

APEX World History

Class Description:

This class meets the graduation requirement for the State of Washington and Kennewick School District.

World History offers a tightly focused and scaffolded curriculum that uses multiple perspectives to trace the development of civilizations around the world from prehistory to the present. The course covers major events in world history, including the development and influence of human-geographic relationships, political and social structures, economics, science and technology, and the arts. Students investigate the major religions and belief systems throughout history and learn about the importance of trade and cultural exchange. Other topics include the development of agriculture, the spread of democracy, the rise of nation-states, the industrial era, the spread of imperialism, and the issues and conflicts of the 20th century. Students learn to use primary historical documents as evidence as they learn about past events.

World History is designed as the second course in the social studies sequence. Students develop confidence in their analytic writing through a scaffolded sequence of short analytic pieces and short essays, including document-based questions. Primary documents are embedded in the instruction to encourage students to make frequent connections to evidence from the past.

Learning Materials:

APEX is a complete curriculum, other than a computer a student does not need any additional materials.

Learning Goals:

The content is based on standards from the National Council for History Education (1997), the National Center for History in the Schools (1996), and the National Council for Social Studies (1994) and is aligned to state standards. This course meets a graduation requirement and meets at least one GLE and/or EALR.

Learning Activities:

Student will complete Study, Discussion, Activity and a Quiz for each section in a unit and then will complete a unit exam. Activities are based on a student earning a min. of 70% or better in each activity.

Evaluation:

On each month's progress reports, student will report completion and mastery of learning activities designed to reach specific goals within the course description.

In addition, students will keep portfolios of their written work, quizzes, and tests to show their consultants and/or HQ teachers.

Every month progress will be determined by the HQ teacher of this course based on the question: "Will the student master his performance objectives by the end of the course?" The HQ teacher will take into consideration ALL factors (including student life situation, effort, attitude, etc.) when making this professional judgment.

Each month, the student will be expected to master approximately 10% of the yearly goals for this class (or 20% of semester goals), with all of the goals being met by the end of the year (or semester.) The mastery of any one goal may be an on-going process and some goals may overlap or be difficult to measure. Evaluation of progress toward the mastery of the goals will be based on monthly completion (or progress toward completion) of the learning activities that are designed to provide the means to achieving the goals of the learning plan. With that said, monthly progress can still be marked satisfactory based on the professional judgment of the teacher that the student will complete the goals of the course.