3375 - Status: PENDING

Last Updated: Vankeerbergen, Bernadette Chantal 04/05/2023

Term Information

Effective Term Spring 2024 **Previous Value** Spring 2018

Course Change Information

What change is being proposed? (If more than one, what changes are being proposed?)

Faculty would like add the TCT theme to this class. Also updating the prereq for the new GE.

What is the rationale for the proposed change(s)?

This class is a good fit for the TCT theme

What are the programmatic implications of the proposed change(s)?

(e.g. program requirements to be added or removed, changes to be made in available resources, effect on other programs that use the course)?

Is approval of the requrest contingent upon the approval of other course or curricular program request? No

Is this a request to withdraw the course? No

General Information

Course Bulletin Listing/Subject Area History

History - D0557 Fiscal Unit/Academic Org College/Academic Group Arts and Sciences Level/Career Undergraduate

Course Number/Catalog 3375

Course Title Mongol World Empire: Central Eurasia, 1000-1500

Transcript Abbreviation Mongol Empire

Course Description This course will address the social, cultural, and political history of medieval Central Eurasia, focusing on

the Mongol Empire and its legacy.

This course will address the social, cultural, and political history of medieval Central Eurasia, focusing on **Previous Value**

the Mongol Empire and its legacy. Sometimes this course is offered in a distance-only format.

Semester Credit Hours/Units Fixed: 3

Offering Information

Length Of Course 14 Week, 12 Week, 8 Week, 7 Week, 6 Week, 4 Week

Flexibly Scheduled Course Never Does any section of this course have a distance No

education component?

Grading Basis Letter Grade

Repeatable No **Course Components** Lecture **Grade Roster Component** Lecture Credit Available by Exam No **Admission Condition Course** No Off Campus Never

Campus of Offering Columbus, Lima, Mansfield, Marion, Newark, Wooster

Previous Value Columbus, Lima, Mansfield, Marion, Newark 3375 - Status: PENDING

Last Updated: Vankeerbergen, Bernadette Chantal 04/05/2023

Prerequisites and Exclusions

Prerequisites/Corequisites Prereq or concur: English 1110.xx, or completion of GE Foundation Writing and Information Literacy

Course, or permission of instructor.

Previous Value Prereg or concur: English 1110.xx, or permission of instructor.

Exclusions

Previous Value Not open to students with credit for 544.

Electronically Enforced Yes

Cross-Listings

Cross-Listings

Subject/CIP Code

Subject/CIP Code 54.0106

Subsidy Level Baccalaureate Course
Intended Rank Sophomore, Junior, Senior

Requirement/Elective Designation

Required for this unit's degrees, majors, and/or minors

General Education course:

Historical Study; Global Studies (International Issues successors); Traditions, Cultures, and Transformations

The course is an elective (for this or other units) or is a service course for other units

Previous Value

Required for this unit's degrees, majors, and/or minors

General Education course:

Historical Study; Global Studies (International Issues successors)

The course is an elective (for this or other units) or is a service course for other units

Course Details

Course goals or learning objectives/outcomes

- Students will be introduced to the social, cultural and political history of medieval Central Eurasia.
- Students will develop critical thinking skills while engaging with primary sources.

Content Topic List

- Pastoral Nomadism
- Genghis Khan
- Qublai Khan
- Marco Polo
- Yuan China
- Golden Horde
- Chaghatai Khanate
- II-Khanate
- Bubonic Plague

COURSE CHANGE REQUEST

3375 - Status: PENDING

Last Updated: Vankeerbergen,Bernadette Chantal 04/05/2023

Sought Concurrence

No

Attachments

• History 3375 GE Form TCT 1.18.2023 REVISED.docx: GE Form (revised)

(Other Supporting Documentation. Owner: Getson, Jennifer L.)

• Syllabus, Mongols, History 3375 REVISED.doc: Syllabus (revised)

(Syllabus. Owner: Getson, Jennifer L.)

Comments

- Uploaded Revised syllabus and GE form in response to committee feedback. (by Getson, Jennifer L. on 03/08/2023 10:19 AM)
- Please see feedback email sent to the department 02-24-2023 RLS (by Steele,Rachel Lea on 02/24/2023 12:48 PM)

Workflow Information

Status	User(s)	Date/Time	Step
Submitted	Getson,Jennifer L.	01/24/2023 03:31 PM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Soland,Birgitte	01/24/2023 07:44 PM	Unit Approval
Approved	Vankeerbergen,Bernadet te Chantal	02/05/2023 09:54 PM	College Approval
Revision Requested	Steele,Rachel Lea	02/24/2023 12:48 PM	ASCCAO Approval
Submitted	Getson,Jennifer L.	03/08/2023 10:19 AM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Soland,Birgitte	03/08/2023 10:37 AM	Unit Approval
Approved	Vankeerbergen,Bernadet te Chantal	04/05/2023 01:52 PM	College Approval
Pending Approval	Jenkins,Mary Ellen Bigler Hanlin,Deborah Kay Hilty,Michael Vankeerbergen,Bernadet te Chantal Steele,Rachel Lea	04/05/2023 01:52 PM	ASCCAO Approval

THE MONGOL WORLD EMPIRE

CENTRAL EURASIA, 1000–1500

SEMESTER	Instructor	OFFICE HOURS
History 3375	Professor Scott Levi	Days and Time
Days and Time	<u>levi.18@osu.edu</u>	Location
Location	_	Phone Number

IMPORTANT DATES

First Day of Classes	Date	Paper Bibliography Due	Date
Map Quiz	Date	Paper Due	Date
Mid-Term Exam	Date	Last Day of Classes	Date
Spring/Autumn Break	Date	Final Exam	Date

COURSE DESCRIPTION

At the beginning of the thirteenth century, a small and obscure nomadic people emerged from their isolated homeland in the steppe north of China and forged the largest contiguous empire in the history of the world. The architect of this empire was the young Mongol warrior Temuchin, who rose from a youth full of challenges and disappointments to unite the disparate and warring Turco-Mongol tribes. In the year 1206, Temuchin was elevated to the position of Chinggis Khan ("Oceanic Ruler") and he announced the "Mandate from Heaven" — the Mongols were destined to conquer the world, and Chinggis Khan and his heirs were destined to rule it. A strategic genius, Chinggis Khan expertly exploited his enemies' weaknesses and used his nomadic troops' superior speed, mobility, and military skills to great advantage. Sedentary peoples were offered the options of total submission or total annihilation, and one by one the great cities of Eurasia toppled. Within just a few decades, Mongol rule extended over the peoples of China, Eastern Europe and the Islamic Middle East.

