

6th Grade Middle School: Ancient Civilization A Syllabus

Course Overview

Studying the history of civilizations is an effective way to learn more about present times. Throughout history, some common themes have developed across cultures: improved methods of trade lead to growth, religion and philosophy inspire culture, and scholarly works of literature, math, and science emerge. In this course, you will learn about the great civilizations of the world and the unique characteristics that make each of them great.

Course Goals

By the end of this course, you will be able to do the following:

- Compare and contrast the major periods in ancient history.
- Describe the basic geography of major ancient civilizations.
- Understand how trade played a role in the development of different civilizations.
- Explain major technological achievements of different civilizations throughout history.

General Skills

To participate in this course, you should be able to do the following:

- Complete basic operations with word processing software, such as Microsoft Word or Google Docs.
- Perform online research using various search engines and library databases.
- Some course readings may require a visit to the school library or public library.

For a complete list of general skills that are required for participation in online courses, refer to the Prerequisites section of the Plato Student Orientation document, found at the beginning of this course.

Credit Value

Middle School Ancient Civilization A is an 18 week class

Course Materials

- Notebook
- Computer with Internet connection and speakers or headphones
- Microsoft Word or equivalent

Course Description Guide

This course description will give you an overview of the topics that will be covered in this course.

Syllabus and Plato Student Orientation

- Review the Plato Student Orientation and Course Syllabus at the beginning of this course.

First Civilizations

- Compare and contrast the major periods in ancient history.
- Describe the basic elements of civilization.
- Identify major accomplishments of early man.
- Identify some of the first civilizations and their contributions to later generations.

Ancient Egypt

- Describe the basic geography of ancient Egypt and the regions around it.
- Explain agricultural techniques used in ancient Egypt.
- Analyze the significance of pharaohs in Egyptian civilization.
- Describe details of ancient Egyptian culture.
- Describe ancient Egyptian advances in technology.
- Evaluate the role of Kush on ancient Egypt.

Ancient Phoenicians and Israelites

- Explain how trade was critical to the development of the Phoenicians.
- Describe the important contributions made by the Phoenicians and the Israelites.
- Understand how sea power helped spread Phoenician influence.
- Explain the religious beliefs of Judaism.
- Describe how Judaism influenced other major religions.

Ancient Greeks

- Compare and contrast the governments and way of life for people in Sparta and Athens.
- Outline the causes and effects of the Persian Wars.
- Identify Greek contributions to Western civilization in philosophy, architecture, politics, literature, science, sports, and the arts.
- Describe the accomplishments and influence of Alexander the Great.

Final Exam

Course Pacing Guide

This course pacing guide is intended to help you keep on schedule with your work if you are working on one class at a time. Note that your course instructor may modify the schedule to meet the specific needs of your class.

Syllabus and Plato Student Orientation

- Should take 1 day

First Civilizations

- 5 days

Ancient Egypt

- 5 days

Ancient Phoenicians and Israelites

- 5 days

Ancient Greeks

- 5 days

Final Exam

- 2 days of studying
- 1 day to take the exam