

Students will examine cultural and historical developments that have directly influenced modern societies through the study of ancient civilizations. Students will examine the foundations of ancient civilizations, the growth of empires, the emergence and expansion of nations, and the revolutions and imperialism which led toward globalization. This course analyzes the fundamental practices that have transcended time and place and have helped shape the most successful civilizations in history. World History will examine the political, social and economic systems that exist in the world today, and question how these systems were shaped by events of the past. This approach to teaching history will take on greater meaning for students who will be able to draw meaningful correlations between people and events of the past and understand how they are relevant today. In particular, students will examine the major achievements of ancient civilizations including Mesopotamia, Egypt, the Hebrews, Greece and Rome to identify how developments in those areas provided the foundation for western civilization. In the Middle Ages, the emergence of a western civilization stemmed from the fusion of Greco-Roman heritage, Germanic traditions and the Christian faith. The combination of these elements led to the creation of a distinct civilization that recognized and promoted the value of individualism. This course will also examine how Europeans expanded their empires in the 15th and 16th centuries as a result of exploration and colonization. By examining how Europeans attempted to impose their political, social, and economic views on others, students will have the ability to understand the modern cultures and politics in the world around them. Revolutions throughout the world erupted during the 19th \ 20th and early 21st centuries, helping to weed out flawed practices that hindered or limited progress. Today, global forces are driving citizens of respective nations to work cooperatively to address political, social and economic concerns. This course not only examines events of the past to understand current global issues, but to also identify what role western civilization plays in influencing the global practices of today.