: Midterm Exam**	Midterm Exam
9		**Topic: Egypt Before the Pyramids** 9.1 Unification of Ancient Egypt under Narmer 9.2 Early Dynastic Egypt Read: Stiebing and Helft, Chapter 5, pg. 110-127; Wilkinson, "The Early Dynastic Period," pg. 48-62.	Online discussion #7 Written Assignment #3

Week	Date	Topics/Readings/Assignments	Assessments Due
10		**Topic: Egypt During the Old Kingdom** 10.1 Early Pyramid Construction: Dynasty 3 10.2 Later Pyramid Construction: Dynasty 4 Read: Stiebing and Helft, Chapter 5, pg. 127-147; Lehner, "Who Built the Pyramids?", pg. 1-13.	Online discussion #8 Quiz #4
11		**Topic: Egypt During the Middle Kingdom** 11.1 Re-establishing the Empire: Dynasty 11 11.2 Defending Borders: Middle Kingdom Forts Read: Stiebing and Helft, Chapter 7.	Online discussion #9 Written Assignment #4
12		**Topic: Egypt During the New Kingdom: Dynasty 18** 12.1 New Kingdom Female Rule: Hatshepsut	Online discussion #10 Quiz #5

Week	Date	Topics/Readings/Assignments	Assessments Due
		12.2 Akhenaten and the Religious Revolution Read: Stiebing and Helft, Chapter 8.	
13		**Topic: Egypt During the New Kingdom: Dynasties 19 and 20** 13.1 Ramesses II and the Battle of Qadesh 13.2 Ramesses III and the Sea Peoples Read: Stiebing and Helft, Chapter 9.	Online discussion #11 Written Assignment #5
14		**Topic: Egypt After the New Kingdom** 14.1 Third Intermediate Period 14.2 Late Period Read: Stiebing and Helft, Chapter 10.	Online discussion #12 Quiz #6

Week	Date	Topics/Readings/Assignments	Assessments Due
15		**Topic: Mesopotamia and Egypt Under One Rule** 15.1 Achaemenid Persian Period 15.2 Alexander the Great and His Legacies Read: Stiebing and Helft, Chapter 12.	Online discussion #13 Written Assignment #6
Finals		**Topic: Final Exam**	Final Exam