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Midterm Exam

Format: The midterm is to be in one Word document. Students need to provide their name, course, date and instructor at the top left hand side of the paper on the first page. Following this, students need to pick one font at 12 pts and double-space their answers with no additional spaces between paragraphs. Each answer should be between 2.5 and 3 pages long. An average completed exam should be between 5-6 pages at a minimum. Students may go over the required minimum, if it is necessary to fully answer the question. Points are neither deducted nor added for going over the suggested minimum number of pages. The main goal is and remains a *complete* answer. It is important to understand that grammar, spelling, and mechanics will amount to 1/3 of the grade for this exam. The remainder of the grade for this assignment is based on content. Hence, content is important, and how one presents their content is also important.

Citing information: It is important to cite information from the course text or the "overview" section of each week. The MLA format should be used for in text citations and a Works Cited page. A Works Cited page is separate from the body of the answers provided and should be considered a required supplement to the 5-6 page answer. Students may use the following format for information from the course weekly overviews and in an in text citations: (course overview week 1). If students are using the course text, naturally the following in text format needs to be used for the course text and page number (Maxfield 22). ***If students are using outside materials a proper Works Cited page needs to be included and proper in text citations must be used.*** In addition, credible and collegiate level sources must be used. Any general source like the following, but not limited to this list, should not be used: Wikipedia, Cliffnotes, Sparknotes, etc. No blog should be ever be used unless the author is a historian and their credentials can be verified. If students use only the course materials, course text and weekly overviews, only in text citations for those materials are needed and no Works Cited Page needs to be included.

Select 2 of the following questions to answer. Students need to include the number of the questions that they are answering. ***Please do not include a retyped question in the answer.***

1. The earth is over 4.5 billion years old as scientists have detailed. But, mankind has only been an occupant of the planet for slightly over 200,000 years. Homo sapiens emerged as its own species from Homo erectus in Africa around that time. Beginning in the Neolithic Period, roughly some 10,000 years ago, mankind developed and obtained the knowledge of agriculture. In a short and detailed analysis, describe two (2) distinct theories of how agriculture emerged. Include in your analysis the explanation of why agriculture emerged. In your explanation provide two (2) examples of the earliest civilizations that emerged. Where, geographically, did these civilizations settle? What explanation can be provided as to why these locations were chosen? What role does climate have in the choice of where a civilization chooses to settle? As agriculture serves as a foundation for the development of civil society, describe at least two social constructs that arise as a result of the development of society, providing two specific civilizations as examples.

2. As time progressed, there were many civilizations that emerged and left their influence on other civilizations to follow. One example was Greek civilization. Beginning in 600 BCE, the Greek peninsula had emerged with several more complex societies, these include the development of the city-state. Describe the kind of government that emerged within the city-states. There were certain diverse societies that emerged within Greece. Provide two examples of prominent city-states that illustrate this diversity. What made these two examples diverse? Despite their diversity, did the city-states cooperate with each other? Provide an example of how the city-states cooperated in the face of a mutual foreign threat. What was the result of this cooperation? Later, two main city-states emerged as the primary Greek powers. Name these city-states and describe what incident led them to fight each other. Describe the Athenian leader who led his city-state through the difficult conflict. In the end, what was the end result of the conflict between the Greek city-states? With the demise of the Greek powers what outside power managed to take over the Greek peninsula? What leader began to expand his empire and spread the Greek culture? How would Greek culture spread by the conquests of this individual into the Middle East and parts of northern India?

3. In the west, the development of Rome had a major effect upon the influence of Mediterranean culture. Describe the early development of Rome from 800 BCE to around 509 BCE. With its development as a Republic, Rome became a major stabilizing factor in the Mediterranean. What did Rome develop to enable it to stabilize, first the Italian peninsula, and then the western Mediterranean? Who was Rome's main competitor in the western Mediterranean? Provide some detail as to the extent of this competition and how the competition ended? With the western Mediterranean calmer, Rome began to expand its influence into the eastern Mediterranean becoming a major power. How did this expansion affect the political structure within Rome? Provide an example of how the political structure reacted to this expansion in Rome. What Roman politician was responsible for establishing the Roman Empire? As a result of the development of the Roman Empire, what was the extent of its influence in the Mediterranean? How did Rome manage to maintain stability and allow for the spread of Greek/Roman ideas?

4. In Asia there were two civilizations that were also emerging as major centralizing forces. One of the main themes of these states was unity. In China what new dynasty emerged in the mid third century BCE? How did its first leader manage to unite the various warring states? How long did this new dynasty last? What was the effect of the new dynasty upon China? How did China address external problems from the steppes at this time? Describe the various methods that China used to achieve unity. In India, what Indian leader brought the various areas during the third century BCE (about 260 BCE). How did this leader seek to unify the area? What role did Buddhism have in the political role of this new dynasty? Analyze how these two empires would try to unite different and diverse peoples into a single state. To what extent did they succeed or fail?



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