

1/15/08

WORLD HISTORY GRADES 9-12

Units: 10 high school credits

UC Requirement Category: a

Course Description:

The course is a two semester survey of World History course designed to introduce students to the major world developments and issues that have shaped our past, present, and future. The course will begin with an introduction to current world issues and follow the rise of democracy in the West. Students will then explore the growing interdependence of people and cultures throughout the world by studying the Indian, Chinese, African, Latin American and Middle Eastern Civilizations. This course will challenge students to work to their full capacities, develop critical thinking skills, and encourage each to assume a global responsibility. A research paper is required in the second semester. Homework is assigned daily. Students must earn a passing grade for graduation.

Course Goals:

By the end of this course students should be able to do the following:

1. Examine and understand the major events, movements, and ideas that are shaping the contemporary world.
2. Examine and understand the local and global community through the study of political systems, economic systems, and cultural identities.
3. Compare cultures in their historic and geographic context and their international relationships.
4. Develop and use critical thinking and research skills by producing one formal research paper, several short original papers, and informal and formal oral presentations.
5. Recognize the significance of major historical developments from a cause and effect perspective.
6. Apply the understanding of our national and global societies through the exercise of our responsibilities as members of a community.

Required Textbooks:

Text: World History-Connections to Today, Prentice Hall 2004.

Skill Building

In addition to students learning and understanding information about United States history, they also need to work on specific critical thinking, research, and writing skills. My goal is that by the end of this course students should be able to do the following:

- A) Identify and explain the historical significance of persons, places, ideas, and events.
- B) Compare, contrast, analyze, and describe people, places, ideas, and events.
- C) Write a clear and concise essay during a thirty-minute period.
- D) Identify the causes and effects of historical events and be able to connect effects of one event with causes of another.

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E) Find information on a given topic in multiple resources, give an oral presentation, and write a formal research paper with an original thesis and supporting documentation.

Content Outline

The following is an outline of the units that will be covered throughout the school year:

Semester One

Western Civilization and the Modern World

Unit 1 Rise of Democracy: Ancient Greece, Rome, and English Revolution

Unit 2 French Revolution

Unit 3 Industrial Revolution and Imperialism

Unit 4 World War I and the Russian Revolution

Unit 5 Totalitarianism, World War II and the Cold War

Semester Two

Regional Area Studies

Unit 6 Africa

Unit 7 Latin American Civilization

Unit 8 South Asian Civilization (emphasis: India)

Unit 9 Chinese Civilization

Unit 10 Middle East Civilization