

World History, Semester A

Course Overview

In World History, Semester A, you'll explore major historical events around the world. In the first unit, you'll develop your historical thinking skills. In the second unit, you'll examine the origins and developments of European exploration. In the third unit, you'll learn about the causes and effects of the Renaissance and the Reformation. In the fourth unit, you'll explore revolutions that occurred from 1789 to 1848, including the Scientific Revolution, the American Revolution, and the French Revolution. In the fifth unit, you'll explore the causes and effects of the Industrial Revolution, the spread of nationalism in Europe, and the Russian Revolution.

Course Goals

By the end of this course, you will be able to do the following:

- Assess primary and secondary sources.
- Analyze the views of historians, and interpret historical data.
- Identify early European explorers and the reasons for their exploration.
- Understand the impact of European exploration and conquest on Mesoamerican and South American civilizations.
- Explain the causes and effects of the slave trade in the Americas.
- Understand the causes and effects of the Renaissance and the Reformation.
- Analyze the causes and impact of the English Civil War and the Glorious Revolution.
- Understand the causes and effects of the Scientific Revolution, the Enlightenment, the American Revolution, the French Revolution, the Napoleonic Period, and the Latin American Political Revolutions.
- Analyze the causes, effects, and importance of the Agricultural Revolution and the Industrial Revolution.
- Examine the rise of nationalism in Europe and the causes of the Russian Revolution.

General Skills

To participate in this course, you should be able to do the following:

- Complete basic operations with word processing software, such as Microsoft Word or Google Docs.
- Complete basic operations with presentation software, such as Microsoft PowerPoint or Google Docs presentation.
- Perform online research using various search engines and library databases.
- Communicate through email and participate in discussion boards.

For a complete list of general skills that are required for participation in online courses, refer to the Prerequisites section of the Student Orientation document, found at the beginning of this course.

Credit Value

World History, Semester A is a 0.5-credit course.

Course Materials

- notebook
- pencil or pen
- computer with Internet connection and speakers or headphones
- Microsoft Word or equivalent
- Microsoft PowerPoint or equivalent

Some course readings may require a visit to your school library or public library.

Course Pacing Guide

This course description and pacing guide is intended to help you stay on schedule with your work. Note that your course instructor may modify the schedule to meet the specific needs of your class.

Unit 1: Historical Thinking Skills

Summary

This unit focuses on the historical thinking skills used to investigate and analyze the past. You'll start by learning to analyze primary and secondary sources. Next you'll

analyze the views and opinions of historians. Then you'll interpret historical data by studying maps, graphs, and other historical sources.

Day	Activity/Objective	Type
1 day: 1	Syllabus and Student Orientation <i>Review the Student Orientation and Course Syllabus at the beginning of this course.</i>	Course Orientation
3 days: 2-4	Primary and Secondary Sources <i>Assess primary and secondary sources.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 5-7	Historiography <i>Analyze historians' views and opinions.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 8-10	Historical Data <i>Interpret historical data.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 11-13	Unit Activity and Discussion—Unit 1	Unit Activity/ Discussion
1 day: 14	Posttest—Unit 1	Assessment

Unit 2: The Age of European Exploration

Summary

This unit focuses on the age of European exploration, from the early fifteenth century until the seventeenth century. You'll learn how the Europeans explored regions for adventure, new trade routes, and wealth. You'll identify early explorers and analyze the reasons for their explorations. Next you'll examine how these explorations affected the Mesoamerican and South American civilizations. You'll analyze the significance of European explorations in developing trade. Finally, you'll identify and evaluate the factors that resulted in the slave trade in the Americas and examine the economic impact of the slave trade in the Americas.

