Books:

J. B. Pritchard, *The Ancient Near East*
G. Roux, *Ancient Iraq*
J.A. Wilson, *The Culture of Ancient Egypt*
J.G. MacQueen, *The Hittites*
H. Shanks, ed., *Ancient Israel*

Check book prices on the web, some place such as www.amazon.com for new books or www.bibliofind.com or www.abe.com for used books. The web booksellers usually have all texts available at significantly less cost than the bookstores on or around campus and offer quite rapid delivery.

Papers:

Four times in the semester I will distribute several closely related paper topics derived from the lectures and readings. For each of these you will write a paper of three or four pages on one of these topics. You will have approximately one week, including at least one weekend, to write a paper. All papers should, of course, be typed, double spaced, and in correct English. I will drop your lowest paper grade.

You are expected to attend class regularly: paper assignments will be given out only once, in class. If you are not there, you do not get the assignment. Papers are expected to be turned in during class on the day due. Late papers will be accepted but will be reduced one grade for each week late.

In each paper I shall expect you to demonstrate understanding of the issues and knowledge of the facts. You should in each paper integrate material from the lectures and from all the relevant readings. Papers that follow just one source and do not integrate the full range of material will not receive a good grade.

This is a 300-level course. Students functioning at this level are expected to exhibit competent control of written English. For this course, your papers are required to be in proper, correct, formal English. That requires conscientious editing, rewriting, and more editing. Poorly written papers and papers containing substantial grammatical or spelling errors will be graded no higher than D or F. Do not leave either composition or printing to the last minute: emergencies arise and problems occur with frightening and predictable regularity.

Tests:

Three times in the semester I shall give you a test to make sure you have mastered the basic factual material necessary to understand the course material. Each test will consist of short-answer essays in which you are to write out the basic who, what, where, when, why, how, and significance of basic people, places, events, and other factual material.
Grades:
Your grade will be determined by the average of your four highest paper grades and three test grades. Each of the seven grades will count equally. Thus you can skip, drop, or miss one paper. If you miss more than one, your final grade will be severely damaged.

Schedule:


Week 3: Literacy and Literature. Readings: Wilson V–VI, Roux 11–13, Pritchard as used in class.

Week 4: Religion and Social Organization. Readings: Pritchard as used in class.

Week 5: Contact, Diffusion, and Other Civilizations. Readings: Wilson VII, Shanks Introductions, Pritchard as used in class. EXAM I

Week 6: Folk Migrations and New Cultures, c. 1800 – 1200 B.C., Part I. Readings: Roux 14–16, Pritchard as used in class.

Week 7: Folk Migrations and New Cultures, c. 1800 – 1200 B.C., Part II. Readings: Wilson VIII–IX, Pritchard as used in class.

Week 8: Political and Cultural History, c. 1800 – 1200 B.C. Readings: Wilson X, Pritchard as used in class.

Week 9: Folk Migrations and New Cultures, c. 1200 B.C., Part I. Readings: Wilson X, Pritchard as used in class.

Week 10: Hebrews I. Readings: Pritchard as used in class.

Week 11: Hebrews II. Readings: Roux 17, Pritchard as used in class. EXAM II


Week 13: Age of the Four Empires and the Rise of the Persians. Readings: Roux 23–24, Pritchard as used in class.

Week 14: Late Near Eastern Cultural Life: Amalgamation and Reactionary Archaism.
Readings: Wilson XI, Roux 25, Pritchard as used in class.

Week 15: Coming of the Greeks: Cultural Beheading and Resurgence. Readings: Roux 25, Pritchard as used in class.

Week 16: Remaining issues. EXAM III.