

History 204

World Civilizations 1500 to Present Study Guide

Ursuline College History Department

I. Who should take this exam?

This test is intended to provide an option to test out of HI 204 World Civilizations 1500 to the Present. It is possible to use this test-out as a substitute for the “World Culture” satellite requirement for Stage II Ursuline Studies. But it is primarily intended for those students who would actually be repeating work by taking the class. These students would have done one or more of the following:

- 1) Taken a full year of 11th or 12th grade college preparatory world history.
- 2) Taken several history courses covering several world regions during the modern era. Students should be familiar with:
 - a. East Asia, including Ming, Qing, and Communist China; Tokugawa, Meiji, and Post-War Japan
 - b. Africa or Latin America, including the African Diaspora, Creolization, and decolonization
 - c. The United States or Europe from 1630 to the present, including the Scientific, Agricultural, and Industrial Revolutions; 19th century political ideologies such as Nationalism, Socialism, and Liberalism
 - d. The Ottoman Empire and Mughal Empires, Islamic and Hindu Nationalist movements

This exam is not recommended for those who have had no college level history or who have not actually studied the subject in depth under the guidance of an instructor. This is not a good course to attempt to take independently.

II. Recommended Reading:

Robert Tignor, et. al. *Worlds Together, Worlds Apart: a History of the Modern World from the Mongol Empire to the Present*. New York: W.W. Norton, 2002.

As per our conversation, here is the web site for the textbook’s tutorial:

<http://www.wwnorton.com/worlds/index.html>

This site includes a quiz section at <http://www.wwnorton.com/worlds/index/review.htm>. If the student can take the 5 question quiz questions and get 100% most of the time, they probably have sufficient command of factual detail to take the exam. Although the website does contain links to numerous primary sources, a better introduction is to be found in the textbook by Andrea and Overfield, *The Human Record*, which has numerous exercises.

For practice in source analysis, consider:

Alfred Andrea and James Overfield. *The Human Record: Sources of Global History*. 4th ed. Volume II. Houghton-Mifflin, 2001.

I would advise choosing one primary source from each chapter and attempting to answer the focus questions concerning it. If you are comfortable doing this and have a fair mastery of the “factoids” in the other textbook, you are probably ready to attempt the exam.