

Modern World History: Foundations of Modern World History

Unit 1: Foundations of the Modern World

Investigative Question: How did religion, government, and trade shape world civilizations before the modern era?

1. Islamic Civilization
 2. African Empires
 3. Asian Empires
 4. Ancient Civilizations of the Americas (Olmec, Maya, Inca, Aztec)
 5. Feudalism and Manorialism
 6. Bridge to Modernity
-

Unit 2: Rise of Intellectual Thought

Investigative Question: How do new ideas and developments in philosophy, art, and science foster change and progress?

1. Italian Renaissance
 2. Northern European Renaissance
 3. Protestant Reformation
 4. Counter Reformation
 5. Scientific Revolution
 6. The Enlightenment
-

Unit 3: Hemispheres Collide

Investigative Question: How does the desire for power impact societies and regions?

1. European Exploration
2. European Conquest in the Americas
3. The Columbian Exchange



4. Global Trade
 5. The Transatlantic Slave Trade
 6. Impact of Transatlantic Slave Trade
-

Unit 4: Revolutions

Investigative Question: How do revolutionary ideas spread and impact societies?

1. The English Civil War and Glorious Revolution
 2. The American Revolution
 3. The French Revolution
 4. Napoleon
 5. Haitian Revolution
 6. Latin American Revolutions
-

Unit 5: Industrialization and Urbanization

Investigative Question: What are the consequences of technological innovation and advancement?

1. Adam Smith and Free Enterprise
 2. Causes of Industrial Revolution
 3. The Spread of Industrialization
 4. Industrial Innovation and Technology
 5. Effects of Industrialization
 6. New Philosophies of the Industrial Revolution
-

Unit 6: Nationalism and Imperialism

Investigative Question: How did 19th century imperialism reflect both technological progress and enduring struggles over power, culture, and identity?



Social Studies

SCHOOL SERVICE

Contact your curriculum specialist to learn more.

access@socialstudies.com • 800.421.4246 • socialstudies.com

1. Causes of Imperialism
 2. The Role of Technology during the Age of Imperialism
 3. The Race for Africa
 4. The Spread of Imperialism in Asia
 5. Effects of Imperialism
 6. Nationalism
-

Unit 7: World War I

Investigative Question: How do alliances, nationalism, and new technologies transform regional conflicts into global wars?

1. Causes of WWI
 2. WWI Begins
 3. The Home Front
 4. Trench Warfare
 5. Ending WWI
 6. Lasting Effects of WWI
-

Unit 8: The World at War: World War II

Investigative Question: What are the dangers and consequences of unresolved conflict?

1. Causes of WWII
2. WWII Begins
3. The Holocaust
4. European Theater
5. Pacific Theater
6. The Atomic Bombs and Post War World



Unit 9: Cold War

Investigative Question: Was the Cold War more defined by military conflicts or by political, economic, and ideological competition?

1. The Cold War
 2. The Rise and Spread of Communism
 3. Cold War Conflicts
 4. Global Competition: US v. Soviet Union
 5. Cold War Alliances
 6. The Cold War Ends
-

Unit 10: Conflicts of the Modern World

Investigative Question: What lessons can we draw from global challenges?

1. Decolonization
 2. Arab-Israeli Conflict
 3. Genocide
 4. Standing Up to Political Oppression
 5. Terrorism
 6. International Cooperation
-

Unit 11: Globalization

Investigative Question: How has globalization reshaped economies, cultures, and daily life around the world?

1. Global Economy
2. Technology and Communication
3. Migration
4. Global Health
5. Human Rights
6. Environmental Challenges



Unit 12: The Modern World

Investigative Question: How can understanding the past help us make informed decisions about the future?

1. Global Citizenship
2. The Future of the World
3. Investigating Global Issues
4. Decision Making
5. Civic Action
6. Reflection and Connections