

San Mateo Union High School District
Modern World History Course of Study

[Draft Approved by SMUHSD Social Science Council - January 14, 2021]

Approved by
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
March 11, 2021

I. Course Description

- A. **UC/CSU “a-g” Subject Area:** a - Social Science
- B. **Rationale for Course:**
The Modern World History course is a SMUHSD graduation requirement and a mandatory course of study for 10th grade students not enrolled in AP European History or AP World History: Modern. Students will explore major global turning points from the 18th century to the present in order to better understand the background and context of modern global issues.
- C. **Grade Level:** 9th, 10th (depending on site)
- D. **Credits:** 10
- E. **Prerequisites:** None
- F. **Brief Course Description:**
The Modern World History course covers a period of more than 250 years, highlighting major turning points that shaped the modern world, from the late eighteenth century through the present. This course offers a balanced approach to historical content, providing equal weight to the development of western civilization and the evolution of the non-western world. This course will offer students a truly global historical experience. In this course, students will critically learn about the history and culture of the world by considering multiple accounts of events in order to understand international relations from a variety of perspectives, in a way that allows students to place themselves in its narratives.

II. Course Purpose: Student Outcomes and Content Goals

Student Outcomes

SMUHSD students will:

- *Contextualize* modern global issues and events with pertinent historical connections from a variety of perspectives and interpretations.
- *Analyze power structures throughout modern history as well as the movements created to expand the voices for freedom.*
- *Develop historical thinking skills that allow them to uncover, discover, investigate, and decode artifacts and diverse narratives of the modern world*
- *Recognize and affirm* that history is a matter of interpretation and that the understanding of humanity is not static.
- Be *responsible* recipients of information media and historical content, who can challenge outdated master narratives that reinforce hegemony and a dominance of western civilization.

Content Goals

SMUHSD students will:

- Trace how ideas associated with the Enlightenment impacted the rise of democratic societies and how these ideas were supported and challenged by revolutions and political movements.
- Critically outline how imperial powers sought to expand and justify their empires, emphasize the responses and actions of the colonized, and recognize the immediate and long-term legacies of these conquests.
- Discuss how the modern historical period has been defined by global conflict and cooperation, economic growth and collapse, and continued global independence and connection.

III. CA H-SS Content Resources

The course outcomes, content goals, and course content are directly aligned with the following resources from the California Department of Education.

- [CA H-SS Framework: Grade 10 - World History, Culture, and Geography: The Modern World](#)
- [CA Content Standards: Grade 10 - World History, Culture, and Geography: The Modern World](#)
- [CA H-SS Analysis Skills: Grades 9-12](#)
- Common Core State Standards: History/Social Studies Grade 9-10 - [Literacy](#)
- Common Core State Standards: ELA/Literacy - [Reading](#) and [Writing](#)
- [CA English Language Development Standards: Grades 9-10](#)

IV. Course Content

The Modern World History course structure, timing, and pacing will be up to sites, individual teachers, and PLCs. There is not an expectation the course be taught in chronological order and may be taught thematically. The topics from “Section IV - Course Content” are not units of study, but rather content material to introduce to students. The “Topic Overview” portions of “Section IV” are intended to provide context for teachers and students and best reflect the tone and intended direction of the SMUHSD Modern World History course. Teachers should employ the topic “Focus Questions” to frame classroom instruction and guide student learning.

Topic	Making Connections: Ethnic Studies and Historiography
Focus Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How do the issues presented in Ethnic Studies (specifically hegemonic power and identity) serve as a foundation for exploring the modern historical period?• How does an individual’s personal narrative affect their historical perspective and understanding of history?• How do the issues introduced in historiography complicate the attempt to create an accurate, evolving truth?
Topic Overview	<p>The Modern World History course is designed to allow for continuity between the SMUHSD Ethnic Studies (ETHS) course students take in the 9th grade and the Modern World History course. Within the context of Modern World History, students will be engaged with the ETHS topics of hegemonic power and the dangers posed by a single historical narrative.</p> <p>Additionally, students will continue to define their personal identity, while becoming more politically, socially and economically conscious about their personal connections to local and global histories.</p> <p>Students will explore how their personal narrative, and the individual backgrounds of others (the internal and external structures that influence their human experience), give each the lenses through which they view and interpret history. Through examination, students will analyze how point of view and perspective drive the development and advancement of historical narratives and the complicated attempts to interpret them.</p>

