

**FAME Public Charter School**  
**Course Description**  
**World History**

**Description:**

This is a survey course covering pre-historic to modern times, both western and non-western worlds. Topics include: the rise of civilization; political, social, and economic developments of the Middle Ages; the Renaissance and the era of discovery; the growth of democracy and nationalism; the Industrial Revolution; the two world wars; the postwar problems; and current events. The development and influence of various religions, philosophies, and political, social and economic systems are also examined in context. This course is typically taken in the 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Objectives:**

Students will work towards mastering the California State History-social Science Content Standards. Student understanding of the standards will be measured by teachers, working collaboratively, to consider a multifaceted view of what constitutes a mature understanding of concepts. Students will demonstrate understanding by being able to:

- \*Utilize the tools of a historian to explain past events
- \*Explain the relationship between geography and certain historical developments
- \*Discuss the major trends like nationalism and industrialism on world events
- \*Describe the major events throughout world history
- \*Express ideas in a clear and logical fashion
- \*Understand how the present relates to the past

**Key Assignments:**

**In addition to chapter readings, assignments, quizzes, and tests, students will complete the following major assignments for each unit.**

Directions:

- All written assignments are to be typed or legibly written in ink.
- The final paper/project, together with all drafts, will be submitted and the final product will be graded. The teacher or a colleague of the teacher will complete the assessment. The evaluator will consider spelling, grammar, vocabulary, depth of understanding, insight, and other qualities of good writing and whether or not the project meets the scope of the assignment. School approved guidelines for grading, commonly called rubrics, will be followed by the teachers in the grading of student writing assignments.

First Semester:

1. 1. In order to understand the history of the world, an understanding of geography is needed. To begin in the understanding of the cultures and political boundaries

of the world, each student is to use maps, atlases, and other resources to locate San Francisco, London, Rome, Athens, Cairo, Baghdad, Tokyo, Rio de Janeiro, Capetown, Sydney, and Hong Kong. Then in a written report indicate the following for each:

- The approximate longitude and latitude, the hemispheres
- In what present day country each is located
- The capital of each country in which these cities are located
- The type of government for each country (examples: democracy, monarchy, dictatorship)
- The nearest navigable body of water
- The present day approximate population
- Major landmarks or monuments
- The major source of income for the population
- The major ethnic group
- The predominate religion practiced

2. Select one of the following:

A. Being a leader is often difficult – today or in the ancient past. Students will research a famous leader from one of the ancient civilizations and prepare a 3-5 page paper that presents an overview of the leaders time of rule, the leaders philosophies or methods of rule, the strengths and weaknesses of those methods, and relate whether or not the student feels the ruler would be effective in modern democratic society and why or why not.

B. Students will select an ancient Chinese philosophy or philosopher and study the basic teachings. The student will give an oral presentation interpreting the teachings. The presentation will include at least one of the philosopher's original writings. In addition the student will write and present a maxim in his/her own words that reflects the teachings of the philosopher as they may be applied in modern times. The presentation should also discuss why the selected philosopher was/is important to Chinese civilization. The oral presentation will be 10 minutes in length and the student will submit an outline.

### Second Semester –

1. Students will plan and write a term paper, which will be due in May. The term paper will be 4-6 pages in length and follow MLA format. The teacher must approve the topic in advance. Topics selected could be an analysis of conditions, such as “World War I and Its Consequences,” informational such as “Nazi Germany” or “Stalinist Russia,” comparisons such as “Similarities and Differences of Israel and Syria,” or contrasts, such as “Slavery in 1850 and Illegal Immigration in 2005.” A minimum of 3 sources must be referenced.

**Curriculum:**

May be selected from the following:

- \*Textbook: Holt, World History, People and Nations
- \*Textbook: Prentice-Hall, World History, Connections to Today, survey ed, 2003
- \*NDIS: World History, Course #HSS1011/1012
- \*Oak Meadow, World History, Course #10085
- \*University Nebraska-Lincoln I.S.H.S., World History, Course #SSTH 031/032, CP
- \*Laurel Springs, World History, Text, Online
- \*BYU I.S.H.S., World History, Course #Hist 61 / 62

**Assessment Methods and/or Tools:**

A variety of assessment tools will be used. Written work, as described above, will be corrected in collaboration between the student, teacher, and parent. Assessment tools include but are not limited to:

- \*Standardized tests, including STAR
- \*Criterion based tests
- \*Portfolio assessments
- \*Student Journals
- \*Teacher observation
- \*Performance assessments using cameras and recorders
- \*Student self-evaluation
- \*Surveys and questionnaires
- \*Written work, quizzes, and final exams must be completed

**Course Grading Scale:**

Weekly Chapter Assignments: 20%  
Chapter Review Tests: 40%  
Papers/Oral Presentation: 20%  
Final Exam: 20%

This is a one-year course. 5 credits each semester will be awarded with a passing grade.

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