While the Mongol Empire is long gone, the traditions and culture of the Mongol peoples utterly transformed the medieval world, thus creating a profound and undeniable impact on the trajectory of world history. The destruction of the Mongol conquests was overwhelming, but that relatively short period of trauma was followed by a lengthy recovery under the Pax-Mongolica: the Mongol Peace. For several decades, Eurasia witnessed an unprecedented rise in the movement of people and a corresponding rise in the transcontinental exchange of commodities, scientific knowledge, religious and cultural traditions, and even disease pathogens. In the fifteenth century, as Europe emerged from the Black Death into the Renaissance, the Europeans' new-found appreciation for the intoxicating spices, silks, and other riches of the East developed into an unquenchable thirst, and efforts to obtain these exotic luxuries led to the voyages of Columbus and Vasco da Gama, and the Age of Discovery.

This course introduces students to the social, cultural, and political traditions of medieval Central Eurasia, paying special attention to the multi-faceted, occasionally turbulent, but never dull interactions of pastoral-nomadic and sedentary peoples. The course will help students to develop their critical thinking skills as they engage a wide variety of primary sources that offer valuable insights into the ways that the Mongol Empire transformed the medieval world and how its legacy continues to shape our world today.

General Education (GE)

This course fulfills the Legacy GE category of **Historical Studies** and **Diversity: Global Studies** OR the new GE Theme: **Traditions, Cultures, and Transformations.**

Legacy GE: Historical Studies

Goal:

Students recognize how past events are studied and how they influence today's society and the human condition.

Expected Learning Outcomes (ELOs):

- 1. Students construct an integrated perspective on history and the factors that shape human activity.
- 2. Students describe and analyze the origins and nature of contemporary issues.
- 3. Students speak and write critically about primary and secondary historical sources by examining diverse interpretations of past events and ideas in their historical contexts.

This course will fulfill the Legacy GE: Historical Studies in the following ways:

Students will read closely a range of primary sources to discover how the rise of the Mongol Empire impacted cross-cultural and transregional mobility across Eurasia, and how it shaped medieval Eurasian history (ELO 1). Students will examine the origins of several issues that are of contemporary relevance, including the medieval globalization of knowledge and its legacy in China, the Middle East, and Europe; the role that the Mongols played in the spread of the Bubonic Plague during the 14th century and its impact on how societies experience and respond to global pandemics; and the ways that the Mongol conquests continue to shape Chinese political thought today (ELO 2). Students will produce an original research paper that critically examines primary and secondary sources and evaluates their interpretations (ELO 3).

Legacy GE: Diversity: Global Studies

Goal:

Students understand the pluralistic nature of institutions, society, and culture in the United States and across the world in order to become educated, productive, and principled citizens.

Expected Learning Outcomes (ELOs):

- 1. Students understand some of the political, economic, cultural, physical, social, and philosophical aspects of one or more of the world's nations, peoples and cultures outside the U.S.
- 2. Students recognize the role of national and international diversity in shaping their own attitudes and values as global citizens.

This course will fulfill the Legacy GE: Diversity: Global Studies in the following ways:

As a history of the Mongol Empire – the largest contiguous empire in the history of the world – this course exposes students to the political, economic, and cultural exchanges of multiple Eurasian peoples and cultures. Students will be immersed in studies of Chinese, Indian, Central Asian and Middle Eastern societies and exchanges in terms of populations, regions, languages, cultures, technologies, scientific knowledge, and much more.

A key objective of this course is for students to learn how today's nation states are constructs that took shape over time, and that they are products of historical processes of cross-cultural, transregional interactions. In terms of the course material, students will examine diversity in the shaping of contemporary national identities in Russia, China, India, Central Asia and the Middle Eastern countries.

GE Theme: Traditions, Cultures, and Transformations Goals:

- 1. Successful students will analyze an important topic or idea at a more advanced and indepth level than in the Foundations component. [Note: In this context, "advanced" refers to courses that are e.g., synthetic, rely on research or cutting-edge findings, or deeply engage with the subject matter, among other possibilities.]
- 2. Successful students will integrate approaches to the theme by making connections to out-of-classroom experiences with academic knowledge or across disciplines and/or to work they have done in previous classes and that they anticipate doing in future.
- 3. Successful students will engage in a systematic assessment of how cultures and subcultures develop and interact, historically or in contemporary society.
- 4. Successful students will engage in a systematic assessment of differences among societies, institutions, and individuals' experience within traditions and cultures.

Expected Learning Outcomes:

Successful students are able to:

- 1.1. Engage in critical and logical thinking about the topic or idea of the theme.
- 1.2. Engage in an advance, in-depth, scholarly exploration of the topic or idea of the theme.
- 2.1. Identify, describe, and synthesize approaches or experiences as they apply to the theme.
- 2.2. Demonstrate a developing sense of self as a learner through reflection, self-assessment, and creative work, building on prior experiences to respond to new and challenging contexts.
- 3.1. Describe the influence of an aspect of culture (e.g., religious belief, gender roles, institutional organization, technology, epistemology, philosophy, scientific discovery, etc.) on at least one historical or contemporary issue.
- 3.2. Analyze the impact of a "big" idea or technological advancement in creating a major and long-lasting change in a specific culture.
- 3.3. Examine the interactions among dominant and sub-cultures.
- 3.4. Explore changes and continuities over time within a culture or society.
- 4.1. Recognize and explain differences, similarities, and disparities among institutions, organizations, cultures, societies, and/or individuals.
- 4.2. Explain ways in which categories such as race, ethnicity, and gender and perceptions of difference impact individual outcomes and broader societal issues.

This course will fulfill the current GE Theme: Traditions, Cultures, and Transformations in the following ways:

ELO 1.1. The class develops student's critical and logical thinking in a number of ways. Students read primary sources and analyze them for bias and reliability in class-based discussions. Students complete a substantial research project that requires them to conduct original research and incorporate a critical analysis of at least one primary source. The paper requires students to use both primary and secondary sources and to critically analyze those sources as they explore in a deep and meaningful way how the Mongol Empire influenced

various Eurasian societies and shaped broader historical developments. Students are also required to complete two tests to demonstrate their comprehension of required readings and other course materials.