Topic	Shifting Balances of Power Towards Revolution in the 18th Century
Focus Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are individual or natural rights? Who received those rights in the 18th century?• How did Enlightenment thinking challenge the way societies were organized and how political power was distributed?• What impact did the Enlightenment have on social and gender roles?• How did hegemonic power apply to the dissemination of Enlightenment ideas inside and outside of Europe?• What were the effects of late 18th century and early 19th century revolutionary movements?• How do the French, American, and Haitian Revolutions compare to one another?• How did tyranny and the rule of law influence revolutionaries?• How did “individual” rights evolve during the revolutions?

Topic Overview	<p>Most states and empires were ruled by one leader, who was usually, but not always, a man who came from a dynasty - a family of rulers. Besides the royal family, there were elite groups in that society who had political, military, or religious power, and owned wealth and land. Below the elite groups, there was a small middle class. But the majority of people in the world worked as farmers and had little wealth or material possessions, no education, and no political power.</p> <p>Dynasties and elite groups defended their power, wealth, and privilege through customs of social order, force, and propaganda. They usually resisted giving power to lower social groups for fear that the nobles or other elites would lose their wealth and privileges. In all societies, customs of social order were hierarchical, meaning that people were unequal. Some people were higher and considered better than ordinary people.</p> <p>The eighteenth-century revolutionary ideas, which influenced much of the world in the modern period, challenged authoritarian ideas, such as the divine right of kings, the privileged status of nobles and clergy, and rule by elite groups.</p> <p>Revolutionary political ideas were advocated by civic reformers and these Enlightenment thinkers developed the notion of the social contract, an idea stating that members of a society should agree to cooperate for mutual social benefits in pursuit of an ordered society. The social contract, especially the concept of natural rights, gave rise to newer ideas about the purpose of government. The ideas of equality, representation, and rights contributed to a desire for revolution because they emerged in a world dominated by hierarchy, inequality, and lack of representation and rights.</p> <p>Political revolutions erupted in North America, Europe, and Latin America in the eighteenth century. Leaders of all of the revolutions espoused liberal, democratic, and constitutional ideologies. In most cases, these leaders were from the bourgeoisie, or middle-class; this group was distinct because it was not from the nobility, it tended to hold little power, and it was educated. Although the aims of these revolutions were realized only partially, they spread the pursuit of equality, representation, and rights to other societies, resulting in both reforms and conflict.</p>
CA Content Standards Addressed: 10.1 - 10.1.2, 10.1.3; 10.2 - 10.2.1, 10.2.2, 10.2.3, 10.2.4, 10.2.5	

Topic	Industrial Revolutions
Focus Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What were the results of the industrial revolutions? • How did industrial revolutions affect governments, countries, and national identity in similar and different ways? • How did industrialization affect ordinary people, families, and work? • Why did socialist ideologies emerge? What were their key tenets? • How did industrialization transform technology and the environment? • How did the Industrial Revolution create an economic need, and sociological justification, for European imperialism?
Topic Overview	<p>The Industrial Revolution shifted the center of the world economy from Asia to Western Europe in the nineteenth century even though the changes brought by industrialization were often gradual and uneven.</p> <p>The Industrial Revolution was energized by coal and eventually by petroleum and natural gas. Fossil fuels that drive steam and electrical engines made possible a huge increase in the amount of productive energy available to humans. Together, mechanized heavy industry, a culture of mass production, and a global division of labor continue to shape economic growth in the contemporary world, though this growth continues to be lopsided in its benefits to the world's population.</p>

	<p>The Industrial Revolution represented a fundamental shift in the production of goods. Large-scale, repetitive-motion machines powered by new energy sources improved production and required the expansion of markets. However, human and animal energy remained important for the vast majority of people, thereby increasing inequality between people who owned the means of production and those who engaged in wage labor and subsistence farming.</p> <p>Population growth accelerated in many regions of the world accompanied by a new trend of urbanization in response to a rise in factory jobs while housing and sanitation infrastructure could rarely keep pace with increased demand. Although the standard of living gradually improved throughout the world, the disparity between the wealthiest and the poorest people within countries also grew.</p>
CA Content Standards Addressed: 10.3 - 10.3.1, 10.3.2, 10.3.3, 10.3.4, 10.3.5, 10.3.6, 10.3.7	

