World History and Geography to 1500 A.D. is a two-semester course aligned with the 2023 History and Social Science Standards of Learning for Kindergarten - Grade 12 for Grade 9: World History and Geography to 1500 A.D. The course traces the development of civilizations around the world from prehistory to 1500, covering major themes including human-geographic relationships, political and social structures, economic systems, major religions, science and technology, and the arts. The course examines the birth of civilizations, the classical civilizations of India, China, Greece, and Rome, the rise of new empires like the Byzantine, and civilizations in Africa and the Americas before progressing through the Middle Ages into the Renaissance. Students analyze primary source documents to make connections with historical evidence while developing writing skills through a spiraled sequence of analytical writing assignments.

There are no required materials for this course.

Length: Two Semesters

Unit 1: Ancient Mediterranean

- Historical Thinking Skills: Working with Sources
- The Birth of Civilizations
- Mesopotamian Civilizations
- The Mediterranean World
- Ancient Egypt
- Ancient Mediterranean Wrap-Up

Unit 2: Ancient Indian and Pacific Oceans

- Ancient Africa
- Civilizations of Early India
- Early Chinese Civilizations
- Ancient Indian and Pacific Oceans Wrap-Up

Unit 3: Classical Mediterranean

- Ancient Greece
- Greek Influences
- Ancient Rome
- Roman Influences
- Golden Age of Islam
- Classical Mediterranean Wrap-Up

Unit 4: Empires in the Indian and Pacific Oceans

- African Empires
- Empires of India
- Empires of China
- Empires in the Indian and Pacific Ocean Wrap-Up

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Unit 5: Semester Wrap-Up

- Semester Review and Exam

Unit 6: Europe in the Middle Ages

- Byzantine Empire
- Western Europe in the Early Middle Ages
- Crusades and the Rise of National Monarchies in Europe
- The Rise of Russia
- Europe in the Middle Ages Wrap-Up

Unit 7: The Rise of New Empires around the World

- Islamic Empires
- East Asian Civilizations
- Civilizations of the Americas
- The Rise of New Empires around the World Wrap-Up

Unit 8: Breakup of United Christendom

- Prosperity and Crisis in the Late Middle Ages
- The Renaissance
- The Renaissance Moves North
- The Protestant Reformation
- Breakup of United Christendom Wrap-Up

Unit 9: Age of European Expansion

- European Exploration
- Conquest of the Americas
- The Atlantic World
- European Trade in Asia
- Age of European Expansion Wrap-Up

Unit 10: Semester Wrap-Up

- Semester Review and Exam

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