

Trumbore - Jones

9/10

World Civilizations 110
Paper Topic 1: *The Code of Hammurabi*
Due Friday 3 September at 9 am

For your first essay in this class, I choose the source you must use and I give you a choice of two questions to answer. As you know, throughout the semester you will move towards more autonomy in choosing what sources you address and how you structure your paper.

Read the selections from "The Judgments of Hammurabi" in Andrea and Overfield, pp. 13-17.¹ Write a three-page essay that addresses **one** of the following topics:

1. The big question you will answer if you choose this essay is: how would you describe the system of justice as laid out in this law code? In order to answer this question, you might wish to address some or all of the following questions: what kinds of actions are considered to be crimes? What are the standards and methods of punishment? Can we deduce the values of this society based on what they protected or punished in law? What is the role of the king in justice?
2. The big question you will answer if you choose this essay is: what can we learn about the status of women in this society? In order to answer this question, you might wish to address some or all of the following questions: what do the laws tell us about relations between the sexes? Can women hold property? What kinds of professions may they take part in? What limitations are placed on women's lives?

Important points to remember in writing the paper:

- Every essay must address the nature of the source (i.e. the "journalist's questions") and should consider the limitations of what we can learn from this kind of evidence. The essays should consider everything we can learn from this source about the above issues, but should not simply be a list—organize your observations and analysis. Please remember that you must also **make an argument** in this essay, and please be sure to state that argument in the first paragraph of the essay.
- The essays will be graded for grammar, style, and citation format as well as content. Use proper footnotes, as shown below.² You should take advantage of the resources available to help you in these matters, particularly your discussion with me and your appointment at the writing center. Please also consult the "five questions" handout before you turn in the paper.
- Bring the paper with you to class on 3 September; it will be your ticket into the class and will be the subject of our discussion for that day.

*****OVER**

¹ "The Judgments of Hammurabi," *The Human Record: Sources of Global History*, sixth edition, ed. Alfred J. Andrea and James H. Overfield (Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin Company, 2009), pp. 13-17.

² Ibid, p. 14.

The revision process:

- Week three will be devoted to revising this paper. I will grade the paper over the weekend. On Monday and Wednesday of next week, you will each have an individual appointment with me to discuss needed improvements on the paper. After you meet with me, **you are required** to have an appointment at the writing center to work on the paper further (make your appointments now!). Then you will make revisions based on the various comments you receive.
- Should you fail to meet with me or to have your writing center appointment (they will notify me of your appointment) you will lose 10 points on the second version of the paper for each.
- The revised paper is due **Friday 10 September at 3 pm in hard copy** in my office. **I will average the two grades on the two versions of the paper to reach your recorded grade.**
- We will resume regular class sessions on Monday 13 September.