Topic	The Rise of Imperialism and Colonialism
Focus Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did imperialist nations gain, consolidate, and maintain power over their colonized territories? • How did Europeans justify the expansion of their colonial empires? • What impact did the colonial experience have upon indigenous peoples and their countries? • Why did different groups (native people, enslaved populations, displaced peoples) respond differently to colonization (resistance, assimilation, sabotage)? • How did hegemonic power apply to the rise of imperialism and colonialism?
Topic Overview	<p>Governments of industrialized nations viewed overseas expansion into Asia, Africa, and Latin America as a means to strengthen their own global strategic position, while there were multiple interconnected causes and justifications driving European, Japanese, and American imperialism: religious, racial, and political uplift; economic exchange; and geopolitical power.</p> <p>Indigenous leaders in various colonized regions engaged in protracted resistance to the colonizers, though they were ultimately outmatched by the military superiority of the colonial powers. Only a few countries under European pressure retained their political independence. Even though some colonial peoples converted to European practices, others deeply resented the violent exploitation of their people and the disruption of traditional beliefs.</p> <p>Although most Latin American nations were technically independent in this era, they often came under the influence of European nations and the United States. Latin American countries produced cash crops and mined raw materials in exchange for cheap goods, which disadvantaged local industries. The resulting inequality between wealthy and poor states was mirrored by growing divisions between “haves” and “have nots” in many of these societies.</p>
CA Content Standards Addressed: 10.4 - 10.4.1, 10.4.2, 10.4.3, 10.4.4	

Topic	Causes, Conditions and Consequences of World War I
Focus Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How was World War I a total war? • What new technologies were utilized by warring nations during WWI? • Why did the Russian Revolution develop, and how did it become popular? • How did the post-World War I world order contribute to the collapse of the worldwide economy? • How were civilian populations (particularly women, colonial populations, and minority groups) impacted by WWI? • How did negotiations of WWI leaders impact the plans for the post-colonial world

	<p>(Middle East, Asia, Africa)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did wartime and post-war agreements (i.e. Sykes-Picot Agreement, Treaty of Versailles, Treaty of Locarno) contribute to 20th century conflicts? • What were the causes and consequences of the Armenian Genocide?
Topic Overview	<p>The Great War began in 1914 as a result of nationalist tensions in Europe and the subsequent militarization that resulted from clashes between these states over colonial resources and markets. Insecurity led these powers to form alliances, which embroiled the great powers of Europe in a multiyear conflict that included soldiers from many parts of the world.</p> <p>Technological advancements, such as the machine gun, poison gas, aircraft, and high explosives, allowed for destruction of human life on a scale previously unknown. The advent of total war meant mobilizing not only the soldiers, but also civilians on the home front and in colonial territories. Entire societies and economies were focused on war. Combat in Western Europe, Eastern Europe, and the Middle East left marks on these societies that were felt long after the fighting ended.</p> <p>By 1918, 16 million military personnel and civilians had died and millions more returned home wounded; this toll was enlarged by that year's deadly pandemic of the Spanish Flu. The Ottoman, Austro-Hungarian, and Russian empires had disintegrated, and in their place new, independent states emerged, including Poland, Russia, Prussia, and Austria. In 1915, as the Ottoman Empire declined, the Turkish government carried out a systematic genocide against the Armenian population that had been living on its historic homeland in what is now eastern Turkey.</p> <p>The decline of the imperial powers that resulted from the Great War led to new political structures and political dissent in many European countries, most notably a revolutionary uprising in Russia.</p> <p>In 1919, the victors of World War I - France, Britain, and the United States - turned efforts toward settling the war, organizing peace, and punishing the losers. The leaders of the victorious countries drafted the Treaty of Versailles, which required the losing powers, particularly Germany, to assume responsibility for starting the war, and for paying the victors reparations with large amounts of currency and land.</p> <p>New states were created in Eastern Europe, carved from the territories of the German, Austrian, Ottoman, and Russian empires. The treaty also established the mandate system, which granted many of the Allied Powers, including Japan, administrative governance over former territories and colonies of Germany and the Ottoman Empire.</p> <p>However, in Africa and Asia, colonized peoples who had fought for the British and French soon realized that they would not be granted self-determination as Eastern Europeans were. Consequently, nationalist leaders began to organize independence movements to oppose the authority of colonial powers. The political and social map of the Middle East continued to be redrawn through European involvement during and following WWI.</p> <p>At the end of the war, society and culture were dramatically altered. Veterans came home often injured mentally (what is now termed post-traumatic stress disorder or traumatic brain injuries) and physically. These men, along with the millions that did not return home, served as a constant reminder of the horrors of modern warfare.</p> <p>Europe's economy was weakened as a result of the economic and social costs of World War I. Additionally, the crash of the U.S. stock market and the collapse of the international banking system, led to the Great Depression, a time when incomes eroded and unemployment increased throughout the world. This economic collapse further undermined liberal democratic regimes and was a major blow to global trade.</p>
CA Content Standards Addressed: 10.5 - 10.5.1, 10.5.2, 10.5.3, 10.5.4, 10.5.5; 10.6 - 10.6.1, 10.6.2, 10.6.3, 10.6.4	

