



# STAFFORD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## Curriculum Overview Honors World History I Grade 9

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### Course Description:

This course focuses on the historical development of people, places, and patterns of life from ancient times to approximately 1500 C.E. Historical topics will include the foundations of history, ancient civilizations, and spatial concepts of geography will be linked to form a framework for studying human interaction. There will be a special emphasis on thinking historically, historical perspectives and using primary source documents. Students will take the Standards of Learning test for World History/World Geography to 1500 C.E. during this course. Students will complete AP World History in the 10th grade or Honors World History II.

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### Essential Skills/Processes:

- Students will develop skills in mapping and analyzing charts and graphs.
  - Students will develop skills in analyzing primary and secondary sources from multiple perspectives.
  - Students will develop skills in writing persuasive essays and document-based questions.
  - Students will develop comparing and contrasting skills using the physical, cultural, economic and political systems of historical civilizations in the world.
  - Successful completion of this course will help prepare students for the Virginia SOL Assessment in World History/World Geography in grade 9.
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### Essential Knowledge:

#### Human Origins and Early Civilizations

Demonstrate knowledge of early development of humankind from the Paleolithic Era to the agricultural revolution by:

- Listing characteristics of hunter-gatherer societies, including their use of tools and fire.
- Describing technological and social advancements that gave rise to stable communities.
- Explaining how archaeological discoveries are changing present-day knowledge of early peoples.

Demonstrate knowledge of ancient river valley civilizations, including those of Mesopotamia, Egypt, the Indus River Valley, and China and the civilizations of the Hebrews, Phoenicians, and Nubians, by:

- Explaining the development of religious traditions.
- Describing the origins, beliefs, traditions, customs, and spread of Judaism.
- Explaining the development of language and writing.

Demonstrate knowledge of the civilizations of Persia, India, and China in terms of chronology, geography, social structures, government, economy, religion, and contributions to later civilizations by:

- Describing Persia, including Zoroastrianism and the development of an imperial bureaucracy.
- Describing India, with emphasis on the Aryan migrations and the caste system; and the origins, beliefs, traditions, customs, and spread of Hinduism.
- Describing the origins, beliefs, traditions, customs, and spread of Buddhism.
- Describing China, with emphasis on the development of an empire and the construction of the Great Wall.
- Describing the impact of Confucianism, Taoism, and Buddhism.

#### Classical Civilizations

Demonstrate knowledge of ancient Greece in terms of its impact on Western civilization by:

- Describing Greek mythology and religion.
- Evaluating the significance of the Persian and Peloponnesian wars.
- Characterizing life in Athens during the Golden Age of Pericles.
- Citing contributions in drama, poetry, history, sculpture, architecture, science, mathematics, and philosophy, with emphasis on Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle.
- Explaining the conquest of Greece by Macedonia and the formation and spread of Hellenistic culture by Alexander the Great.

Demonstrate knowledge of ancient Rome from about 700 B.C. (B.C.E.) to 500 A.D. (C.E.) in terms of its impact on Western civilization by:

- Describing Roman mythology and religion.
- Sequencing events leading to Roman military domination of the Mediterranean basin and Western Europe and the spread of Roman culture in these areas.
- Assessing the impact of military conquests on the army, economy, and social structure of Rome; and the roles of Julius and Augustus Caesar in the collapse of the Republic and the rise of imperial monarchs.
- Describing the origin, beliefs, traditions, customs, and spread of Christianity.

- Explaining the development and significance of the Church in the late Roman Empire.
- Listing contributions in art and architecture, technology and science, medicine, literature and history, language, religious institutions, and law.
- Citing the reasons for the decline and fall of the Western Roman Empire.

### **Post Classical Civilizations**

Demonstrate knowledge of the Byzantine Empire and Russia from about 300 to 1000 C.E. by:

- Identifying Justinian and his contributions, including the codification of Roman law, and describing the expansion of the Byzantine Empire and economy.
- Characterizing Byzantine art and architecture and the preservation of Greek and Roman traditions.
- Explaining disputes that led to the split between the Roman Catholic Church and the Greek Orthodox Church.
- Mapping and assessing the impact of Byzantine influence and trade on Russia and Eastern Europe.

Demonstrate knowledge of Islamic civilization from about 600 to 1000 C.E. by:

- Describing the origin, beliefs, traditions, customs, and spread of Islam;
- Identifying historic turning points that affected the spread and influence of Islamic civilization, with emphasis on the Sunni-Shi'a division and the Battle of Tours;
- Citing cultural and scientific contributions and achievements of Islamic civilization.

Demonstrate knowledge of Western Europe during the Middle Ages from about 500 to 1000 C.E. in terms of its impact on Western civilization by:

- Sequencing events related to the spread and influence of Christianity and the Catholic Church throughout Europe.
- Explaining the rise of Frankish kings, the Age of Charlemagne, and the revival of the idea of the Roman Empire.

