

Honors World History- Part A

COURSE DESCRIPTION: In this comprehensive survey of world history from prehistoric to modern times, students focus in depth on the developments and events that have shaped civilization across time. The course is organized chronologically and, within broad eras, regionally. Lessons address developments in religion, philosophy, the arts, science and technology, and political history. The course also introduces geography concepts and skills within the context of the historical narrative. Online lessons and assessments complement World History: Our Human Story, a textbook written and published by K¹². Students are challenged to consider topics in depth as they analyze primary sources and maps, create timelines, and complete other projects—practicing historical thinking and writing skills as they explore the broad themes and big ideas of human history.

PREREQUISITES: Middle school American History Since 1865, American History B, World History A or World History B, or equivalent

COURSE LENGTH: One Semester

REQUIRED TEXT: World History: Our Human Story

MATERIALS LIST: No required materials for this course

COURSE OUTLINE:

Unit 1: Civilization Begins

- Semester Introduction
- Finding Our Past
- Settling Down
- The First Civilization
- The Gift of the Nile
- Civilization on the Nile
- Early Civilizations in India and China
- Looking at Civilizations
- The First Empires
- Egypt Builds an Empire
- Expanding Empires

Unit 2: Civilizations Flourish

- Mediterranean Traders
- The Hebrews and Early Judaism
- South Asia and Hinduism
- The Birth of Buddhism
- India's Golden Age
- Classical China and Confucianism
- China's Dynasties
- Exploring Further

Unit 3: The Western Classical World

- Greek Beginnings
- Rival City-States
- War, Glory, and Decline
- Greek Art and Literature
- Lovers of Wisdom
- Alexander the Great
- The Roman Republic
- Rome's Expansion and Crisis
- From Republic to Empire
- Roman Society and Culture
- The Rise of Christianity
- The Roman Empire Crumbles

Unit 4: Regional Civilizations and Cultures

- North African Societies
- South of the Sahara
- Societies in the Americas
- The Byzantine Empire
- Byzantine Civilization
- Russia Rises
- The Rise of Islam
- The Spread of Islam

- Muslim Culture and Life

Unit 5: Regional Transitions

- China's Tang and Song Dynasties
- The Silk Road
- The Mongols
- Korea and Japan Rising
- Charlemagne Forges an Empire
- Life in the Middle Ages
- Europe's Age of Faith
- The Crusades
- The Culture of the Middle Ages
- The Rise of Monarchs
- Crises
- Powerful People

Unit 6: Patterns of Civilization

- West African Kingdoms
- Eastern and Southern African Kingdoms
- New Muslim Empires
- China's Ming and Qing Dynasties
- Japan's Tokugawa Shogunate
- Looking Back

Unit 7: Changing Worlds

- The Aztec Empire
- The Empire of the Inca
- The Renaissance Begins in Italy
- Artistic Genius
- Beyond Italy
- The Elizabethan Age

Unit 8: Semester Review and Test