Topic	Causes, Conditions and Consequences of World War II
<p>Focus Questions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why did communism and fascism appeal to Europeans in the 1930s? • How did militarists gain control in Japan? • How did Nazis come to power? Why did ordinary people support them? • How did Nazi ideology lead to the Holocaust? • How did the Nazis and their collaborators implement the Holocaust? • How did the Holocaust lead to post WWII efforts to prevent genocides? • What was totalitarianism, and how was it implemented in similar and different ways in Japan, Germany, Italy, and the Soviet Union? • How did World War II's actors, goals, and strategies compare with those of WWI? • Evaluate the ethics and actions of WWII participant-nations which resulted in war crime, democide, and other abuses during the conflict (i.e. Comfort Women, Nanjing Massacre, Unit 731, Executive Order 9066). • How does the purpose, scope, and limitations of the United Nations affect the ability of the UN to address issues related to world peace?
<p>Topic Overview</p>	<p>With the collapse of the capitalist market system that caused the Great Depression, political alternatives to liberal democracies emerged in Europe and Asia, particularly communism and fascism.</p> <p>After the Russian Revolution, communism emerged as an alternative to Western-style capitalism in the Soviet Union. Fascism provided a nationalist and militaristic alternative to both the individual rights, privileged in liberal democracies, and to communism. The Fascists in Italy and the Nazis in Germany established state-directed economies, rearmed their militaries, and imposed gender, religious, and racial hierarchies in the name of an ultra-patriotic nationalism.</p> <p>The transformations in parts of Europe and Asia during the interwar years can be illustrated through the concept of totalitarianism, or a centralized state that aims to control all aspects of life through authoritarian use of violence and civil intimidation.</p> <p>World War II was a truly global conflict and included battlefronts in Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Pacific. An estimated 60 million, or 3 percent of the total population, died as a result of the conflict. This toll includes a large casualty rate among civilians who were swept up in ground campaigns and were victims of bombing.</p> <p>As in Italy and Germany, Japan's authoritarian government was increasingly dominated by the military, controlled portions of the economy, and furthered imperial ambitions. The expansionist goals of Italy, Germany, and Japan translated into specific instances of military aggression, first in China, then in Europe, and finally in the United States, that drew the Allies into war with these Axis Powers.</p> <p>In Germany, as Hitler began to stretch his empire toward Austria and Czechoslovakia, both Britain and France initially employed a policy of appeasement, while the United States displayed strong isolationist impulses.</p> <p>Appeasement of Hitler finally came to an end when Germany invaded Poland on September 1, 1939, and World War II began in Europe. By then, Japan, an imperial power that had already colonized Korea in 1910 and occupied Manchuria in 1931, invaded China. In China, Japanese military advances led to the death of thousands of civilians, including the horrors of the Rape of Nanjing and the abuses of "Comfort Women."</p> <p>Before and during the worldwide conflict, the Nazis implemented racial policies across the portions of Europe they controlled. These policies drew upon racial and eugenicist ideologies. Jehovah's Witnesses, Poles, Gypsies, homosexuals, and political activists faced harassment, imprisonment, and death. Jews were the particular targets of Nazi</p>

