

# World History Course Syllabus

**Course Name:** World History / World History Honors

## **Description:**

World History is a broad survey of the most significant world events since 500 CE, a period of roughly 1,500 years.

Segment One focuses on the period 500 to 1500, which has been called the Middle Ages, between the end of the Roman Empire and the Modern Age. Review essential information about what made the Roman Empire so significant, as well as essential information about Judaism and Christianity as background to the rise of the third major monotheistic religion, Islam. Study the earliest civilizations of sub-Saharan Africa and the Americas, and then wrap up the segment with three simultaneous major events: the Age of Discovery, Protestant Reformation, and Scientific Revolution. The Middle Ages ended with a tornado of changes!

In Segment Two, focused on 1500 to present, you'll learn about advancements in science and thought during the Age of Enlightenment, as well as the social and political revolutions that followed as a result. As you meander through the 19th century, you will learn about the transformation from an agricultural to an industrial world and the many changes that resulted from that shift. Then, learn about the interconnectedness of nationalism and colonialism and the two massive world wars that were the end result. As you explore the modern era, students learn about developments in today's world and the implications that historical events have on each of us.

**Estimated Completion Time:** 2 segments / 32–36 weeks.

## Major Topics and Concepts:

### Segment One:

#### **Module 01 - Medieval Eastern Europe, North Africa, and Middle East**

- Roman Empire
- Byzantine Empire
- Monotheistic Religions
- Golden Age of Islam

#### **Module 02 - Medieval Western Europe and East Asia**

- Medieval Society and Arts
- The Crusades
- Medieval Japan

#### **Module 03 - Medieval Sub-Saharan Africa and the Americas**

- Rise of African Kingdoms and City-States
- Major Civilizations of Mesoamerica and the Andes

## **Module 04 - Age of Rebirth, Reformation, and Discovery**

- Rise of the Italian City-States
- Renaissance
- Reformation and Counter-Reformation
- Age of Discovery
- Columbian Exchange
- Slavery

## Segment Two:

## **Module 05 - The Enlightenment and Revolutions**

- European Geography
- Constitutional and Absolute Monarchies
- Scientific Revolution
- 20th Century Science
- Enlightenment
- French Revolution

## **Module 06 - 19th Century Changes**

- 19th Century Latin American and Caribbean Independence Movements
- Industrial Revolution
- Economic and Political Ideologies
- Imperialism
- Italian and German Unification
- Modern Reform Movements

## **Module 07 - The World at War and the Fires Between**

- World War I
- Great Depression and Rise of Totalitarianism
- World War II
- Genocide

## **Module 08 - The Modern Era**

- Cold War and Proxy Wars
- Decolonization and New Nationalism
- Collapse of the Soviet Union
- Globalization
- Terrorism

**Course Assessment and Participation Requirements:** To achieve success, students are expected to submit work in each course weekly. Students can learn at their own pace; however, "any pace" still means that students must make progress in the course every week. To measure learning, students complete self-checks, practice lessons, multiple-choice questions, discussion-based assessments, discussions, and projects. Students are expected to maintain regular contact with teachers; the minimum requirement is monthly. When teachers, students, and parents work together, students are successful.

