Course Description: This course examines the historical relationships between the ancient Near East and Europe to the first century B.C., including: Minoans and Mycenaeans in Egypt and Asia, the Hittite Empire, the Trojan War from Hittite sources, Iron Age migrations, the Sea People and Philistines, the Hellenistic world and the fusion of Greek and Near Eastern cultures, and Alexandria from the Egyptian perspective. The second half of the course seeks to deconstruct the meaning of "Hellenistic" and set it against notions of what constitutes "Hellenic" in the Near East, and so invalidating the modern nineteenth century myth of Hellenic cultural superiority over Hellenistic. Topics include: Eastern contributions to Greek civilization, Greek perceptions of the Near East, the multi-cultural nature of Egyptian Ptolemaic society, Alexandrian medicine and science, learning, technology and philosophy in the Near East.

Course Requirements

Term Paper: Due: Nov. 21. Students are required to complete a term paper (6-7 pages) on a topic of their choice related to the subject of the class. They should consult the extensive course bibliography to identify a suitable topic, then confer with the instructor to ensure feasibility. All topics must be approved in advance by the instructor (i.e., before the student has actually begun to write the paper). The specific requirements are located below under "Paper Requirements." Completion of the term paper is required to pass this course.

Examinations: This course includes a midterm and a final examination, each containing objective questions and essays drawn from the lectures and readings, and videos. The final examination will be in the form of a take-home exam.

Reading-Assignment Schedule: See "Reading Assignments"-page on the course Web pages for the schedule of assigned readings, examinations, and other important dates:

(http://www.cofc.edu/~piccione/nehist270/nehist270papers.html)

The class will adhere to this course schedule. Even if we do not complete a particular unit in class on the date specified, we may move on to the next unit, and students will be responsible for the full material through the readings. The instructor still reserves the right to alter the schedule of lectures, discussions, and reading assignments at any time.

Attendance Policy: Discussion figures prominently in the class-program; hence, participation in discussions will constitute a significant percentage of the course grade. Although attendance will be taken regularly, it will not constitute a formal factor in the course grade. On the other hand, if students are not present, they cannot participate in class discussions. Students are responsible for all the material in the readings, lectures, discussions, and videos, whether they are present or not. Makeup exams are never given. However, if students present a valid medical excuse through the Office of Undergraduate Studies, they will be permitted to complete a comparable research paper to make up for the lost grade. This assignment will not be easy or convenient, so be sure to attend all examinations.
Course Textbook and Readings

Required text:

Readings:
A variety of monographic extracts, book chapters, and journal articles are also required reading for this course. Some of these readings are located on Reserve in the R.S. Small Library on campus. Others are located in the Reference and Periodicals Rooms of the library. Certain readings are also available for downloading and printing from the course Web pages.

Grading Policy

Final course-grades will be constituted according to the following formula: mid-term exam 25%, term paper 25%, final exam 25%, class participation 25%. Grades in this course are issued according to the following numerical scale: A = 92-100; B+ = 87-91 [very good]; B = 82-86 [good]; C+ = 77-81 [above average]; C = 72-76 [average]; D = 60-71 [poor]; F = 0-59 [failure].

Paper Requirements

Term Paper. Due date: November 21. Topic: Choose a specific topic related to the theme of Europeans in the ancient Near East or European cultural, commercial, or military relations with Near Eastern societies. To determine a specific topic, first should consult the extensive course bibliography among the Web pages to identify possible topics, then confer with the instructor to ensure their feasibility. All topics must be approved in advance by the instructor before beginning to write the paper. Completion of the term paper is required to pass the course. Paper length: 6-7 pages.

Late Policy. Late papers will be penalized 5 points for each day late (including Saturdays), up to three days, after which they receive an automatic failure. All papers must be submitted in person to the instructor; failing that, they may be submitted to the History Department (Maybank 315), where the departmental administrators will certify and date-stamp their arrival.

Submission of Early Drafts. Students are strongly encouraged to submit a preliminary draft of their essay and paper to the instructor for comment. The instructor will review it to ensure clarity, direction, and adherence to format. The draft will not be graded. Students should submit a draft not later than two (2) weeks before the paper's deadline.

Form and Format. All papers should be submitted in paper format only. Please do not submit term papers electronically on disk or through e-mail, since formatting changes can occur when transferring files between computers. See "Paper Requirements"-link on the course Web pages:

(http://www.cofc.edu/~piccione/nehist270/papers.html)

for detailed information, advice, and suggestions on form, format, and grading criteria for the term paper

IMPORTANT!! Papers should contain 1-inch margins on all sides, top and bottom. They should be typed or printed double space in a 12-point type. The term paper must include citations, such as: footnotes or
endnotes plus a separate "Bibliography." *The cover page and the bibliography do not count toward the required number of pages.*

In the preparation and execution of all essays and papers for the class, students are required to follow the format presented by *Kate L. Turabian, A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, 6th ed.* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1996), especially in regard to the style of block quotations, footnotes, and bibliographies. Look over Chapters 8-10 on how to cite references and their formats. Choose the type of reference you want: footnotes or endnotes (+ “Bibliography”). Read Chapter 11 (pp. 185-213) to compare their forms and styles:

- **foot/endnote style:** “N”
- **bibliographical style:** “B”

Use the bibliographical style found only in Turabian, pp. 280-281 (*but not pp. 278-279!*).

