In World History, students study the major turning points that shaped the modern world 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. By presenting content from multiple perspectives and through diverse primary and secondary source materials, this course not only provides students with a solid foundation in the history of the modern era, but it also prepares students to be active and informed citizens of the world.

Through critical reading activities, feedback-rich instruction, and application-oriented assignments, students develop their capacity to conduct research, analyze sources, make arguments, and take informed action. In written assignments and projects, students address critical questions about the history of the modern era. In discussion activities, students respond to diverse opinions, take positions, and defend their own claims. Formative and summative assessments provide students — and teachers — with ample opportunities to check in, review, and evaluate students' progress in the course.

This course aligns to the Washington State K-12 Learning Standards for Social Studies.

Length: Two Semesters

### Unit 1: Welcome to World History

- What Is World History?
- Historical Thinking Skills: Historiography and Chronology
- Historical Thinking Skills: Working with Sources
- Wrap-Up: Welcome to World History

### Unit 2: The Rise of Agriculture and Early Civilizations

- The Rise of Agriculture and Early Civilizations
- The Neolithic Revolution
- Early River Valley Civilizations
- Daily Life in Early Civilizations
- Wrap-Up: The Rise of Agriculture and Early Civilizations

### Unit 3: Classical Era Civilizations and World Religions

- Classical Era Civilizations and World Religions
- Classical Civilizations of Persia, Greece, and Rome
- Art, Empire, and Trade in China and India
- The Development of Major World Religions
- Classical Era Civilizations of Africa and the Americas
- Wrap-Up: Classical Era Civilizations and World Religions

### Unit 4: Regional and Transregional Interactions


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- Regional and Transregional Interactions
- Commerce and Exchange in Afro-Eurasia
- New Empires on the Rise
- Europe after the Fall of Rome
- The Aztec and Inca Empires
- Wrap-Up: Regional and Transregional Interactions

### Unit 5: The Rise of the World's First Global Age

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

### Unit 6: Semester Wrap-Up

### Unit 7: World History: 1750 to the Present

- World History: 1750 to the Present
- Historical Thinking Skills: Causation and Interpretation
- Historical Thinking Skills: Writing and Arguing about History
- Wrap-Up: World History: 1750 to the Present

### Unit 8: Revolutions in Science and Industry

- Revolutions in Science and Industry
- New Approaches to Science and Philosophy
- The Industrial Revolution
- Life in Industrialized Society
- Wrap-Up: Revolutions in Science and Industry

### Unit 9: Imperialism, Nationalism, and Political Revolutions

- Imperialism, Nationalism, and Political Revolutions
- An Era of Imperialism
- The American and French Revolutions
- Independence in the Americas
- Legacies of the Revolutions
- Wrap-Up: Imperialism, Nationalism, and Political Revolutions

### Unit 10: Global Conflicts and Recoveries

- Global Conflicts and Recoveries
- The First World War
- Life Between Wars
- The Second World War
- The Impact of Total War
- Wrap-Up: Global Conflicts and Recoveries

### Unit 11: Globalization and the World Today


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- Globalization and the World Today
- Independence in Asia and Africa
- Communism and the Cold War
- The Middle East and Islam in the Modern Era
- Global Problems and Solutions
- Wrap-Up: Globalization and the World Today

**Unit 12: Semester Wrap-Up**


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