- ELO 1.2. Students learn to think critically about the origins of the pastoral-nomadic way of life, the complicated and symbiotic relationships of pastoral nomads with sedentary agricultural societies, and the defining features of pastoral-nomadic states and their similarities with and differences to sedentary states and empires. Throughout the semester, students learn to read and interpret a range of different primary sources (in English translation), including travel accounts, ambassadorial reports, diplomatic exchanges, official histories, religious literature, court registers, and more. Students subject those records to in-depth scholarly analysis, and they learn how to understand the sources in the historical context of their authorship and apply critical thinking to evaluate them for bias and reliability.
- ELO 2.1. Students explore different approaches to the material through the interdisciplinary study of the medieval Mongols and the empire that they established. Students will study various types of historical literature as well as art, architecture, archeological evidence, and the history of science and technology. Students will examine how specialists have interpreted these sources in their efforts to explain the history of the Mongol Empire and its historical legacy, and they will examine how more recent research has led scholars to challenge some interpretations in favor of others.
- ELO 2.2. The research paper encourages students to reflect on what they studied in class and to integrate what they have learned with new material that they find in their own independent research. Students are provided with a list of recommended topics to pursue, but they are also permitted to move beyond that list and choose a topic that they find particularly appealing or that may align with interests that they have developed in other courses. The class discussions model self-critical reflection on how we read and analyze sources and how we adjudicate among competing interpretations.
- ELO 3.1. Students will complete required readings that examine the ways that environmental factors shaped the cultural lives of pastoral nomadic communities. Students will learn how nomadic societies differed from sedentary societies in the areas of economic structures and institutions, religious beliefs, gender roles, science and technology. Students will learn how nomadic states were able to deploy these differences to their advantage in creating and maintaining an imperial power. These readings will be addressed and complemented with lectures and discussions, and reinforced in examinations. The same principles will be explored in the students' research papers.
- ELO 3.2. Course materials cover technological advancements and the transmission of technologies, including, for example, the invention and transmission of gunpowder in China, metal casting techniques in the Middle East, and the development of mobile gunpowder weapons all over, but especially in Europe, as a product of the Mongol Empire. New military technologies revolutionized military effectiveness, propelling the creation of new technologies, both defensive and offensive, and reshaping politics and diplomacy across the world.
- ELO 3.3. Course materials first examine the early pastoral-nomadic Mongol peoples as a peripheral East Asian sub-culture to the north of the dominant Chinese culture. The materials then examine the transformation of the Mongols to a dominant force that establishes a new status as rulers of China, Russia, Central Asia, and the Islamic Middle East.

ELO 3.4. By extending the temporal parameters of the course back to 1000 and forward to 1500, students will explore the changes and continuities that pastoral nomadic communities experienced over five centuries. Changes include the introduction of new political ideologies, the introduction of new religious traditions, the rise to a position of dominance across much of Eurasia, new technologies, and cataclysmic effects of the Bubonic Plague. Continuities include a striking level of equity in gender roles, an established set of cultural values, and a willingness to embrace innovations when it provides an advantage to do so.

ELO 4.1. Course materials examine, compare, and contrast institutions, organizations, cultural traditions, and societies in medieval eastern Europe, China, Central Asia, and the Islamic Middle East. Students examine disparities in Mongolian interactions with peoples in these societies, and they examine the impact that the Mongol conquests and Mongol rule in the aftermath of the conquests had on the various peoples of these societies.

ELO 4.2. Course provides a particularly valuable venue for students to explore the ways that categories such as race, ethnicity, and gender, as well as bondage and servitude, are experienced differently in different societies. Pastoral nomadic societies are typified by a considerably greater degree of equity between the genders, for example. Course materials examine cases of women rulers of the Mongol Empire who were as successful as men, for example. The Mongol Empire was an extraordinarily vast multi-ethnic realm that recognized the validity of many different religious traditions (Ogedei Khan famously declared that "the religions of my people are like the five fingers on my hand"). Still, the Mongols used difference to their advantage by assigning educated elite to positions of authority over populations of different ethnic or religious identities.

REQUIRED COURSE TEXTS (ADDITIONAL REQUIRED READINGS ON CARMEN)

Ruth W. Dunnel, Chinggis Khan: World Conqueror (Boston, 2010).

Christopher Dawson, The Mission to Asia (Toronto, 1980).

Timothy May, The Mongol Conquests in World History (London, 2012).

Morris Rossabi, *The Mongols and Global History* (New York, 2011).

Marco Polo, Travels of Marco Polo, tr. by Ronald Latham (London, 1958).

COURSE WEBSITE/CARMEN

This course has a webpage on Carmen. Students should check the website regularly for readings, announcements, course resources, and other information.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Map Quiz: 10% Mid-Term 30% Term Paper 30% Final 30%

GRADING SCALE

O I II I	II (G S CILLE				
A	92.5-100	В-	80–82	D+	67.5–69.5
A-	90–92	C+	77.5–79.5	D	60–67
B+	87.5-89.5	\mathbf{C}	72.5–77	E	59.5 and below
R	82 5_87	C-	70–72		

Note: the instructor reserves the right to consider improvement in determining final grades.

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MAP QUIZ

In the first week of the semester, I will provide you with a list of geographical terms and a blank map. You will be required to locate ten of these terms on an identical blank map in class.

EXAMINATIONS

Examinations will consist of a combination of multiple choice, short identifications and essay questions that you will be required to answer in class. Essay questions will be graded based upon how well your answer communicates in writing what you have learned. If you have to miss an exam because of illness or a verifiable emergency, you must contact me before the exam. Make-up exams will be given only in cases of serious illness or other documented emergency, and will consist entirely of essay questions. To make-up any exam, you will have to take it during one of the regularly scheduled exam sessions offered by the Department of History. Sample exam questions include the following.

- 1) Describe the early emergence and rise to prominence of pastoral nomadic peoples in Central Eurasia and their interactions with neighboring sedentary societies.
- 2) Identify the major groups that played a role in the cultural exchanges across the Mongol Empire. Provide examples that demonstrate how these peoples contributed to the dissemination of a language, a religion, scientific knowledge, a technological innovation, or other cultural artifact.
- 3) What was the Mongols' impact on each of the Eurasian regions that they conquered as well as the ramifications of their medieval empire on larger developments across Eurasia, and the globe, in subsequent centuries?

