

World History Syllabus - 2025-2026

Instructor: Zachery Peppers

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Classroom: 122

Course Outcomes

- **Course Description:** This course examines the major historical, political, economic, and cultural developments that have shaped the world from ancient civilizations to the modern era. Emphasis is placed on connecting past events to contemporary global issues.
 - **Curriculum Standards:** Tennessee state standards for World History and Geography ([[hyperlink to standards](#)]).
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Instruction

- **Topics/Competencies/Skills:**
 - Early Human Societies and Civilizations
 - Classical Civilizations (Greece, Rome, India, China)
 - The Middle Ages and Islamic Empires
 - The Renaissance and Reformation
 - Exploration and the Columbian Exchange
 - Revolutions and Nation-States
 - Industrialization and Imperialism
 - The World Wars
 - The Cold War Era
 - Contemporary Global Issues
- **General Pacing:** Topics will be covered in weekly units, aligning with the school calendar and pacing guide.
- **Materials Needed for the Class:**
 - Notebook
 - Writing utensils
 - Textbook: [Title and Edition]
 - Access to online resources (ASPN or school-provided tools).
- **Resources:** Primary and secondary sources, multimedia tools, and supplemental handouts.
- **Safety Procedures:** Not applicable.
- **Intervention Offered:** Tutoring available after school on [specific days and times].

Assessment and Grading

- **Grading Policy:**
 - Daily Work:40%
 - Quizzes and Projects:40%
 - Tests: 20%
 - **Explanation of Assignments:** Detailed rubrics and guidelines will accompany all major projects and essays.
 - **Make-Up and Late Work Policy:**
 - Late assignments are accepted up to one week after the due date with a 10% deduction per day.
 - Students who miss class due to excused absences must coordinate with the teacher for makeup work within one week.
 - **Grade Posting Policy:** Grades will be updated in ASPEN weekly.
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General Expectations

Students

- **Attendance Policy:** Follow school guidelines as stated in the student handbook.
 - **Classroom Policies:**
 - Respect your peers, teacher, and property.
 - Come to class prepared and stay on task.
 - Follow school policies regarding appropriate behavior and technology use.
 - **Honor Code:** Students are expected to act with integrity and follow the school's PBIS plan. Violations, such as cheating or plagiarism, will result in disciplinary action.
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Plagiarism

Plagiarism, including the use of generative AI, is considered academic fraud.

- **Definition:** According to the Harbrace Handbook, 15th edition, plagiarism is defined as presenting someone else's ideas, research, or opinions as your own without proper documentation, even if rephrased.
- **Examples of Plagiarism:**
 - Copying verbatim or paraphrasing without citing the source.
 - Using phrases, figures, or illustrations without proper attribution.
- **Consequences:**

- Students found guilty of plagiarism may redo the assignment for a reduced grade or take a zero, as determined by the teacher in consultation with parents.
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Religion in the Classroom

The teaching of religion will follow Board Policy 4.804, ensuring it is factual, objective, and respectful.

- **Board Guidelines:** Discussions will focus on the historical, cultural, and political significance of religion without promoting specific beliefs.

Curriculum Outline

Semester 1

August 2 - December 20

Unit 1: Conflict and Absolutism in Europe (1550–1715)

August 2 - August 16

Lesson 1: Europe in Crisis

Lesson 2: War and Revolution in England

Lesson 3: Absolutism in Europe

Unit 2: The Enlightenment and Revolutions (1550–1800)

August 19 - September 6

Lesson 1: The Ideas of the Enlightenment

Lesson 2: Enlightened Absolutism and the Balance of Power

Lesson 3: The American Revolution

Unit 3: The French Revolution and Napoleon (1789–1815)

September 9 - September 27

Lesson 1: The French Revolution Begins

Lesson 2: Radical Revolution and Reaction

Lesson 3: The Rise of Napoleon and the Napoleonic Wars

Lesson 4: The Fall of Napoleon and the European Reaction

Unit 4: Industrialization and Nationalism (1800–1870)

September 30 - October 18

Lesson 1: The First Global Economic Systems

Lesson 2: The Industrial Revolution

Lesson 3: Nationalism and Political Revolutions

Lesson 4: Nationalism, Unification, and Reform

Lesson 5: Nation Building in Latin America

Unit 5: Mass Society and Democracy (1870–1914)

October 21 - November 8

Lesson 1: The Growth of Industrial Prosperity

Lesson 2: The Emergence of Mass Society

Lesson 3: The National State and Democracy

Lesson 4: Modern Ideas and Uncertainty

Unit 6: The Reach of Imperialism (1800–1914)

November 11 - December 6

Lesson 1: Colonial Rule in Southeast Asia

Lesson 2: Empire Building in Africa

Lesson 3: British Rule in India

Lesson 4: Imperialism in Latin America

Review and Midterm Preparation

December 9 - December 18

Review all units covered

Practice exams and review sessions

Midterm Exam

December 19

Semester 2

January 6 - May 23

Unit 7: Challenge and Transition in East Asia (1800–1914)

January 6 - January 17

Lesson 1: The Decline of the Qing Dynasty

Lesson 2: Revolution in China

Lesson 3: The Rise of Modern Japan

Unit 8: World War I and the Russian Revolution (1914–1919)

January 20 - February 7

Lesson 1: World War I Begins

Lesson 2: World War I

Lesson 3: The Russian Revolution

Lesson 4: World War I Ends

Unit 9: The West Between the Wars (1919–1939)

February 10 - February 21

Lesson 1: Instability After World War I

Lesson 2: The Rise of Dictatorial Regimes

Lesson 3: Hitler and Nazi Germany

Unit 10: Nationalism Around the World (1919–1939)

February 24 - March 14

Lesson 1: Nationalism in the Middle East

Lesson 2: Nationalism in Africa and Asia

Lesson 3: Revolutionary Chaos in China

Lesson 4: Nationalism in Latin America

Unit 11: World War II and the Holocaust (1939–1945)

March 17 - April 4

Lesson 1: World War II Begins

Lesson 2: World War II

Lesson 3: The Home Front and Civilians

Lesson 4: The New Order and the Holocaust

Lesson 5: World War II Ends

Unit 12: The Cold War (1945–1989)

April 7 - April 25

Lesson 1: The Cold War Begins

Lesson 2: China After World War II

Lesson 3: Cold War Conflicts

Unit 13: Independence and Nationalism in the Developing World (1945–1993)

April 28 - May 9

Lesson 1: South and Southeast Asia

Lesson 2: The Middle East

Lesson 3: Africa

Lesson 4: Latin America

Unit 14: Life During the Cold War (1945–1989)

May 12 - May 16

Lesson 1: Western Europe and North America

Lesson 2: Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union

Lesson 3: The Asian Rim

Review and Final Exam Preparation

May 19

Review all units covered

Practice exams and review sessions

Final Exam

May 20

End of Year Activities

May 21 - May 23

Final review sessions and activities