

Haddon Township School District

Curriculum Overview

Subject Area: Social Studies

Grade Level: 8th

Course Name: World Cultures - Western Hemisphere

Course Overview/Description: Students will study the world regions of Europe, Russia, North & Central America. The course is a historical survey chronologically tracing the major historical periods of each region. History, geography, government, economics, culture, and the humanities are strands that will be covered in the study of each respective region. An underlying theme of the course will be an emphasis on contemporary culture and how it relates to both the past and the present.

Unit Title	Unit Summary	Student Learning Targets
Ancient Greece	Place the events of the Ancient Greek civilization on a historical timeline of ancient, middle and modern history. Analyze the physical geography of Greece and its impact on the development of the Greek civilization. Examine ancient civilizations of the Minoans and Mycenaeans as they contributed to the development of the city-states of Ancient Greece. Compare and contrast those Greek city-states, with emphasis on the structure of Athens and Sparta. Examine the democratic model of the Athenian government. Discuss the causes and effects of the Persian and Peloponnesian Wars as they contributed to the rise and fall of the civilization. Examine the accomplishments of Alexander the Great as he spread the Hellenistic influence throughout Asia.	<i>Students will...</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Locate key regions of the Greek civilization on a world map.• Outline the structure of the Athenian democracy and identify similar basic principles incorporated in our government today.• Discuss the key events of the history of Ancient Greece and place them chronologically on a timeline of world history

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<p>Ancient Rome</p>	<p>Place the events of the Roman republic and empire on an historical timeline of ancient, middle and modern history. Study the physical and political geography of Roman Republic and of the Roman Empire. Examine the social, economic and political contributions of the Etruscans to the formation of the Roman republic. Study the structure of the Roman republic and its legal principles, making comparisons with that of the US government. Examine the expansion of the Roman territory as an effect of the Punic Wars, the conquests of Julius Caesar and the creation of an empire under Caesar Augustus. Discuss the social, political, economic and military reasons for the decline of the Roman Empire. Note lasting artistic and architectural contributions of the Romans.</p>	<p><i>Students will:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locate the key regions of the Roman Republic and Empire on a world map. • Place significant events of the Roman Republic and Roman Empire on a timeline of ancient, middle and modern history. • Outline the structure of the Roman Republic and identify similar basic principles incorporated in the US government today. • Identify basic principles of the Roman legal system and identify those incorporated in the US legal system today. • Summarize social, political, military and economic reasons for the decline of the Roman Empire. • Identify the lasting engineering and architectural contributions of the Roman civilization.
<p>The European Middle Ages</p>	<p>Place the events of the European Middle Ages on a historical timeline of ancient, middle and modern history, identifying three stages of this era. Examine the political geography of eastern and western Europe throughout this historical period. Identify the social, political and economic structure of western European feudalism. Plot the development of governments and legal systems of England and France. Examine the calamitous events of the 14th century in western Europe. Identify the lasting influence of the developing Roman Catholic Church and the causes and effects of the Crusades of the Middle Ages. Discuss the enduring strength and lasting</p>	<p><i>Students will:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outline the political geography of Europe during the period of the Middle Ages. • Place the significant historical events of the Middle Ages on a timeline of ancient, middle and modern history. • Chart the structure of European feudalism, identifying its social, political and economic characteristics. • List the characteristics of a nation.

