



RADNOR TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
Course Overview



7th Grade Accelerated- Ancient World History
Course #

General Information

Credits: N/A

Weighted: N/A

Prerequisite: Meet Acceleration Criteria

Length: Full Year

Format: Meets Daily

Grade: 7th

This Radnor Middle School Accelerated Seventh Grade Social Studies course analyzes the development of ancient civilizations from the beginning of prehistory through the development of river and trade civilizations, the ancient empires, and the Age of Exploration. The course is divided into four thematic units: The Individual & Society, Religion & Warfare, Economics & Technology, and Systems of Government. This course is designed to provide appropriate academic rigor to advanced students.

This writing intensive course utilizes a variety of primary source documents, advanced supplemental readings, complex comparative analyses of current events, and an extensive research project on an historical topic from world history using primary and secondary sources to conduct a thorough examination of world history. Success in this course requires skills that are two or more years above grade level in reading, writing, and thinking. The curriculum was created in accordance with PA Core State Standards and the Pennsylvania academic standards for social studies: Civics and Government, Economics, History, and Geography.

Course Objectives:

Students will be able to analyze and discuss the following essential questions:

- How is an individual's role in society determined?
- How do religious beliefs impact culture?
- What drives a culture's social, economic, and technological development?
- How and why do societies create, enforce, and interpret their system of laws?
- How does the past influence the present? How do we know what happened in the past?
- How does geography influence the development of a culture?

Enduring Understandings:

- Characteristics such as wealth, gender, and race affect an individual's place in society.
- Multiple factors drive progress and technological advancement.

- All organized societies form a government to control individuals' behavior.
- Present culture grows from the roots of past civilizations' ideological and technological development.
- History is understood through the interpretation of sources.
- Humans adapt to their environment.

Common Assessments:

Unit II
Performance of Cultural Values

Unit III
Connecting Religions Trifold

Unit IV
Ancient Civilizations Marketplace

Unit V
World Cup Government Debate

Written Language Benchmark (WLB)

Major Units of Study:

Unit I
Beginnings of Human Society

Unit II
Individual & Society

Unit III
Religion & Warfare

Unit IV
Economics & Technology

Unit V
Systems of Government

Unit VI
Explorers

Materials & Texts

Textbooks

- Ancient World History Patterns of Interaction Holt McDougal

Other Resources

- “Aztecs” (Publisher: Kids Discover)
- Giblin, James. Riddle of the Rosetta Stone
- “Incas” (Publisher: Kids Discover)
- Macaulay, David. Motel of Mysteries
- “Mayans” (Publisher: Kids Discover)
- Mellor, Ronald & Amanda Podany. The World in Ancient Times Primary Sources & Reference Volume.
- Sammis, Kathy. Focus on World History The Era of Expanding Exchange and Encounter 300-1000 C.E.
- Sammis, Kathy. Focus on World History The Era of Expanding Global Connections 1000-1500 C.E.
- Sammis, Kathy. Focus on World History The Era of Early Civilizations and Empires 3.5 Million Years Ago to the 300s C.E.
- Teachers’ Curriculum Institute History Alive Latin America
- Teachers’ Curriculum Institute History Alive: Modern Africa
- Skrabanek, D.W. Voices from Primary Sources
- Videos and movies
 - Nova video The Iceman
 - Discovery Engineering an Empire
- Various Internet websites

Summer Assignment

Currently N/A