	<p>violence. Germans and their allies ultimately murdered six million Jews and millions of others through starvation, forced labor, and by shooting and gassing victims.</p> <p>The war ended with the collapse of the Axis regimes. Heavy fighting in both Western and Eastern Europe crushed the German military, while the island-to-island skirmishes in the Pacific pushed back the Japanese forces, culminating in a heavy bombing campaign against the Japanese islands.</p> <p>Finally, in August 1945, the United States unleashed its most deadly weapon, the atomic bomb, in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, killing more than 200,000 people, forcing Japan to surrender, and ending World War II.</p>
CA Content Standards Addressed: 10.7 - 10.7.1, 10.7.2, 10.7.3; 10.8 - 10.8.1, 10.8.2, 10.8.3, 10.8.4, 10.8.5, 10.8.6	

Topic	Causes, Conditions and Consequences of the Cold War in Europe
Focus Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did the Cold War develop? What were the ideological roots of the conflict? • How was the Cold War waged globally? • How did former colonies respond to the Cold War and liberation? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ How did newly independent nations respond to the global competition between superpowers during the Cold War? ◦ What role did colonialism and racial hierarchies play in revolutionary movements, globally, during the Cold War era? • How did the superpowers exercise political, economic, and social influence over their allies and non-aligned nations? • How and why did the Cold War end?
Topic Overview	<p>The effects of World War II reverberated around the world, intensifying three earlier trends whose effects persisted well into the twenty-first century: decolonization, the Cold War, and globalization.</p> <p>The war accelerated the decline of European power worldwide and the rise of the United States militarily, economically, and culturally, while nationalist movements fueled by colonial subjects' participation in war efforts placed increasing pressure on European powers to grant independence.</p> <p>The postwar period also witnessed an escalation in hostility between the U.S. and the Soviet Union. Throughout the Cold War, the U.S. and the Soviet Union intervened politically, militarily, and economically in dozens of nations in Asia, the Middle East, Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean in an effort to protect their strategic interests.</p> <p>Also during the postwar period, economic globalization produced the largest world market in history, spreading both products and cultural values around the world.</p> <p>After nearly half a century of proxy wars and worldwide tensions related to the Cold War, the Soviet Union collapsed from both internal and external weaknesses. Its disintegration spawned several independent republics, reflecting the principles of national identity and self-determination.</p>
CA Content Standards Addressed: 10.9 - 10.9.1, 10.9.2, 10.9.3, 10.9.4, 10.9.5, 10.9.7, 10.9.8	

Topic	Post-Colonial Asia
Focus Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How have Asian nations reorganized in the post-Cold War world? • How did China pursue an "alternative path" to reform in the 1980s? • How was Gandhi's use of non-violence effective in ending British rule of India and helping to influence the creation of a democratic nation?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How has the conflict between Muslims and Hindus played out in South Asia? • What cultural, political and economic policies of Mao Zedong's communist party appealed to people in China? • What policies has the Chinese communist party implemented to maintain centralized control? • What were the causes and consequences of Cold War proxy wars in Asia? (i.e. the Korean conflict and the Vietnam War) • How have 20th century genocides played out in Asia? What were the causes, conditions and consequences of the Cambodian Genocide, Rohingya Crisis, and the Uighurs Crisis today?
Topic Overview	<p>A wave of new states formed throughout Asia and Africa, promising liberal democratic governments and market economies. India led the way in 1947, becoming the world's largest democracy. Reduced economic opportunities after the oil crisis of the 1970s prompted a wave of migrations from former colonies to imperial metropolises, or former imperial centers. Britain, France, and other Western European nations became increasingly diverse as former subjects relocated there permanently in search of economic opportunity. Although freed of British rule, India was not free of the divisions that led to partition and continued religious tension. Leaders like Mohandas Gandhi and Benazir Bhutto worked to reform their countries, only to be assassinated by extremists.</p> <p>Nevertheless, Asia's unique response to imperialism, WWI, WWII and the Cold War have left a legacy felt around the world. Gandhi's philosophy of non-violence not only liberated a country but inspires peaceful change around the world. Mao Zedong's industrialization and agricultural policies led to the death of millions during China's Great Leap Forward. More died when turned young against old in the Cultural Revolution.</p> <p>Additionally, it was the rule of the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia during the second half of the 20th Century that reminded the world of the horrors of genocide. Presently, North Korea's isolated totalitarian state continues to resist international diplomacy while threatening the world with a nuclear arsenal.</p> <p>Democratic movements in Asia have had mixed results. After decades under house arrest, Aung San Suu Kyi inspired the monks of Myanmar to join her in ending the country's military dictatorship. However, beginning in 2017 there has been a deadly crackdown by Myanmar's army on Rohingya Muslims, which has the nation facing accusations of genocidal violence by the international community.</p> <p>Despite the failure to improve rights in the Tiananmen Square Massacre, the Hong Kong Umbrella Movement protests have pressured political concessions from China. Entering the 21st Century, China has continued to develop and implement tight-reined social policies (both foreign and domestic) that have drawn international criticism.</p> <p>The region has the potential for continued and future tension. Overlapping claims to territory in South Asia (Jammu and Kashmir), as well as in the South China Sea, has led to increased militarism in Asia.</p> <p>But the region also has economic promise. Some economists project that China, along with India, may lead to Asia's re-emergence as the center of the global economy sometime in the twenty-first century.</p>
CA Content Standards Addressed: 10.9.3; 10.9.4; 10.10 - 10.10.1, 10.10.2, 10.10.3, 10.11	

