San Jose State University
History 220A: Colloquium in World History (to 1000 CE), Spring 2101
Dr. Jonathan Roth

Wednesdays 6:00 to 8:45 in Clark 318. My office hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:30-4:30 and Wednesday 4:00 to 5:00, or by appointment, in Business Tower 561. Phone: 924-5505, email: jonathan.roth@sjsu.edu

Course Objectives
This course is intended to give the student a deeper understanding of world history in the period before 1000 CE, and a familiarity with some of the major new works on the subject. We will investigate a number of historical problems, including questions of geographic determinism, invention and diffusion as well as the parallel development of civilizations. Students will use both primary and secondary material in studying a series of specific questions, designed to improve their skills in research, writing, critical thinking, the organization of relevant material and oral presentation.

Required Reading
These books have not been ordered through the bookstore, but are available online. They are also on reserve at MLK Library, either in hard or electronic format


Recommended Reading
Class Requirements

Each student will write a 1-2 page book report on each of the (8) assigned books. Each book report will be worth 5% of the grade (total 40%). In addition each student will choose a theme for discussion and present an oral presentation on the subject. The student should be prepared to answer questions on the subject from the professor and other students. Secondary literature, including journal articles, should be used in preparing this presentation. The presentation will be worth 20%. Each presentation will be written up into an 8-10 page paper incorporating the points raised in discussion. The paper will be worth 20%. An additional 20% of the grade will be based on class participation.

Wednesday, January 27: Introduction, The Study and Teaching of Warfare (Roth)
Wednesday, February 3: Keeley, War Before Civilization
Wednesday, February 10: Drews, The End of the Bronze Age
Wednesday, February 17: London, Soldiers and Ghosts
Wednesday, February 24: Lewis, Sanctioned Violence in Early China
Wednesday, March 3: Harris War and Imperialism
Wednesday, March 10: Barfield. The Perilous Frontier
Wednesday, March 17: Crone. Slaves on Horses
Wednesday, March 24: Bachrach. Early Carolingian Warfare
Wednesday, March 31: Spring Break: No Class
Wednesday, April 7: Furlough Day: No Class
Wednesday, April 14: Class Presentations
Wednesday, April 21: Class Presentations
Wednesday, April 28: Class Presentations
Wednesday, May 5: Class Presentations
Wednesday, May 12: Class Presentations

Final Wednesday, May 19 1715-1930

Academic integrity statement (from the Office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development): “Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San José State University, and the University’s Academic Integrity Policy requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the Office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The policy on academic integrity can be found at http://sa.sjsu.edu/student_conduct. Campus policy in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act: “If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with DRC to establish a record of their disability.” You are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, withdrawal, etc. found at http://sa.sjsu.edu/student_conduct