Day	Activity/Objective	Type
3 days: 15–17	Exploration and Technology <i>Identify the early European explorers and the causes of their explorations.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 18–20	Exploration and Conquest <i>Assess the effect of European exploration and conquest on Mesoamerican and South American civilizations.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 21–23	Exploration and Economic Development <i>Assess the importance of European explorations and colonization in advancing trade.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 24–26	The Slave Trade and Colonization <i>Evaluate the causes and effects of the slave trade in the Americas.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 27–30	Unit Activity and Discussion—Unit 2	Unit Activity/ Discussion
1 day: 31	Posttest—Unit 2	Assessment

Unit 3: The Renaissance and the Reformation

Summary

This unit focuses on the Renaissance and the Reformation. You'll analyze the factors that caused the Renaissance in Italy and explore important themes in the fields of art, literature, and architecture during the Renaissance. You'll also identify the important writers, artists, and scholars of Renaissance. Next you'll learn about the causes and effects of the Reformation and the reforms of the Catholic Church during the Counter-Reformation. Then you'll analyze the cause and effects of the Counter-Reformation on the English Civil War and the Glorious Revolution.

Day	Activity/Objective	Type
3 days: 32–34	Renaissance Culture <i>Assess the importance of ancient Western history on Renaissance culture.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 35–37	The Reformation: Causes and Effects <i>Assess the causes and effects of the Reformation.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 38–40	The Counter-Reformation <i>Identify the characteristics and impact of the Counter-Reformation.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 41–43	The English Civil War and the Glorious Revolution <i>Analyze the causes and effects of the English Civil War and the Glorious Revolution.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 44–47	Unit Activity and Discussion—Unit 3	Unit Activity/ Discussion
1 day: 48	Posttest—Unit 3	Assessment

Unit 4: The Age of Revolution

Summary

This unit focuses on the revolutionary movements that took place in Europe and the Americas from 1789 to 1848. First you'll learn about the origins of the Scientific Revolution and identify important scientific discoveries of the time and their impact. Next you'll explore the causes and effects of the Enlightenment and identify important Enlightenment philosophers and their philosophies. Then you'll learn about the causes and effects of the American Revolution and analyze the views of the Founding Fathers. You'll also study the causes and effects of the French Revolution, the important events of the French Revolution, and the effects of the Napoleonic period on the French Revolution. At the end of the unit, you'll explore the factors that led to the Latin American political revolutions, identify important Latin American revolutionary leaders, and assess the effects of Latin American revolutions.

Day	Activity/Objective	Type
3 days: 49–51	The Scientific Revolution <i>Assess the impact of the Scientific Revolution on worldviews.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 52–54	The Enlightenment <i>Explain the causes and effects of the Enlightenment.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 55–57	The American Revolution <i>Explain the historical and philosophical context of the American Revolution.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 58–60	The French Revolution <i>Analyze the causes and effects of the French Revolution.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 61–63	The Napoleonic Period <i>Analyze the impact of the Napoleonic period on the French Revolution.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 64–66	Latin American Political Revolutions <i>Analyze the major influences on Latin American revolutions in the early nineteenth century.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 67–70	Unit Activity and Discussion—Unit 4	Unit Activity/ Discussion
1 day: 71	Posttest—Unit 4	Assessment

Unit 5: The Rise of Industry and Nationalism

Summary

This unit focuses on the spread of the Industrial Revolution and nationalism around the world. First you'll learn about the influence of the Agricultural Revolution on the Industrial Revolution and analyze the causes and effects of the Industrial Revolution. Next you'll examine the factors that led to the rise of nationalism in Europe. Then you'll analyze the factors that caused the Russian Revolution.

Day	Activity/Objective	Type
3 days: 72–74	The Agricultural Revolution <i>Assess the impact of the eighteenth-century Agricultural Revolution on the Industrial Revolution.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 75–77	The Industrial Revolution <i>Assess the impact of the nineteenth-century Industrial Revolution.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 78–80	The Rise of Nationalism <i>Describe the rise of nationalism in Europe.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 81–83	Russia’s Transition to the Industrial Age <i>Explain the reasons for the Russian Revolution.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 84–87	Unit Activity and Discussion—Unit 5	Unit Activity/ Discussion
1 day: 88	Posttest—Unit 5	Assessment
1 day 89	Semester Review	
1 day 90	End-of-Semester Test	Assessment

Course Map

You will achieve course level objectives by completing each lesson’s instruction, assignments, and assessments. For a detailed look at how the materials meet these objectives, review the [course map for Semester A](#).