### **Regional Interactions**

Demonstrate knowledge of civilizations and empires of the Eastern Hemisphere and their interactions through regional trade patterns by:

- Describing Japan, with emphasis on the impact of Shinto and Buddhist traditions and the influence of Chinese culture.
- Describing east African kingdoms of Axum and Zimbabwe and west African civilizations of Ghana, Mali, and Songhai in terms of geography, society, economy, and religion.

Demonstrate knowledge of major civilizations of the Western Hemisphere, including the Mayan, Aztec, and Inca, by:

- Describing cultural patterns and political and economic structures.

Demonstrate knowledge of social, economic, and political changes and cultural achievements in the late medieval period by:

- Describing the emergence of nation-states (England, France, Spain, and Russia) and distinctive political developments in each.
- Explaining conflicts among Eurasian powers, including the Crusades, the Mongol conquests, and the fall of Constantinople.
- Identifying patterns of crisis and recovery related to the Black Death (Bubonic Plague).
- Explaining the preservation and transfer to Western Europe of Greek, Roman, and Arabic philosophy, medicine, and science.

Demonstrate knowledge of developments leading to the Renaissance in Europe in terms of its impact on Western civilization by:

- Citing artistic, literary, and philosophical creativity, as contrasted with the medieval period, including Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, and Petrarch.
- Comparing the Italian and the Northern Renaissance, and citing the contributions of writers.

### **Geography**

Demonstrate knowledge of early development of humankind from the Paleolithic Era to the agricultural revolution by:

- Explaining the impact of geographic environment on hunter-gatherer societies.

Demonstrate knowledge of ancient river valley civilizations, including those of Mesopotamia, Egypt, the Indus River Valley, and China and the civilizations of the Hebrews, Phoenicians, and Nubians, by:

- Locating these civilizations in time and place.

Demonstrate knowledge of ancient Greece in terms of its impact on Western civilization by:

- Assessing the influence of geography on Greek economic, social, and political development, including the impact of Greek commerce and colonies.

Demonstrate knowledge of ancient Rome from about 700 B.C.E. to 500 C.E. in terms of its impact on Western civilization by:

- Assessing the influence of geography on Roman economic, social, and political development.

Demonstrate knowledge of the Byzantine Empire and Russia from about 300 to 1000 C.E. by:

- Explaining the establishment of Constantinople as the capital of the Eastern Roman Empire.

Demonstrate knowledge of Islamic civilization from about 600 to 1000 C.E. by:

- Assessing the influence of geography on Islamic economic, social, and political development, including the impact of conquest and trade.

Demonstrate knowledge of Western Europe during the Middle Ages from about 500 to 1000 C.E. in terms of its impact on Western civilization by:

- Sequencing events related to the invasions, settlements, and influence of migratory groups, including Angles, Saxons, Magyars, and Vikings.

Demonstrate knowledge of civilizations and empires of the Eastern Hemisphere and their interactions through regional trade patterns by:

- Locating major trade routes.

Demonstrate knowledge of major civilizations of the Western Hemisphere, including the Mayan, Aztec, and Incan, by:

- Describing geographic relationships, with emphasis on patterns of development in terms of climate and physical features.

### **Reporting Category: Civics and Economics**

Demonstrate knowledge of ancient river valley civilizations, including those of Mesopotamia, Egypt, the Indus River Valley, and China and the civilizations of the Hebrews, Phoenicians, and Nubians, by:

- Describing the development of social, political, and economic patterns, including slavery.

Demonstrate knowledge of ancient Greece in terms of its impact on Western civilization by:

- Identifying the social structure and role of slavery, explaining the significance of citizenship and the development of democracy, and comparing the city-states of Athens and Sparta.

Demonstrate knowledge of ancient Rome from about 700 B.C. (B.C.E.) to 500 A.D. (C.E.) in terms of its impact on Western civilization by:

- Explaining the social structure and role of slavery, significance of citizenship, and the development of democratic features in the government of the Roman Republic.
- Explaining the economic, social, and political impact of the Pax Romana.

Demonstrate knowledge of Western Europe during the Middle Ages from about 500 to 1000 C.E. in terms of its impact on Western civilization by:

- Explaining the structure of feudal society and its economic, social, and political effects.

Demonstrate knowledge of civilizations and empires of the Eastern Hemisphere and their interactions through regional trade patterns by:

- Identifying technological advances and transfers, networks of economic interdependence, and cultural interactions.

Demonstrate knowledge of developments leading to the Renaissance in Europe in terms of its impact on Western civilization by:

- Identifying the economic foundations of the Italian Renaissance;
- Sequencing events related to the rise of Italian city-states and their political development, including Machiavelli's theory of governing as described in *The Prince*.

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### **Resources:**

Virginia Standards of Learning for All Subject and Grade Levels:

[http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/standards\\_docs/index.shtml](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/standards_docs/index.shtml)

History and Social Science Curriculum Framework and Resources:

[http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/standards\\_docs/history\\_socialscience/index.shtml](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/standards_docs/history_socialscience/index.shtml)