Topic	The Post-Colonial Middle East
Focus Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How has the post-Cold War world facilitated extremist and terrorist organizations in the Middle Eastern region? • How have Middle Eastern nations reorganized in the post-colonial era?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did European involvement in the Middle East after World War I affect ethnic groups in the region? (Sykes-Picot, Mandate System, creation of the Emirate of Transjordan, UN Partition Plan for Palestine, etc.) • How have Arab and Israeli conflicts affected the Middle East politically, culturally, and economically in the post-colonial era? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Describe the past and current peace negotiations between Israelis and Palestinians and the role of the international community in the process. • What forces have caused conflicts between nation-states and ethnic groups in the region? (Kurds, Sunni-Shia, Yazidi Genocide, etc.) • Compare the causes, conditions, and results of the Arab Spring movement with other historical social and political movements. • How did the formerly colonized countries challenge and resist the hegemonic influence of the West?
Topic Overview	<p>As the cradle of three major world religions, the Middle East has been coveted for its religious significance and valuable natural resources. Unfortunately, the resulting competition for the region has left a colonial legacy rooted in conflict and distrust.</p> <p>The modern boundaries of the Middle East emerged after World War I when European nations carved up the region into mandates, or spheres of influence. When the mandate system ended, other conflicts further transformed the region, especially in the aftermath of WWII.</p> <p>The legacy of the Holocaust greatly influenced world opinion in favor of the idea of a Jewish state. In 1947, the United Nations passed a partition plan that would have divided the British Mandate for Palestine into separate Jewish and Arab states. When the British Mandate for Palestine expired in 1948, David Ben-Gurion established the Jewish state of Israel. The resulting Palestinian/Israeli conflict has challenged the region as a negotiated bilateral peace has failed to materialize, even as many in the international community participate in the peace talks. A legacy of entrenched animosity continues to separate each side. In the Middle East, tensions between Israel and its neighbors remain high, especially over a future Palestinian state (typically referred to as the two-state solution) and Arab recognition of Israel.</p> <p>Arab nations, such as Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, and parts of Turkey, also achieved their independence through their respective mandates. However, the fragile political affairs of the area are further aggravated by its strategic importance as a supplier of global oil, unresolved problems of displaced Palestinian refugees, the recurrent use of terrorism, and territorial disputes. The geopolitical importance of the Middle East has fueled continued U.S. and European involvement in the region, specifically in Iran, Iraq, and Afghanistan.</p> <p>Meanwhile, Middle Eastern nations have had their own domestic conflicts. Differences within Islam between Sunni and Shia communities have provided ideological fuel for political controversies. The role of religion in government inspired a religious revolution in Iran, sharia law in much of the Middle East, and creation of one of the world's most repressive regimes in the Taliban's Afghanistan. The rejection of long-standing dictatorships in the region resulted in the Arab Spring movement. However, these anti-government protests, uprisings, and armed rebellions that spread across much of the Arab world in the early 2010s largely failed to free most of those countries from repressive rule. Nevertheless, the potential in the region inspires continued peaceful efforts within and outside of the Middle East to address its internal and external conflicts.</p>
CA Content Standards Addressed: 10.9.6; 10.10 - 10.10.1, 10.10.2, 10.10.3; 10.11	

