

In World History, students learn to see the world today as a product of a process that began thousands of years ago when humans became a speaking, travelling, and trading species. Through historical analysis grounded in primary sources, case studies, and research, students investigate the continuity and change of human culture, governments, economic systems, and social structures.

Students build and practice historical thinking skills, learning to connect specific people, places, events and ideas to the larger trends of world history. In critical reading activities, feedback-rich instruction, and application-oriented assignments, students develop their capacity to reason chronologically, interpret and synthesize sources, identify connections between ideas, and develop well-supported historical arguments. Students write throughout the course, responding to primary sources and historical narratives through journal entries, essays and visual presentations of social studies content. In discussion activities, students respond to the position of others while staking and defending their own claim. The course's rigorous instruction is supported with relevant materials and active learning opportunities to ensure students at all levels can master the key historical thinking skills.

This course is built to state standards.

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

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

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