HIST 161A is an honors seminar that meets the UHM Foundations Global and Multicultural Perspectives requirement (FGA). We will be examining the historical development of human societies in various parts of the world, including Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe, and Oceania up to C.E. 1500.

Our theme for the course is *worldviews*, examining both the origins and development of cultural traditions as well as their spread and encounters with others. In particular, we will read selections in translation from a wide array of primary source literature, first to see how various people groups thought about the world, their place in it, and found meaning in their own histories; and second to see how people, goods, and ideas move around the world, interact with each other, and the changes that occur through these encounters.

The course objectives (Student Learning Outcomes) are:
1) Learn to think historically and cross-culturally while studying distinct cultural identities and their interactions with one another;
2) Understand how to make the past meaningful by engaging other worldviews with historical empathy; and
3) Develop university-level analytical skills in reading, thinking, and writing.

Class sessions are run seminar style: students are expected to complete the reading before class and come prepared to discuss the primary source selections assigned for each chapter. Grading is based on essay exams, thought papers, and oral participation in class.

**Required Readings:**
Primary source readings, uploaded to Laulima.

**Grading:**
10% Participation
15% Thought Paper 1
15% Thought Paper 2
20% Midterm
30% Final
Intro Pre-History
08/25 Aloha: Welcome to the University of Hawai‘i Mānoa
08/27 Mo‘olelo: What is History?
09/01 Worldviews and Historical Empathy
09/03 What does it mean to be Human? TE 1

Part 1 Ethnogenesis: Early Complex Societies 3500-500 B.C.E.
09/08 EthnoGenesis in Southwest Asia TE 2
09/10 Search for Immortality in Africa TE 3
09/15 Transcendence in South Asia TE 4
09/17 Mandate of Heaven in East Asia TE 5
09/22 Root Cultures in the Americas and Oceania TE 6
09/24 Thought Paper 1 Workshop

Part 2 Religions & Philosophies: Classical Societies 500 B.C.E.-500 C.E.
09/29 Salvation and Empire in Persia TE 7
10/01 Three Ways of Thought in China TE 8
10/06 Devotional Life in India TE 9
10/08 Philosophy among the Greeks TE 10
10/13 Roman Christianity TE 11
10/15 Trading Ideas on the Silk Road TE 12
10/20 Midterm Review
10/22 Midterm

Part 3 Aesthetic Values: Post Classical Era 500-1000 C.E.
10/27 Rise of Islam TE 13
10/29 Sinicization in East Asia TE 14
11/03 Hindu and Muslim in the Indian Ocean World TE 15
11/05 Icons of Eastern Christendom TE 16
11/10 Dreaming in Western Christendom TE 16
11/12 Thought Paper 2 Workshop

Part 4 Travelers: Accelerating Cross-Cultural Interactions 1000-1500 C.E.
11/17 Religious Dialogue in Eurasia TE 17
11/19 Griot History in Sub-Sahara Africa TE 18
11/24 Crusades and Holy War TE 19
[11/26-27 Thanksgiving]
12/01 Translating Culture in the Americas TE 20
12/03 Voyaging in Oceania TE 20
12/08 Travelers TE 21
12/10 Final Review
12/16 Final Exam