TERM PAPER ASSIGNMENT

For this course you are required to submit a well-crafted research paper of approximately ten pages, due in class on the date specified in the syllabus below. The course focuses attention on Mongolian traditions and cultures, and the transformations that were brought about by the rise of the Mongol Empire and its spread across the Eurasian landmass.

For your paper, you are encouraged to select one of the topics provided below. Each of these provides an opportunity to engage deeply with the social, cultural, and political traditions of the Mongol Empire. Alternatively, you may propose a different topic, but your topic must engage Mongolian traditions, culture, and the transformation brought about by the Mongol Empire, and your topic must receive the instructor's approval. If you wish to proceed in this way, once you have determined a subject that interests you, you should consult the relevant recommended readings and compile a proposal and bibliography. Your proposal is due in class on the date specified on the syllabus below. Please note that papers must incorporate a critical analysis of at least one primary source. Additional instructions will be distributed in class.

Learning how to express one's ideas clearly is an important goal of any education. For this reason, paper grades will be based not only on content, but also on grammar and your correct use of formal writing style. Papers should be typed and double-spaced in 12-point font, and they should make proper use of footnotes or endnotes, a title page and a bibliography. Useful resources include: Mary Lynn Rampolla, *A Pocket Guide to Writing in History* (5th ed.) and the OSU Writing Center (http://cstw.osu.edu/writingCenter/). Please note that papers will drop one full grade for each class period that they are late.

SUGGESTED PAPER TOPICS

* For each topic, be sure to consider how the Mongolian cultures and traditions you are studying resulted in the transformations of cultures and regions touched by the Mongolian Empire. What was the lasting impact of these transformations? *

1) Religion and Empire

How did the Mongols use religion to establish and maintain their empire? Discuss the Mongols' own Shamanistic belief system, as well as the faiths of the conquered peoples, and how those religious traditions transformed during the Mongol era.

2) Gender and Society in Pastoral-Nomadic Central Eurasia

Characterize the gender relations and social structure of medieval Mongolia. How did this pastoral-nomadic society differ from its sedentary neighbors?

3) The Conquering Mongols

What is the "nomadic advantage" and how did the Mongols employ it as they carved out their Eurasian empire? What did the Mongols learn from predecessors, and how did they adapt to new challenges?

4) European Travelers and Mongol History

Refer to the memoires of Marco Polo and William of Rubruck. How reliable are their accounts of the Mongol Empire? What are their strengths and weaknesses? How can historians use travel accounts to achieve an improved understanding of Mongol history and its transformative impact on Eurasian history?

5) The Mongol Legacy

The Mongol Empire rapidly grew to become the largest empire in the history of the world, connecting Eurasian peoples and civilizations more tightly than ever before. It then fragmented into regional components that were eventually conquered themselves. How did the Mongol Empire transform Eurasian, or world history, and what is its legacy today?

CLASS PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE

Attendance and active participation in class discussion is required for this course. The lectures for this course augment the required readings, and exam questions will be taken from both. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to find out what you have missed and to collect lecture notes and information regarding any changes to the syllabus from other students. Chronic absences, more than two, may result in a penalty of one full letter grade.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term "academic misconduct" includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct http://studentlife.osu.edu/csc/.

Plagiarism is representing someone else's words or ideas as your own. It is a form of academic dishonesty and it is not tolerated. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to: handing in someone else's work as your own; taking credit for ideas that are not your own; including in your work phrases, sentences, paragraphs or any text from a book, article, or web site without marking the text as a quotation and citing the source; and paraphrasing text from a source (i.e., taking an idea from a source while not quoting it exactly) without citing the source. Any student found to have plagiarized on any assignment may receive a failing grade for the semester. Additionally, the instructor will notify the Committee on Academic Misconduct. See http://cstw.osu.edu/writingCenter/handouts/research_plagiarism.cfm for further discussion of plagiarism.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The University strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. In light of the current pandemic, students seeking to request COVID-related accommodations may do so through the university's request process, managed by Student Life Disability Services. 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. SLDS contact information: slds@osu.edu; 614-292-3307; slds.osu.edu; 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12th Avenue.

IMPORTANT REGISTRATION INFORMATION

All students must be officially enrolled in the course by the end of the second full week of the semester. No requests to add the course will be approved by the Chair of the Department after that time. Enrolling officially and on time is solely the responsibility of the student.

THE HISTORY MAJOR AND MINOR

Please note: If you are, have, or are planning to take two or more history courses at the 2000-level or above, and are currently neither a history major nor a history minor, you may earn a history minor with relatively little additional coursework. Only 12 credit hours (four 2000-and-above courses, at least two of which must be at the 3000 level or higher) are required for the history minor and six of these hours may overlap with general education requirements. Please see http://history.osu.edu/undergrad/minor for additional details see Raymond Irwin (irwin.8@osu.edu) with specific questions. Your major advisor will also be able to add the minor for you.

RESERVE CLAUSE

The professor reserves the right to make changes in the syllabus when necessary or beneficial to meet the objectives of the course, to compensate for missed classes or schedule changes, or for similar legitimate reasons. Students will be notified of any such changes to the syllabus in adequate time to adjust to those changes.

SYLLABUS

Part I

Tradition and Culture in the Steppe

The first half of the class explores the traditions and cultures of the Mongolian people, with a particular emphasis on the cultural lives of pastoral nomadic communities.

Part 1.1: Pastoral Nomadic Society and Cultural Traditions

- How did environmental factors shape the cultural lives of pastoral nomadic communities?
- How did nomadic societies differ from sedentary societies in the areas of economic structures and institutions, religious beliefs, gender roles, science and technology?

