**Course Feedback (Summer 2012)**

**[Surveys: 18]**

**Did this course help develop or strengthen the following skills?**

**Yes No Not sure % Yes**

**Reading 10 7 1 55.56**

**Writing 16 1 1 88.89**

**Note-taking 15 2 1 83.33**

**Time management 14 4 0 77.78**

**Interpretation 15 1 2 83.33**

**Historical thinking 17 1 0 94.44**

**Critical analysis 15 2 1 83.33**

**Total Yes = 80.95%**

**Ancient Mediterranean World**

**What would you KEEP about this course & why?**

Everything

The essay format, because most classes are not challenging

Big picture idea discussions; not only did those help my preparation for exams, but they furthered my understanding of the material.

Keep the in-class preparation on essay’s, and the quizzes help get key things in the reading

The quizzes helped w/ notes & bonus points to help improve grades.

The use of bonus points to reward students that keep up with homework so that the difficulty of essay exams is offset.

Daily quiz because it ensures that people come to class and do the work.

The readings and videos.

The bonus points, essay & short answer.

The bonus points were helpful because it provided a good base for my grade.

I would keep the quizzes, as I believe that it keeps the students honest.

I would keep the daily quizzes because it reinforces the readings and handouts from the previous classes.

Opportunity for bonus points because it rewards people that do the homework on time.

Bonus points, gave more than enough opportunities to make up for missed points

**What is the MOST IMPORTANT thing you learned in this course?**

Aside from improving the clarity of my writing, the ability to relate separate concepts together and use them to draw conclusions.

More on the note taking & writing on timed tests.

That history is not just a collection of unchanging facts.

Besides the technical skills, I most enjoyed learning about darkness induced hallucinations in the cave painting documentary.

The importance of historical writing, and how it influences us today.

I learned to keep up with the readings and learned to be a better effective note taking.

Time management—read, read, read, take good notes.

Writing more concisely

To read

The evidence supporting current beliefs about ancient civilizations and how they influenced modern civilization is useful to know.

Probably time management and taking better and more detailed notes.

I learned a lot from this class, the most important was the differences among many different civilizations.

Critical thinking related to historical events, connecting ideas to see the bigger picture

About some of the roots of America

**What would you CHANGE about this course & why?**

Nothing

I would have taken it in the fall or spring so everything wasn’t so cramed together [that’s the nature of 6-week summer school courses, there’s no avoiding it]

Remove group work to prevent less hard working students profiting from those who do all the work. [it’s hard not to call them “lazy” isn’t it? ☺]

Maybe cut back on reading of pages (5%) but not very much more than that because it will destroy the historical context and meaning.

Sometime a quiz would include a very small detail unimportant to the rest of the chapter [BONUS questions are, by definition, more difficult]

More discussion of sources (quotations), didn’t have very solid understanding of these… usually 1, maybe 2 recognized on test [ask any questions or seek assistance?]

Opportunity to have more essays at home and more discussion of class material. [see Essay Writing advice again please]

More talk about quotations.

Maybe a little more time for reading assignments

I would like to have change the length of the exams. The quotes are a bit confusing at times because someone can be paraphrase which would not answer the question asked in the test. [?? Open-note, open-handout, ask any questions?]

Cut out the sourcebook [no, we will be keeping it]. It didn’t add a lot to the class and take out the black Powerpoints with red writing since color blind people have a hard time seeing it [why not talk to me during the course? Why wait with such an easy thing to fix until the last day? Doesn’t make any sense]

More use of Angel to track grades, youtube versions of videos for more device compatibility and earlier assignment notice to work ahead better. [Plenty of updates on grades, just ask me (I won’t be putting them on Angel for instantaneous grades all the time), videos must be password protected so they cannot go on Youtube, this is NOT an online course]

More in class lecture, engaging in discussion can help understand bigger pictured ideas. More lecture about the reading and less discussion about outside sources [said during first week that I did not lecture from the textbook, offered many times to answer questions over reading material, how many times did you ask questions during the course?] Another thing is better preparation with the quotes [like giving handouts with the quotations on them that you can use during the exam?], hard to distinguish the important one’s you want us to know for the test. [like handouts that say ‘you will see some of these quotes again on the exam’??]

Time limits make it hard to think about analyzing fact you’ve laid out in an essay or to write such length in a well-organized manner. [hard, but not impossible or unreasonable, please read about essay preparation advice one more time, the key is practicing outside of class and getting organized and doing the work ahead of time (for example, not procrastinating and trying to do reading during class)] Also have more short answer questions on quizzes rather than regurgitating sometime slightly obscure facts [Some questions are more difficult, they are bonus questions]

**Additional Comments:**

I enjoy this class because it pushed me to read more and be more attentive to details while reading the handouts. Also I was able to have a better time-management with all the course’s workload.

Great class. Students should get a good start so they can keep it up.

**History of Science**

**What would you KEEP about this course & why?**

I learned a lot about the history of science as well as better note taking skills & how to manage my time better.

I would keep everything. The content was there for us to learn I wouldn’t take it away.

The book selections, reading quizzes, bonus points.

The quizzes. It’s a useful way to make sure your notes are well organized and filled in enough before a test. It’s also a great way to improve your grade.

**What is the MOST IMPORTANT thing you learned in this course?**

Note taking & study skills are probably what I learned the most about along with science throughout time. Also time management.

There is no one thing that I feel is more important than anything else. I feel like I learned a lot more about the history of science than I knew before, but I also improved my note taking skills and other skills.

That I really didn’t know anything about the history of science before! I have learned a lot in this course!

I learned the correct thinking of the sciences. Newton, Aristotle, Copernicus & everyone else. Especially theory of evolution!

**What would you CHANGE about this course & why?**

Nothing

Allow more points to be earned by the quotes and identifications on the exams. Put videos up on Angel in advance so that those with limited internet access can manage time more successfully [as shown in class, all the videos are up from day one click the Lessons tab as instructed in class]

I would change really just not taking it in the summer, the reading load is extrodinary & summer is very distracting [Yep!]

I really like how you run this class. It’s difficult but you give us ample bonus point opportunities. I think you set up your expectations early in the semester.

**Additional Comments:**

Thank you for teaching me skills that I needed improvements on for the rest of my educational process. Your class was challenging but with the hard work needed to succeed it is accessible to get a good grade & improvements on my studying skills. Thanks for your style of teaching, it was very beneficial for me.

This class (I thought) was very fun! You make a wonderful teacher on this topic!!