

Course Description

7th Social Studies World Cultures and Geography

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Students will be taken through the disciplines of world history, landform and geography, money and economics, the powers and parallels of political science, sociology, and anthropology. Through hands-on tutorials and interaction with animation that brings this history to life, students will acquire the skills necessary to study and understand world cultures, while examining their unique physical features using state-of-the-art electronic geographic tools. Beginning with the mysteries of the ancient empires of the Americas, students will discover and understand the fall of the Roman Empire, the rise of the Franks in Europe, and uncover the enchanting Kingdom of Ghana. Students will be taken through Revolutionary Europe, then to the Industrial Revolution, Nationalism and Imperialism, and on to World Wars I and II. They'll discover the wonders of Colonial India, become informed about the United Nations as a peacekeeping and political force, the politics of the war in Vietnam, and past and current issues in the Middle East. Finally, they'll discover modern Africa and understand its history, to end with a broad but compelling introduction to the Information and Space Ages.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: After completing the course, students will be able to:

1. Apply absolute and relative chronology through the sequencing of significant individuals, events and time periods to include the impact of regional and national civil rights.
2. Examine and understand the systems of free enterprise, supply and demand, government regulation on a global and national scale.
3. Investigate regional industries and their contribution to a global marketplace.
4. Understand the basis on which maps, graphs and diagrams are created.
5. Use geographic tools such as thematic maps, graphs, charts, models, and databases to collect, analyze, interpret, and present data.
6. Use geographic representations to display spatial information.
7. Understand absolute and relative location.
8. Describe the physical and human characteristics of places and regions.
9. Describe the physical processes that shape patterns of Earth's surface.
10. Identify points of view from the historical context surrounding an event and the frame of reference that influenced the participants.
11. Analyze political, economic, and social effects of war.
12. Organize and interpret information from outlines, reports, databases, and visuals including graphs, charts, timelines, and maps in order to make generalizations about events in history.
13. Understand the effects of the interaction between humans and the environment.
14. Compare types and uses of technology, past and present, by analyzing the effects of scientific discoveries and technological innovations.
15. Apply critical thinking skills to organize and use information acquired from a variety of sources including electronic technology.
16. Analyze information by sequencing, categorizing, identifying cause-and-effect relationships, comparing, contrasting, finding the main idea, summarizing, making generalizations and predictions, and drawing inferences and conclusions.

PRE-REQUISITES: None

COURSE LENGTH: One Year

REQUIRED TEXT: None

COURSE OUTLINE:

Unit I: Americas – Topics include: Ancient Empires • Colonization • Modern History

Unit II: Roman Empire – Topics include: Fall of the Roman Empire • Byzantine Empire

Unit III: Europe – Topics include: Franks • Vikings • Papal Domination • Renaissance • Industrial Revolution • WWI • WWII • Cold War

Unit IV: Asia – Topics include: Imperialism • Colonization • Mongul Period • Peoples Republic of China

Unit V: Africa – Topics include: Kingdom of Ghana • Modern History

Unit VI: Middle East – Topics include: Sassanides • Caliphates • Persia • Ottoman Empire • Modern History