WEEK 1

• Introduction to the Course

Aug. 21, 23

• The Mongol Empire: Literary Traditions, Sources, and Foundations

Reading

May, 7–23

- "The Formation of the Mongol Empire," Rossabi, 1–23
- Map: Expansion of the Mongol Empire, 1219-1280
- Genealogical Charts of the Four Major Khanates

WEEK 2

• Pastoral-Nomadic Traditions and Culture

Aug. 28, 30

• Central Asian Religion and Culture in Antiquity

Reading:

Golden, "Nomads and Sedentary Societies," 1–37 (Carmen)

Primary Sources: Rossabi, 25–41

- Grigor of Akanc, History of the Nation of the Archers
- John of Plano Carpini, Mission to Asia
- Marignolli's Recollections of Eastern Travel
- Kirakos of Ganjak, On the Mongols

WEEK 3

• The Peoples and Geography of Medieval Central Eurasia

Sept. 4, 6

- Map Quiz: Wednesday, Sept. 4
- Video Presentation: "Mongol: The Rise of Genghis Khan" (pt. 1)

Reading:

May, ch. 1, 27–57

-"The Formation of the Mongol Empire"

Dawson, vii-xxxv

Part 1.2: Chinngis Khan and the Creation of Empire

- How would you describe the "Nomadic Advantage"?
- How could nomadic states deploy their differences to their advantage in creating and maintaining an imperial power?

WEEK 4

• Political Traditions: Temuchin and the Unification of the Tribes

Sept. 11, 13 • Video Presentation: "Mongol: The Rise of Genghis Khan" (pt. 2)

Reading: Dunnell, 1–37

- "Eurasian Nomads: Ecological, Geographical, and Historical Considerations"

- "Origins of Chinggis Khan: Mongolia in the Twelfth Century"

- "Education of a Hero, 1160s-1180s"

Primary Sources: Rossabi, 43–68

- Compendium of Chronicles / Rashid Al-Din

WEEK 5 Sept. 18, 20 • Creating Traditions: Chinggis Khan and the Mandate from Heaven

• Chinggis Khan's Final Years

Reading: May, ch. 5, 130–57

"New Forms of Warfare"

Dunnell, 38–72

- "Uniting the People, 1197-1205"

- "Organizing the Empire, 1205-1210"

- "Opening a Southern Front: The first China Campaigns, 1207-1218"

Primary Sources: Rossabi, 68–90

- The History of the World Conqueror / Juvaini

- The Travels of Ibn Battuta

- Compendium of Chronicles / Rashid Al-Din

WEEK 6 Sept. 25, 27 Governing the Mongol Empire
No Class: Friday, Sept. 27

Reading: May, ch. 6, 158–71

"The Mongol Administration"

Dunnell, 73-92

- "To Central Asia and Beyond: From Mongol Khan to World Conqueror, 1218-

1223"

- "Return to Mongolia: The Last Tangut Campaign and Chinggis Khan's Death,

1224-1227"

Primary Sources: Rossabi, 90-94

- The Travels of an Alchemist / Changchun

WEEK 7 Oct. 2, 4 • Ogedei's Qaghanate and the Mongol Invasion of Europe

Video Presentation

Reading: Primary Sources: Rossabi, 95–98, 123–28

- Chronicle of Novgorod

- Compendium of Chronicles / Rashid Al-Din Christian, "Mongol Empire," 409–27 (Carmen) WEEK 8 Oct. 9, 11 • Mid-Term Exam: Wednesday, Oct. 9

Part II

Eurasian Transformations

In the second part of the course, we will investigate the enormous transformations that occurred throughout Eurasia in the wake of the newly formed Mongol Empire. How did the rest of the world transform in response to the spread of Mongolian traditions, cultures, and technology?

Part 2.1 The Mongol Empire and the Transformation of Medieval Eurasia

- What technological advancements spread from the Mongol Empire to other parts of the world?
- What impact did these technological advancements have on other parts of the world, and particularly in Europe?

WEEK 9 Oct. 16, 18

- Great Qaghans and the Transformation of Mongol Imperial Culture
- World Conquerors

Reading:

May, ch. 7, 172–98

- "Religion and the Mongol Empire"

Primary Source: Dawson, 89–220 - "The Journey of William of Rubruck"

Primary Source: Rossabi, 121–22

- The Letter of the Great Khan Guyug to Pope Innocent IV

WEEK 10

- Yüan China: Qublai Khan and the Middle Kingdom
- Oct. 23, 25 The Evolving World of Marco Polo

Reading:

May, ch. 4, 109–29

- "Pax Mongolia and Trade"

Primary Source: Marco Polo, 74–112 (Carmen)

Primary Source: Rossabi, 128–64

- The Description of the World / Marco Polo
- Portrait of Khubilai Khan (visual source) / Anonymous
- Khubilai Khan on a Hunt (visual source) / Liu Guandao
- Yuanshi
- Koryo sa / Chong In-Ji
- Prince Jin-gim's Textbook of Tibetan Buddhism / Phags-Pa Lama
- Cathay and the Way Thither / Francesco Balducci Pegolotti
- The Description of the World / Marco Polo
- A Record of Cambodia / Zhou Daguan
- The Monks of Kublai Khan Emperor of China / E. A. Wallis Budge

Primary Source: Rossabi, "Khubilai Khan," 22–75 (Carmen)

WEEK 11

• Il-Khanate: Assassins and the Mongol Conquest of the Middle East

Oct. 30, Nov. 1

- Chaghatai Khanate: Mongols Transform Themselves
- Paper Proposal and Bibliography Due: Friday, Nov. 1

Reading:

May, ch. 2, 59–80

- "Dissolution of the Empire"

Primary Source: Rossabi, 98–115

- Grigor of Akanc, History of the Nation of the Archers
- The Description of the World / Marco PoloCompendium of Chronicles / Rashid Al-Din

WEEK 12 Golden Horde: Russia under the Mongol Yoke

Nov. 6, 8 Crusaders and Slave-Kings: Holy War in the Middle East

Reading: May,

May, ch. 9, 211–31

"Migrations and Demographic Trends"

Primary Sources: Rossabi, 115–20

- Baybars I of Egypt

Halperin, "Golden Horde," 33–60 (Carmen)

Part 2.2 The Lasting Impact of Mongolian Traditions and Cultures

- What changes have occurred in the pastoral nomadic communities we have discussed?
- What continuities have remained the same in nomadic traditions and cultures, despite the profound transformations that occurred?