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	<p>contributions of the Byzantine Empire in eastern Europe throughout the Middle Ages. Identify the accomplishments of the late middle age period of western Europe.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify the Roman Catholic Church as an expanding powerful influence during this period, listing the causes and effects of the Crusades. ● List the causes and the effects of the Calamitous 14th Century. ● Identify the Byzantine Empire as an enduring strength and influence throughout the European Middle Ages. ● Chart the lasting accomplishments of the late Middle Ages.
The European Renaissance	<p>Place the events of the European Renaissance on an historical timeline of ancient, middle and modern history. Describe the humanistic philosophy of the era. Identify significant artists and artwork of the period, as well as significant contributors in the areas of philosophy, science, technology and literature. Chart the development of Judeo-Christian thought and discuss the causes and effects of the 16th century Protestant movement as a part of that structure. Examine the technological, economic and philosophical motivation for European investigation and discovery of new trade routes and new areas of the world. Evaluate the effects of the Columbian Exchange on the TransAtlantic movement of goods and people.</p>	<p><i>Students will...</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Define humanism and discuss its effects on the thinking and actions of the Renaissance man. ● Dreate a flowchart of the development of the Judeo-Christian thought, including the rationale for the Protestant movement. ● Identify the major artists and artworks of the Renaissance period. ● Identify explorers of the Renaissance and map their attempts to reach the east, via the route south of Africa and the western hemisphere. ● Define the concept of the Columbian Exchange and identify the products and people affected by this transAtlantic movement. culture of the Middle East
Enlightenment and Revolution - English Monarchies of the 16th and 17th Century	<p>Review the domestic and international events and contributions of the Tudor dynasty during Renaissance England. Discuss the ascension of the Stuart kings to the</p>	<p><i>Students will...</i></p>

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	<p>throne of England and their actions that precipitated the English Revolution and the rule of the Roundheads. Examine the restoration of the Stuart monarchy and the subsequent Glorious Revolution that served to guarantee individual rights, justice, equality and freedom of inquiry to all Englishmen.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify the Tudor and Stuart monarchs chronologically and identify attributes of each. ● Discuss the causes and effects of the English Revolution. ● Identify the basic rights of Englishmen established during these centuries and analyze how denial of these rights led American colonists to separate from England and form the United States.
<p>The Americas:</p>	<p>Define the cultural region of Latin America and identify its current political divisions. Identify the region's unique geographic attributes and its natural resources, particularly as it pertains to the threatened Amazon Rainforest. Discuss the social, political and economic structure of the Maya, Aztec and Inca cultures at the apex of their power. Study the consequences of the 16th century European exploration and control of the area to the indigenous population. Note the effects of the Columbian Exchange on Middle and South America, with regard to the movement of people, products and ideas between the eastern and western hemisphere.</p>	<p><i>Students will...</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Locate political boundaries, major cities, rivers and other significant geographic landforms of modern Latin American countries. ● Identify the indigenous resources of the area, particularly those being threatened by the shrinking of the Amazon Rainforest. ● Place significant events of the development of the Maya, Aztec and Inca civilizations on a timeline of ancient, middle and modern history. ● Identify the factors that led to the exploration of the western hemisphere by European countries. ● Discuss the lasting effects of the European domination on the area and the resultant Columbian Exchange of people, products and ideas between the eastern and western hemispheres.

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		List the lasting contributions made by the civilizations of the Maya, Aztec and Inca to the region and the world.
Modern Physical and Political Geography of Europe	Examination of the physical and political geography of modern Europe. Discuss the regional characteristics within the continent.	<p><i>Students will...</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify and locate all countries of eastern and western Europe. ● Identify and locate all significant water bodies of eastern and western Europe. ● Identify and locate all significant landforms of Europe. ● Discuss the characteristics of the regions within Europe.
Modern Physical and Political Geography of Canada	Examine the physical and political geography of modern Canada. Locate the economic regions of the country and list their characteristics. Identify the significant cities of the country. Identify the characteristics of multiculturalism demonstrated in the Canadian society today and examine the roots of that multiculturalism. Examine the natural resources found in Canada.	<p><i>Students will...</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● locate all provinces and major cities of Canada on a map and identify the characteristics of the regions in which they are located. ● locate all significant water bodies and landforms within Canada. ● identify the significant natural resources of Canada and identify the United States as a significant trading partner for those resources. ● define multiculturalism and identify characteristics of Canada that indicate it as a multicultural society.