Topic	Post-Colonial Africa
Focus Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How and why have African nations struggled to achieve economic, political, and social stability in the post Cold War world? • Describe the lasting impact of imperial conquests and the effect of partitioning the continent based on artificial national borders during the 1885 Berlin Conference.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once independent, how did colonies under direct rule compare with those under indirect colonial rule? What was the impact of the All African Peoples' Conference on the continent (Pan-Africanism)? How did Afrikaners gain control of South Africa and how did their apartheid system keep control of the majority black population? Describe the tactics of anti-apartheid campaigners, groups, and movements and their impact in South Africa. (Nelson Mandela, African National Congress, Black Consciousness Movement, etc.) What were the causes, conditions and consequences of the Rwandan genocide?
Topic Overview	<p>Newly independent nations faced many challenges in the postcolonial era. These new countries inherited colonial borders that artificially divided some ethnic groups into multiple states. The opposite process was equally destructive: new governments used coercive and authoritarian means in attempts to unify multiple ethnic groups within their inherited colonial borders into nation-states where loyalty centered on the state. In many cases, European nations continued to exercise considerable political and economic influence over former colonies, challenging the autonomy of these states. Once independent, some colonies were better prepared for independent rule than others.</p> <p>Despite an apartheid system of segregation enforced by an oppressive white-minority, Nelson Mandela and others protested South African policies of racial exclusion at the risk of incarceration and death. Unlike the policies of revenge and retribution seen in other nations, at the end of apartheid the work of Nelson Mandela and others developed policies of reconciliation.</p> <p>In Post-Colonial Africa, the ethnic tensions within many African nations were exacerbated by religious divisions, competition over resources, and other destabilizing forces. In Rwanda and Sudan, ethnic tensions resulting in genocide. Despite the lessons of the Holocaust and other historic genocides, the muted response by the international community was insufficient and incomplete. However, countries like Burundi, Ethiopia have paved the way in bridging ethnic divisions and reforming their governments to address ethnic inequalities.</p> <p>Other challenges persist on the continent, such as extreme poverty and chronic starvation in East Africa caused by both natural and man-made forces. Serious problems in achieving economic development contributed to the lowest longevity rates in the world. Although most residents in sub-Saharan Africa experienced modest living for decades, many states have experienced rising standards since the beginning of the millennium, while others continue to be challenged by an unequal distribution of wealth, corruption, and one-party rule.</p>
CA Content Standards Addressed: 10.9.3; 10.10 - 10.10.1, 10.10.2, 10.10.3; 10.11	

Topic	Post-Colonial Latin America
Focus Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What were the causes, conditions, and results of the Mexican Revolution? What were the economic, political and social consequences of the social class system established by European colonialism in Latin America? How did civil reformers attempt to address the economic and social inequalities in Latin America? (i.e. Miguel Hidalgo, Eva Pero and Archbishop Oscar Romero) What were the causes, conditions, and results of Latin American anti-colonial liberation movements? Evaluate the impact of late 20th century revolutionary movements on Latin American civilians (i.e. Death Squads, "the disappeared" etc.) Explain the impact of the Cold War on Latin America How and why have Latin American nations struggled to achieve economic, political, and social stability in the post Cold War world?

<p>Topic Overview</p>	<p>Latin American conflicts have often reflected differences between indigenous people and mestizos, as well as between leftist and conservative ideologies and socialist and capitalist economies.</p> <p>Liberators like Simon Bolivar and Toussaint L'Ouverture eventually overthrew colonial rule and established new governments in Latin America. With European countries no longer in charge of Latin America, Peninsulares and Creoles kept control of the governments of Latin America. Many liberated nations were ruled by dictatorships, backed by the army and rich landowners. These dictators, known as “caudillos,” gave their supporters land and government jobs in exchange for support. Some of the caudillos improved their countries by building infrastructure, improving the economy and maintaining social order. However, many caudillos continued the European class-based societal systems which continued to oppress the poor and lower classes.</p> <p>Historically, government policies increased the divide between rich ruling class families and the lower class, mostly rural, poor. Reformers like Benito Juarez, Eva Peron and Archbishop Oscar Romero battled poverty in Latin America and fought for people’s rights. Reformers in Post-Colonial Latin America included politicians, members of the Catholic Church, as well as indigenous community leaders.</p> <p>In many Latin American countries there has been historic fighting between political extremists (those on the edges of both sides of the political spectrum): leftists and conservatives. In Latin America, many of the leftists formed guerilla armies, often with the support of the poor.</p> <p>Death squads appeared in Latin America in the late 1960s as a clandestine way to confront increasing revolutionary activity. Although death squads exist on the left and on the right of the political spectrum, they are most often associated with extreme rightists. Hundreds of thousands of people have disappeared because of death squads and other forms of violence.</p> <p>In the 1980s, several Central American states experienced protracted civil wars, but by the 1990s these conflicts had subsided, though the underlying issues remained unresolved. Some states, such as Costa Rica and Peru, have long-lived stable democracies while achieving growth in a globalized economy.</p> <p>The indigenous peoples of Latin America are significantly impacted by high poverty rates and limited political and economic power. They are also at particular threat from environmental issues like deforestation and mining, although indigenous people have led movements to limit these actions. Despite United Nations support for indigenous rights and self-determination, indigenous peoples continue to struggle in Latin America.</p>
<p>CA Content Standards Addressed: 10.9.3; 10.10 - 10.10.1, 10.10.2, 10.10.3; 10.11</p>	