WEEK 13

• Plague and Revolution: The End of the Pax Mongolica

Nov. 13, 15

• No Class: Friday, Nov. 15

Reading:

May, ch. 8, 199–210

- "The Mongols and the Plague"

Rossabi, 165-80

- The History of the World Conqueror / Juvaini
- Compendium of Chronicles / Rashid Al-Din

WEEK 14

• Tamerlane: The Last Great Nomadic Empire

Nov. 20, 22

• The Mongol Legacy

Reading:

May, ch. 3, 81–106; ch. 10, 232–56

- "The World of 1350: A Global World"
- "Cultural Exchanges"

Dunnell, 93-105

- "Legacies: The Mongol Empire, Eurasian History, and Modern Mongolia"

WEEK 15 • Video Presentation, Nov. 27

Nov. 27, 29 • Paper Due: Wednesday, Nov. 27

Reading: • No Class: Thanksgiving Break, Friday, Nov. 29

WEEK 16 • Final Exam Review Dec. 4

OFFICIALLY SCHEDULED FINAL EXAM Date and Time

GE Theme course submission worksheet: Traditions, Cultures, & Transformations

Overview

Courses in the GE Themes aim to provide students with opportunities to explore big picture ideas and problems within the specific practice and expertise of a discipline or department. Although many Theme courses serve within disciplinary majors or minors, by requesting inclusion in the General Education, programs are committing to the incorporation of the goals of the focal theme and the success and participation of students from outside of their program.

Each category of the GE has specific learning goals and Expected Learning Outcomes (ELOs) that connect to the big picture goals of the program. ELOs describe the knowledge or skills students should have by the end of the course. Courses in the GE Themes must meet the ELOs common for all GE Themes and those specific to the Theme, in addition to any ELOs the instructor has developed specific to that course. All courses in the GE must indicate that they are part of the GE and include the Goals and ELOs of their GE category on their syllabus.

The prompts in this form elicit information about how this course meets the expectations of the GE Themes. The form will be reviewed by a group of content experts (the Theme Advisory) and by a group of curriculum experts (the Theme Panel), with the latter having responsibility for the ELOs and Goals common to all themes (those things that make a course appropriate for the GE Themes) and the former having responsibility for the ELOs and Goals specific to the topic of **this** Theme.

Briefly describe how this course connects to or exemplifies the concept of this Theme (Traditions, Cultures, & Transformations)

In a sentence or two, explain how this class "fits' within the focal Theme. This will help reviewers understand the intended frame of reference for the course-specific activities described below.

(enter text here)

This course focuses attention on Mongolian traditions and cultures, and the transformations that were brought about by the rise of the Mongol Empire and its spread across the Eurasian landmass. It requires students to engage deeply with the social, cultural, and political traditions of medieval Eurasia, paying special attention to the multi-faceted, occasionally turbulent, but never dull interactions of pastoral-nomadic and sedentary peoples. The course helps students develop their critical thinking skills as they critically analyze a wide variety of primary sources that offer valuable insights into the ways that the Mongol Empire transformed the medieval world and how its legacy continues to shape our world today.

Below are the Goals and ELOs common to all Themes. In the accompanying table, for each ELO, describe the activities (discussions, readings, lectures, assignments) that provide opportunities for students to achieve those outcomes. The answer should be concise and use language accessible to colleagues outside of the submitting department or discipline. The specifics of the activities matter—listing "readings" without a reference to the topic of those readings will not allow the reviewers to understand how the ELO will be met. However, the panel evaluating the fit of the course to the Theme will review this form in conjunction with the syllabus, so if readings, lecture/discussion topics, or other specifics are provided on the syllabus, it is not necessary to reiterate them within this form. The ELOs are expected to vary in their "coverage" in terms of number of activities or emphasis within the course. Examples from successful courses are shared on the next page.

Goal 1: Successful students will analyze an important topic or idea at a more advanced and indepth level than the foundations. In this context, "advanced" refers to courses that are e.g., synthetic, rely on research or cutting-edge findings, or deeply engage with the subject matter, among other possibilities.

Goal 2: Successful students will integrate approaches to the theme by making connections to out-of-classroom experiences with academic knowledge or across disciplines and/or to work they have done in previous classes and that they anticipate doing in future.

Course activities and assignments to most those FLOs

	Course activities and assignments to meet these ELOs
ELO 1.1 Engage in critical and logical thinking.	The class develops student's critical and logical thinking in a number of ways. Students read primary sources and analyze them for bias and reliability in class-based discussions.
	Readings: - Primary sources are marked on the schedule (pages 9-13)
	Students complete a substantial research project that requires them to conduct original research and incorporate a critical analysis of at least one primary source. The paper requires students to use both primary and secondary sources and to critically analyze those sources as they explore in a deep and meaningful way how the Mongol Empire influenced various Eurasian societies and shaped broader historical developments.
	Assignment: - Term Paper Assignment (Page 6-7)
	Students are also required to complete two tests to demonstrate their comprehension of required readings and

	other course materials.
	Assignment:
	Exams (page 6)
	Exams (page 6)
ELO 1.2 Engage in an advanced, in-depth, scholarly exploration of the topic or ideas within this theme.	Students learn to think critically about the origins of the pastoral-nomadic way of life, the complicated and symbiotic relationships of pastoral nomads with sedentary agricultural societies, and the defining features of pastoral-nomadic states and their similarities with and differences to sedentary states and empires. Throughout the semester, students learn to read and interpret a range of different primary sources (in English translation), including travel accounts, ambassadorial reports, diplomatic exchanges, official histories, religious literature, court registers, and more.
	Readings: Primary Sources are marked on the schedule (see Pages 9-13)
	Students subject those records to in-depth scholarly analysis, and they learn how to understand the sources in the historical context of their authorship and apply critical thinking to evaluate them for bias and reliability.
	Assignment: - Term Paper Assignment (Page 6-7)
ELO 2.1 Identify, describe, and synthesize approaches or experiences.	Students explore different approaches to the material through the interdisciplinary study of the medieval Mongols and the empire that they established. Students will study various types of historical literature as well as art, architecture, archeological evidence, and the history of science and technology. Students will examine how specialists have interpreted these sources in their efforts to explain the history of the Mongol Empire and its historical legacy, and they will examine how more recent research has led scholars to challenge some interpretations in favor of others.
	Readings:
	- See the Required Texts (page 5)

ELO 2.2 Demonstrate a developing sense of self as a learner through reflection, self- assessment, and creative work, building on prior experiences to respond to new and challenging contexts.

