

**Prerequisite courses:** none

**Grade level:** 9-12

## Course Description

This course introduces students to the origins and evolution of human societies, exploring major civilizations, empires, and cultural advancements from prehistory through medieval times. The course covers the development of agriculture, the rise of ancient empires, and the achievements of influential societies such as the Greeks, Romans, Han Dynasty, and West African kingdoms. Students will analyze the cultural, political, and economic characteristics of civilizations across Asia, Europe, the Americas, and Africa. Additionally, the course examines the connections between geography and societal development, as well as the influence of religion, trade, and innovation.

This course is part of the Exceptional Students Course Suite, designed for high school students working three or more grade levels behind. The Exceptional Students courses are ideal for students whose IEPs allow them to earn credit for below-grade-level coursework.

## Course Objectives

Students will meet the following goals in this course.

- Understand the role of geography, environment, and agriculture in shaping early human societies and civilizations.
- Analyze the political, social, and cultural achievements of major early civilizations.
- Evaluate the impact of religion, trade, and innovation on the development and interactions of societies across the globe.
- Explore the cultural, political, and economic characteristics of civilizations in the Americas, Africa, and Asia during the medieval period.
- Assess the causes and consequences of significant historical events such as the Crusades, the division of the Roman Church, and the spread of the bubonic plague.
- Develop historical inquiry skills by interpreting maps, primary sources, and historical evidence to better understand human societies' development and connections.

## Student Expectations

This course requires the same level of commitment from students as a traditional classroom course. Students are expected to spend approximately 5–7 hours per week online on:

- interactive lessons, which include a mixture of instructional videos and tasks.
- assignments, in which they apply and extend learning in each lesson.
- assessments, including quizzes, tests, and cumulative exams.

# World History Essentials I

## Communication

Teachers will communicate with students regularly through discussions, emails, chats, and system announcements. Students will also communicate with classmates, either via online tools or face to face, to collaborate, ask and answer questions in peer groups, and develop speaking and listening skills.

## Grading Policy

Students will be graded on work completed online and work submitted electronically to the teacher. The weighting for each category of graded activity is listed below.

Grading Category	Weight
Assignments	20%
Lesson quizzes	30%
Unit tests	30%
Cumulative exams	20%

## Scope and Sequence

When students log on to Imagine Edgenuity, they can view the entire course map—an interactive scope and sequence of all topics under study. The units of study are listed below

Course Units
Unit 1: Early Humankind and the Development of Human Societies
Unit 2: Ancient Greece and Roman Republic
Unit 3: World Cultures
Unit 4: The Americas
Unit 5: Medieval Europe