Topic	Economic, Cultural, and Digital Globalization in the 20th and 21st Centuries
<p>Focus Questions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Globalization has integrated economic, cultural, political and information technology systems across the globe - how has globalization affected people, nations, capital? • How are industrializing countries today similar to, and different from, the industrialized nations of the 19th century? • How have societies and nations in North America, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Pacific Islands, North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, Southwest and Central Asia, East Asia, the Pacific Islands, and Oceania managed the transition into the modern industrial world? • What economic, social, political and environmental forces contribute to poverty and chronic starvation throughout the world? • Evaluate the international community’s response to violent conflict, genocide, social and ethnic inequalities (including gender), and other modern global human rights abuses.

<p style="text-align: center;">Topic Overview</p>	<p>World War II accelerated the trend of globalization, the freer and faster movement of people, ideas, capital, and resources across borders. Globalization was seen in transnational developments including the formation of international organizations such as the United Nations, which attempted to create a forum for nations to resolve their differences and to work collaboratively on global issues.</p> <p>Economic globalization took the form of multinational corporations and international financial institutions which supported loans for development and endorsed the principle of free trade. Regional trading blocs also developed, most notably in Europe and later in North America.</p> <p>Key to economic globalization was the development of communications technology that enabled financial information and funds to move easily across borders. New economic opportunities and liberalized immigration laws prompted the revival of global migration beginning in the 1960s and accelerated global economic exchange. Global consumption patterns created homogenized cultural experiences in the global cities that sprang up around the world. Economists generally credit economic globalization with having increased the world's overall levels of wealth and well-being. Yet globalization has not necessarily reduced economic inequalities among societies. In part, this is because the mobility that capital (i.e., money) and goods enjoy in a globalized economy is not fully shared by labor.</p> <p>This period has led to breakthroughs in medical and scientific technology, which have improved average health and longevity worldwide. Health problems did not disappear, however. Disease and mortality worldwide remained a function of location and financial resources, with the poorest people - typically in Africa and parts of Asia - facing the most intractable problems. As the twenty-first century began, researchers, international aid organizations, and intergovernmental groups continued to work to address a variety of health challenges worldwide as well as confronting the enduring problems of accessing resources.</p> <p>In the contemporary world, the authority of the nation-state appears increasingly feeble in relation to the globalization of economic activities. Consequently, there are challenging questions about the future of governance in an integrating global society as many negative effects of globalization have become apparent. Critics point to environmental concerns, the impact on child labor, ongoing struggles for women's rights, and the rise and spreading of extremist movements around the globe, as major roadblocks to global growth and social progress.</p> <p>Contemporary trends, such as the diversification of economic power and the globalization of production, have led to an economic and political shift away from the North Atlantic, as the international influence of Western powers is being supplanted by rising states. Among the most significant developments of this era, has been Asia's return to the leading position in the world that it occupied before the rise of the West. Additionally, oil-rich states such as Saudi Arabia, Iran, and Venezuela control the energy supplies on which the world's prosperity depends. At the same time, climate effects traceable in part to the environmental consequences of reliance on fossil fuels are leading to demands for changes in the way energy is produced and used. Meanwhile, climate change has contributed to political and economic upheavals that are changing patterns of human migration and fueling regional conflicts. The present appears less predictable, less hierarchical, and — potentially — less stable than in past centuries.</p>
CA Content Standards Addressed: 10.11	

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