The research paper encourages students to reflect on what they studied in class and to integrate what they have learned with new material that they find in their own independent research.

Assignment:

- See suggested Paper topics (page 7)

Students are provided with a list of recommended topics to pursue, but they are also permitted to move beyond that list and choose a topic that they find particularly appealing or that may align with interests that they have developed in other courses. The class discussions model self-critical reflection on how we read and analyze sources and how we adjudicate among competing interpretations.

Example responses for proposals within "Citizenship" (from Sociology 3200, Comm 2850, French 2803):

ELO 1.1 Engage in
critical and logical
thinking.

This course will build skills needed to engage in critical and logical thinking about immigration and immigration related policy through:

Weekly reading response papers which require the students to synthesize and critically evaluate cutting-edge scholarship on immigration; Engagement in class-based discussion and debates on immigration-related topics using evidence-based logical reasoning to evaluate policy positions; Completion of an assignment which build skills in analyzing empirical data on immigration (Assignment #1)

Completion 3 assignments which build skills in connecting individual experiences with broader population-based patterns (Assignments #1, #2, #3)

Completion of 3 quizzes in which students demonstrate comprehension of the course readings and materials.

ELO 2.1 Identify, describe, and synthesize approaches or experiences.

Students engage in advanced exploration of each module topic through a combination of lectures, readings, and discussions.

<u>Lecture</u>

Course materials come from a variety of sources to help students engage in the relationship between media and citizenship at an advanced level. Each of the 12 modules has 3-4 lectures that contain information from both peer-reviewed and popular sources. Additionally, each module has at least one guest lecture from an expert in that topic to increase students' access to people with expertise in a variety of areas.

<u>Reading</u>

The textbook for this course provides background information on each topic and corresponds to the lectures. Students also take some control over their own learning by choosing at least one peer-reviewed article and at least one newspaper article from outside the class materials to read and include in their weekly discussion posts.

Discussions

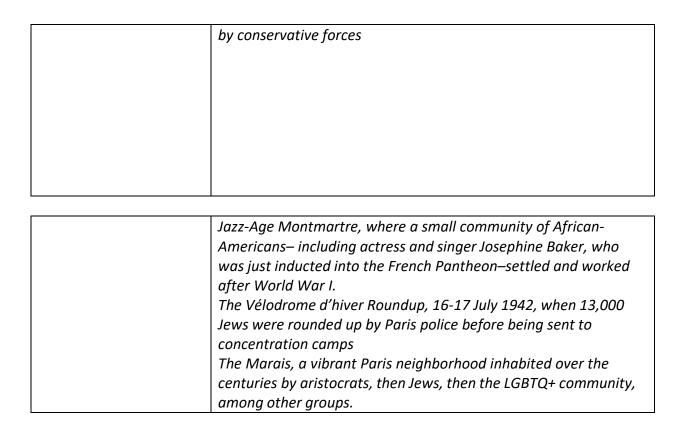
Students do weekly discussions and are given flexibility in their topic choices in order to allow them to take some control over their education. They are also asked to provide information from sources they've found outside the lecture materials. In this way, they are able to explore areas of particular interest to them and practice the skills they will need to gather information about current events, analyze this information, and communicate it with others.

Activity Example: Civility impacts citizenship behaviors in many ways. Students are asked to choose a TED talk from a provided list (or choose another speech of their interest) and summarize and evaluate what it says about the relationship between civility and citizenship. Examples of Ted Talks on the list include Steven Petrow on the difference between being polite and being civil, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's talk on how a single story can perpetuate stereotypes, and Claire Wardle's talk on how diversity can enhance citizenship.

telo 2.2 Demonstrate a developing sense of self as a learner through reflection, self-assessment, and creative work, building on prior experiences to respond to new and challenging contexts.

Students will conduct research on a specific event or site in Paris not already discussed in depth in class. Students will submit a 300-word abstract of their topic and a bibliography of at least five reputable academic and mainstream sources. At the end of the semester they will submit a 5-page research paper and present their findings in a 10-minute oral and visual presentation in a small-group setting in Zoom.

Some examples of events and sites:
The Paris Commune, an 1871 socialist uprising violently squelched



Goals and ELOs unique to Traditions, Cultures, & Transformations

Below are the Goals and ELOs specific to this Theme. As above, in the accompanying Table, for each ELO, describe the activities (discussions, readings, lectures, assignments) that provide opportunities for students to achieve those outcomes. The answer should be concise and use language accessible to colleagues outside of the submitting department or discipline. The ELOs are expected to vary in their "coverage" in terms of number of activities or emphasis within the course. Examples from successful courses are shared on the next page.

GOAL 3: Successful students will engage in a systematic assessment of how cultures and subcultures develop and interact, historically or in contemporary society.

GOAL 4: Successful students will engage in a systematic assessment of differences among societies, institutions, and individuals' experience within traditions and cultures.

	Course activities and assignments to meet these ELOs
ELO 3.1 Describe the influence of an aspec	Students will complete required readings that examine the
of culture (religious belief, gender roles,	ways that environmental factors shaped the cultural lives
institutional organization, technology,	of pastoral nomadic communities.
epistemology, philosophy, scientific	
discovery, etc.) on at least one historical or	Lecture/Discussion:
contemporary issue.	Week 1, The Mongol Empire: Literary Traditions, Sources,
	and Foundations (Page 9)
	Readings:
	Dunnell, 1–37
	- "Eurasian Nomads: Ecological, Geographical, and
	Historical Considerations"

May, ch. 1, 27–57

"The Formation of the Mongol Empire"

- Map: Expansion of the Mongol Empire, 1219-1280

Students will learn how nomadic societies differed from sedentary societies in the areas of economic structures and institutions, religious beliefs, gender roles, science and technology.

Lecture/Discussion:

Week 2 (page 9)

• Pastoral-Nomadic Traditions and Culture

Readings:

Golden, "Nomads and Sedentary Societies," 1–37 Primary Sources: Rossabi, 25–41

- Grigor of Akanc, History of the Nation of the Archers
- John of Plano Carpini, Mission to Asia
- Marignolli's Recollections of Eastern Travel
- Kirakos of Ganjak, On the Mongols

Students will learn how nomadic states were able to deploy these differences to their advantage in creating and maintaining an imperial power. These readings will be addressed and complemented with lectures and discussions, and reinforced in examinations. The same principles will be explored in the students' research papers.

