

Syllabus

World History Survey, Semester A

Course Overview

In World History Survey, Semester A, you'll learn about major historical events, from the earliest human societies through the Middle Ages. In the first unit, you'll learn about early humans, the Neolithic Revolution, and the development of civilizations in Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, and China. In the second and third units, you'll study major world religions and classical civilizations of the world. In the last two units, you'll study the history and society in the early and late Middle Ages.

Course Goals

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

- Identify and use primary and secondary sources.
- Understand chronological thinking.
- Identify bias and credibility in historical sources.
- Analyze the impact of the Neolithic Revolution.
- Understand the characteristics of ancient river civilizations.
- Identify the origins and main beliefs of Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, and Confucianism.
- Examine the characteristics and legacy of ancient Greek civilizations, the Roman Republic, and the Roman Empire.
- Identify the characteristics of classical Chinese and Indian civilizations.
- Understand the development of pre-Columbian Mesoamerican and Andean civilizations.
- Examine the development of civilizations in China, Japan, and Africa during the Middle Ages.
- Analyze the effects of the Mongol invasions on Russia, China, and Islamic civilizations.
- Examine the transformation of western Europe during the late Middle Ages.

General Skills

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

- 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 Plato Student Orientation document, found at the beginning of this course.

Credit Value

World History Survey, 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: Pre-History and Early Civilizations

Summary

In this unit, you'll learn the techniques used by historians to study the past. You will also observe the growth and impact of the Neolithic Revolution on the development of later civilizations. You will then study the earliest civilizations in Mesopotamia and the development of the ancient Egyptian civilization along the Nile River. At the end of the unit, you'll examine ancient civilizations in India and China.

| Day | Activity/Objective | Type |
|-------------|---|--------------------|
| 1 day: 1 | Syllabus and Plato Student Orientation <i>Review the Plato Student Orientation and Course Syllabus at the beginning of this course.</i> | Course Orientation |

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| 3 days: 2–4 | Discovering the Ancient Past <i>Identify the skills that historians use to study the past.</i> | Lesson |
| 3 days: 5–7 | Early Humans and the Neolithic Revolution <i>Analyze the growth of farming societies and their impact on the development of civilizations.</i> | Lesson |
| 3 days: 8–10 | Mesopotamia <i>Examine the development and characteristics of civilizations in Mesopotamia.</i> | Lesson |
| 3 days: 11–13 | Ancient Egypt <i>Explore the development and success of the ancient Egyptian civilization along the Nile River.</i> | Lesson |
| 3 days: 14–16 | Ancient India and China <i>Investigate the development and characteristics of early civilizations in India and China.</i> | Lesson |
| 4 days: 17–20 | Unit Activity and Discussion—Unit 1 | Unit Activity/ Discussion |
| 1 day: 21 | Posttest—Unit 1 | Assessment |

Unit 2: Major Religions and Classical Civilizations of Europe and the Middle East

Summary

This unit focuses on the origins and beliefs of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam and the development of classical civilizations around the Mediterranean Sea. You'll examine the characteristics of ancient Greek civilizations and study the development and characteristics of the Roman Republic and the Roman Empire. At the end of the unit, you'll evaluate the ancient Greek and Roman influence on modern civilization.

| Day | Activity/Objective | Type |
|------------------|---|--------|
| 3 days: 22–24 | World Religions: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam <i>Examine the origins and beliefs of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.</i> | Lesson |

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| 3 days: 25–27 | Ancient Greece <i>Explore the development and characteristics of ancient Greek civilizations.</i> | Lesson |
| 3 days: 28–30 | Ancient Rome <i>Study the development and characteristics of the Roman Republic and the Roman Empire.</i> | Lesson |
| 3 days: 31–33 | The Legacy of Greece and Rome <i>Analyze the ancient Greek and Roman influence on modern civilization.</i> | Lesson |
| 4 days: 34–37 | Unit Activity and Discussion—Unit 2 | Unit Activity/ Discussion |
| 1 day: 38 | Posttest—Unit 2 | Assessment |

Unit 3: Major Religions and Classical Civilizations of Asia and the Americas

Summary

This unit focuses on religions and classical civilizations in Asia and the Americas. First, you'll study the origins and beliefs of Hinduism, Buddhism, and Confucianism. Then you'll study the classical civilizations of China and India. Finally, you'll examine pre-Columbian Mesoamerican and Andean civilizations.

| Day | Activity/Objective | Type |
|------------------|--|--------|
| 4 days: 39–42 | Hinduism, Buddhism, and Confucianism <i>Explore the origins and beliefs of Hinduism, Buddhism, and Confucianism.</i> | Lesson |
| 3 days: 43–45 | Classical Civilization in China <i>Trace the historical development and characteristics of classical Chinese civilization.</i> | Lesson |
| 3 days: 46–48 | Classical Civilization in India <i>Trace the historical development and characteristics of classical Indian civilization.</i> | Lesson |

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| 3 days: 49–51 | Mesoamerican and Andean Civilizations <i>Examine the development of pre-Columbian Mesoamerican and Andean civilizations.</i> | Lesson |
| 4 days: 52–55 | Unit Activity and Discussion—Unit 3 | Unit Activity/ Discussion |
| 1 day: 56 | Posttest—Unit 3 | Assessment |

Unit 4: The Early Middle Ages

Summary

This unit focuses on Europe and Asia in the early Middle Ages. First you'll study the collapse of classical empires. You'll examine the importance of Byzantine Empire to the history of Europe. You will then study the characteristics of society in western Europe, China, and Japan during the early Middle Ages.

| Day | Activity/Objective | Type |
|------------------|---|------------------------------|
| 3 days: 57–59 | The Fall of Classical Empires <i>Investigate the collapse of classical empires.</i> | Lesson |
| 3 days: 60–62 | The Byzantine Empire <i>Study the importance of the Byzantine Empire.</i> | Lesson |
| 3 days: 63–65 | Western Europe in the Early Middle Ages <i>Explore the development of western Europe in the early Middle Ages.</i> | Lesson |
| 3 days: 66–68 | China and Japan in the Middle Ages <i>Examine the development and characteristics of civilizations in China and Japan during the Middle Ages.</i> | Lesson |
| 4 days: 69–72 | Unit Activity and Discussion—Unit 4 | Unit Activity/ Discussion |
| 1 day: 73 | Posttest—Unit 4 | Assessment |

Unit 5: The Late Middle Ages

Summary

In this unit, you'll learn about developments around the world during the late Middle Ages. First, you'll examine important civilizations of West Africa. Then, you'll study the effects of the Mongol invasions on the regions they conquered. Finally, you will analyze the many changes faced by people living in western Europe during the late Middle Ages.

| Day | Activity/Objective | Type |
|------------------|---|------------------------------|
| 3 days: 74–76 | African Civilizations <i>Examine the development of African civilization in the Middle Ages.</i> | Lesson |
| 4 days: 77–80 | Mongol Invasions <i>Analyze the effects of the Mongol invasions on Russia, China, and Islamic civilizations.</i> | Lesson |
| 3 days: 81–83 | Europe in the Late Middle Ages <i>Investigate the transformation of western Europe during the late Middle Ages.</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 |