



Southmoreland School District AP World History Curriculum Overview

AP World History Overview:

This course explores the expansive history of the human world. You will learn facts and critical thinking skills necessary to analyze historical evidence. Five themes will be used as a frame of reference in the chronological study of our world's history: (1) Interaction between humans and the environment, (2) development and interaction of cultures, (3) state-building, expansion and conflict, (4) creation, expansion and interaction of economic systems, (5) development and transformation of social structures. You will acquire the ability to examine change over time, including the causation of events as well as the major effects of historical developments, the interconnectedness of events over time and the spatial interactions that have geographic, political, cultural and social significance. It is important for each student to develop the ability to connect the local to the global, and vice versa. You also will learn how to compare developments in different regions and in different time periods as well as contextualize important changes and continuities throughout world history.

Module Titles:

- Module 1: The Global Tapestry c. 1200-1450**
- Module 2: Networks of Exchange**
- Module 3: Land-Based Empires c. 1450-1750**
- Module 4: Transoceanic Interconnections**
- Module 5: Revolutions c. 1750-1900**
- Module 6: Consequences of Industrialization**
- Module 7: Global Conflict**
- Module 8: Cold War and Decolonization c. 1900 to the present**
- Module 9: Globalization**

Module Overviews:

Module 1: The Global Tapestry c. 1200-1450

Students develop an understanding of developments in East Asia from c. 1200 to c. 1450, Dar al-Islam from c. 1200 to c. 1450, and South and Southeast Asia from c. 1200 to c. 1450, as well as state building in the Americas.

Module 2: Networks of Exchange

Students describe the Silk Roads, the Mongol Empire and the Making of the modern world, the exchange in the Indian Ocean, and the Trans-Saharan trade routes. Students analyze the cultural consequences of connectivity and the subsequent effects on the environment. A comparison of economic exchange is developed.



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Module 3: Land-Based Empires c. 1450-1750

An understanding of the expansion, administration, and belief systems of empires is developed as well as a subsequent comparison in the various land-based empires.

Module 4: Transoceanic Interconnections

The study of technological innovations from 1450 to 1750 is emphasized and the subsequent results. Students develop an understanding of the causes and events from 1450 to 1750, as well as the Columbian Exchange, establishment, maintenance, and development of maritime empires. Students analyze continuity and change of the internal and external challenges to state power from 1450 to 1750, as well as the changing social hierarchies from 1450 to 1750.

Module 5: Revolutions c. 1750-1900

An understanding and analysis of major world revolutionary events is developed, centered on the Enlightenment, Nationalism and Revolutions in the Period from 1750 to 1900, and the Industrial Revolution, as well as the subsequent effects on the economy and society based on technological development and governmental roles.

Module 6: Consequences of Industrialization

An understanding and analysis of the consequences of industrialization is developed leading to the development of imperialism and state expansion from 1750 to 1900. The various effects such as the indigenous responses to state expansion, economic imperialism, and migration are interspersed.

Module 7: Global Conflict

Students analyze the social, political, and economic events from 1900-1945 leading to the development of World War I and World War II.

Module 8: Cold War and Decolonization c. 1900 to the present

Students analyze and explain the reasons for decolonization, the Cold War, the spread of Communism after 1900, as well as the development of newly independent states and global resistance.

Module 9: Globalization

The course concludes with an overview of the continuity and change in a globalized world centering around the advances in technology and exchange after 1900, calls for reform, resistance to globalization, and the development of new institutions.