Lecture/Discussion

 Political Traditions: Temuchin and the Unification of the Tribes

Week 5 (page 10)

 Creating Traditions: Chinggis Khan and the Mandate from Heaven(page 10)

Readings:

Dunnell, 38–72

- "Uniting the People, 1197-1205"
- "Organizing the Empire, 1205-1210"
- "Opening a Southern Front: The first China Campaigns, 1207-1218"

ELO 3.2 Analyze the impact of a "big" idea or technological advancement in creating a major and long-lasting change in a specific culture.

Course materials cover technological advancements and the transmission of technologies, including, for example, the invention and transmission of gunpowder in China, metal casting techniques in the Middle East, and the development of mobile gunpowder weapons all over, but especially in Europe, as a product of the Mongol Empire.

Lecture/Discussion:

Week 10, The Evolving World of Marco Polo (Page 11) Week 14, The Mongol Legacy (Page 12)

Readings:

May, ch. 4, 109–29

- "Pax Mongolia and Trade"

Primary Source: Marco Polo, 74–112 (Carmen)
- The Description of the World / Marco Polo

Readings:

May, ch. 3, 81–106; ch. 10, 232–56

- "The World of 1350: A Global World"

- "Cultural Exchanges"

New military technologies revolutionized military effectiveness, propelling the creation of new technologies, both defensive and offensive, and reshaping politics and diplomacy across the world.

Lecture/Discussion:

Week 5 • Creating Traditions: Chinggis Khan and the Mandate from Heaven

Sept. 18, 20 • Chinggis Khan's Final Years

Readings:

May, ch. 5, 130-57

"New Forms of Warfare"

ELO 3.3 Examine the interactions among dominant and sub-cultures.

Course materials examine the early pastoralnomadic Mongol peoples as a peripheral East Asian sub-culture to the north of the Chinese dominant culture.

Lecture/Discussion:

Week 3, The Peoples and Geography of Medieval Central Eurasia (page 9)

Readings:

May, ch. 9, 211–31

"Migrations and Demographic Trends"

The materials also examine the transformation of the Mongols to a dominant status as rulers of China, Russia, Central Asia, and the Islamic Middle East.

Lecture/Discussion:

Week 9, Great Qaghans and the Transformation of Mongol Imperial Culture (Page 11)

Week 11, Il-Khanate: Assassins and the Mongol Conquest of the Middle East

Week 11, Chaghatai Khanate: Mongols Transform

Themselves

Readings:

Dunnell, 73–92

- "To Central Asia and Beyond: From Mongol Khan to World Conqueror, 1218-1223"

Primary Sources: Rossabi, 68–90

- The History of the World Conqueror / Juvaini

ELO 3.4 Explore changes and continuities over time within a culture or society.

By extending the temporal parameters of the course back to 1000 and forward to 1500, students will explore the changes and continuities that pastoral nomadic communities experienced over five centuries. Changes include the introduction of new political ideologies, the introduction of new religious traditions, the rise to a position of dominance across much of Eurasia, new technologies, and cataclysmic effects of the Bubonic Plague.

Lecture/Discussion:

Week 2, Central Asian Religion and Culture in Antiquity (page 9)

Week 4, Political Traditions: Temuchin and the Unification of the Tribes (page 10)

Week 5, Creating Traditions: Chinggis Khan and the Mandate from Heaven (page 10)

Readings:

May, ch. 7, 172–98

- "Religion and the Mongol Empire"

May, ch. 8, 199–210

- "The Mongols and the Plague"

Continuities include a striking level of equity in gender roles, an established set of cultural values, and a willingness to embrace innovations when it provides an advantage to do so.

Readings:

Dunnell, 93-105

- "Legacies: The Mongol Empire, Eurasian History, and Modern Mongolia"

ELO 4.1 Recognize and explain differences, similarities, and disparities among institutions, organizations, cultures,

Course materials examine, compare, and contrast institutions, organizations, cultural traditions, and societies in medieval eastern Europe, China, Central Asia, and the Islamic Middle East.

societies, and/or individuals.

Students examine disparities in Mongolian interactions with peoples in these societies, and they examine the impact that the Mongol conquests and Mongol rule in the aftermath of the conquests had on the various peoples of these societies.

Lecture/Discussion:

Week 10, The Evolving World of Marco Polo (page 11)

Readings:

May, ch. 4, 109-29

- "Pax Mongolia and Trade"

Primary Source: Dawson, 89–220

- "The Journey of William of Rubruck"

Primary Source: Marco Polo, 74–112 (Carmen)

May, "Cultural Exhanges"

Dunnell, "- "Legacies: The Mongol Empire, Eurasian

History, and Modern Mongolia"

ELO 4.2 Explain ways in which categories such as race, ethnicity, and gender and perceptions of difference, impact individual outcomes and broader societal issues

The course provides a particularly valuable venue for students to explore the ways that categories such as race, ethnicity, and gender, as well as bondage and servitude, are experienced differently in different societies. Pastoral nomadic societies are typified by a considerably greater degree of equity between the genders, for example. Course materials examine cases of women rulers of the Mongol Empire who were as successful as men, for example.

Lecture/Discussion:

Week 9, Great Qaghans and the Transformation of Mongol Imperial Culture (Page 11)

The Mongol Empire was an extraordinarily vast multi-ethnic realm that recognized the validity of many different religious traditions (Ogedei Khan famously declared that "the religions of my people are like the five fingers on my hand"). Still, the Mongols used difference to their advantage by assigning educated elite to positions of authority over populations of different ethnic or religious identities.

Lecture/Discussion:

Week 10, Yüan China: Qublai Khan and the Middle Kingdom (page

Week 12, Golden Horde: Russia under the Mongol Yoke Crusaders and Slave-Kings: Holy War in the Middle East

Readings:
May, ch. 6, 158–71
"The Mongol Administration"
Dunnell, 73–92
- "To Central Asia and Beyond: From Mongol Khan to
World Conqueror, 1218-1223"
May, ch. 9, 211–31
"Migrations and Demographic Trends"
Primary Sources: Rossabi, 115–20
- Baybars I of Egypt
Halperin, "Golden Horde," 33–60 (Carmen)