World History and Geography: 1500 A.D. to the Present is a two-semester course aligned with the 2023 History and Social Science Standards of Learning for Kindergarten - Grade 12 for Grade 10: World History and Geography: 1500 A.D. to the Present. The course examines major turning points that shaped the world from the age of European exploration through the modern era, including the expansion of Islamic and Asian empires, transoceanic exploration, the Atlantic slave trade, the Enlightenment, industrialization, imperialism, nationalism, political revolutions, the world wars, the Cold War, decolonization, and globalization. The course presents content from multiple perspectives through diverse primary and secondary sources, providing students with a solid foundation in modern history while preparing them to be informed global citizens. Students develop skills in research, source analysis, argumentation, and informed action through critical reading, feedback-rich instruction, and application-oriented assignments. Written assignments address critical questions about modern history, while discussions require students to respond to diverse opinions and defend their positions. Formative and summative assessments provide regular opportunities for students and teachers to monitor and evaluate progress.

There are no required materials for this course.

Length: Two Semesters

Unit 1: Welcome to Modern World History

- World History in the Modern Era
- Historical Thinking Skills: Historiography and Chronology
- Historical Thinking Skills: Working with Sources
- Wrap-Up: Welcome to Modern World History

Unit 2: The Rise of the World's First Global Age

- Empires in Asia and the Middle East
- The Transformation of Europe
- Transoceanic Encounters and Global Commerce
- Africa and the Atlantic World
- Wrap Up: The Rise of the World's First Global Age

Unit 3: Revolutions in Science and Industry

- The Scientific Revolution and the Enlightenment
- The Industrial Revolution
- The Industrialized World
- Wrap-Up: Revolutions in Science and Industry

Unit 4: Imperialism and Political Revolutions

- Imperialism and Its Motivations
- Colonial Empires in Africa, India, Indochina, and the South Pacific

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- Revolutions in North America and Europe
- Independence in the Americas
- Expanding Rights and Freedoms
- Wrap Up: Imperialism and Political Revolutions

Unit 5: Semester Wrap-Up

- Semester Wrap-Up

Unit 6: Modern World History since 1914

- Modern World History since 1914
- Historical Thinking Skills: Causation and Interpretation
- Historical Thinking Skills: Writing and Arguing about History
- Wrap-Up: Modern World History since 1914

Unit 7: Global Conflicts and Recoveries

- World War I
- Life Between Wars
- The Rise of Totalitarianism
- World War II
- Wrap-Up: Global Conflicts and Recoveries

Unit 8: Decolonization, Nation Building, and the Cold War

- Decolonization and New States in Asia and the Middle East
- Decolonization and New States in Africa
- The Politics of the Cold War
- Communism and the End of the Cold War
- Wrap-Up: Decolonization, Nation Building, and the Cold War

Unit 9: Contemporary Issues

- Globalization and the World Economy
- Contemporary Culture: Balancing Tradition and Modernization
- International Cooperation and Conflict
- Wrap-Up: Contemporary Issues

Unit 10: Semester Wrap-Up

- Semester Wrap-Up

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