Note: students should not employ “parenthetical references” (“PR”) and "reference list" (“RL”) for any paper or essay in this course, nor may they—under any circumstances—may use the MLA style of notes and references. All papers must have a separate cover page, although students need not follow Turabian closely on the format of this page.

*Do not employ the MLA style in writing your history papers. Do not put references in parentheses at the ends of sentences.*

**Execution.** As a rule of thumb, do not quote class-lecture notes in your paper. If you wish to quote material mentioned in class, you must find it in published sources among the course readings and quote from there. If you cannot find any source among the readings, see the instructor for advice. Please feel free to consult the instructor at any time for advice on preparing the paper. Alternatively, students may consult writing counselors in the Writing Lab, Rm. 216 Education Center (**http://www.cofc.edu/~csl/**).

Form and spelling are factors in grading the paper. If you are uncertain of your spelling, use a dictionary or a spell-check program. **Proofread your paper before submitting it, and make any final corrections cleanly in ink, if necessary!!** *Why the emphasis on form?* A research paper is a means of communication. The purpose of any paper is to convey an argument as logically as possible according to standards of form that facilitate its communicative function. Form is not merely format and correct spelling; it also includes the logical arrangement of an argument and the rational ordering of historical and textual data to support a particular historical interpretation. Poor form can impede the communication of a valid point of view. When a paper cannot communicate due to a lapse of form, it has failed in its purpose.

**Using the World Wide Web for Researching the Paper**

Students should confine the bulk of their research to printed publications. They may use the World Wide Web selectively to help research the paper topic. However, there is a great deal of trash on the Web that does not conform to modern academic standards. The World Wide Web contains four types of materials pertaining to the ancient Near East:

1. primary sources, i.e. editions of original ancient inscriptions translated and presented by reputable scholars, often used as classroom resources on the Web;

2. original archaeological reports and field data by archaeologists and bona fide researchers;
3. synthetical studies and essays prepared by Egyptologists and Assyriologists (often as Web versions of reputable printed publications);

4. materials, idiosyncratic essays, and polemical tracts of uneven and inconsistent quality, prepared by non-professionals, dilettantes, radical Afro-centrists, and self-proclaimed prophets of the New Age revelation.

Sadly, this latter Assyrio-Egypto-crypto-trash [no. 4] constitutes the bulk of Egyptological and Assyriological materials on the Web.

As of now, there very few peer-reviewed professional--specifically Near Eastern--journals published on the Web. Publicly available primary sources on the Web [no. 1] are usually out of copyright and obsolete translations superceded by modern translations in print. For the purposes of this course, students are permitted to quote from these, but only with the approval of the instructor and only if the texts are not available in print! Because Near Eastern secondary sources on the Web are rarely peer-reviewed, students may quote from [nos. 2 & 3] but only after consulting with the course instructor on each source! Web pages for [nos. 1 - 3] are usually identifiable by the domain-markers ".edu" or ".ac" in their Web addresses, and sometimes also by ".org" (denoting educational or charitable organizations).

Students may freely consult these Web pages in their research to identify issues and research direction or printed sources of data. However, under no circumstances may students quote from the unprofessional Assyrio-Egypto-crypto-bilge [no. 4] (usually identifiable by the domain-marker ".com" in their Web addresses). If in doubt about the appropriateness of any research source--either on the Web or in print--please feel free to consult the instructor. He will be happy to examine or discuss individual Web sites with you.

Students should never quote from any encyclopedias, whether from the Web or in paper format.

Policy on Plagiarism, Cheating, and Disruptive Behavior

As you prepare the term paper for this course, be careful not plagiarize any of your sources. Any plagiarism, whether intentional or unintentional, whether blatant or merely inappropriate paraphrasing, will not be tolerated. If you have any questions as you prepare your assignments, please feel free to ask the advice of the instructor. If in doubt about anything, quote it--even indirect quotations! The Honor Code of the College of Charleston strictly prohibits plagiarism, cheating, and attempted cheating. A student committing these offenses will be reported to the Honor Board and will fail the course. Additional penalties may include suspension or expulsion from the college at the discretion of the Honor Board. See the College of Charleston Student Handbook, p. 11 for definitions of these offenses: (http://www.cofc.edu/student-life/handbook/handbook02-03.pdf). For examples of proper and improper quoting and paraphrasing, see also "A Guide to Freshman English": (http://www.cofc.edu/~english/Guide.html).

Students are reminded that eating, drinking, and smoking are prohibited in the classrooms of the College of Charleston. Students may not make or receive cellular telephone calls or accept electronic pages during the class period. Turn off all cell phones, pagers, etc. at the start of class. Anytime a cell phone or pager goes off in class, it will result in a 3-point grade reduction for the student. The classroom is an inappropriate venue for reading newspapers, personal grooming (such as combing hair, applying makeup, etc.), or even sleeping ( .