

Prerequisite courses: none

Grade level: 9-12

Course Description

This course explores significant developments from the Renaissance to the modern era, emphasizing how cultural, scientific, and political movements shaped the global community. Students will examine the transformative effects of the Renaissance, Reformation, and Enlightenment, as well as the impact of industrialization and global exploration. The course delves into the causes and consequences of World Wars I and II, the Cold War, and contemporary global conflicts. It also addresses modern challenges, including human rights issues, globalization, and technological advancements. By connecting historical events to current global dynamics, students gain a deeper understanding of the interconnectedness of the past and present.

This course is part of the Exceptional Students Course Suite, designed for high school students working three or more grade levels behind. The Exceptional Students courses are ideal for students whose IEPs allow them to earn credit for below-grade-level coursework.

Course Objectives

Students will meet the following goals in this course.

- Analyze the cultural, scientific, and political transformations of the Renaissance, Reformation, and Enlightenment.
- Evaluate the causes and global effects of European exploration, industrialization, and the Columbian Exchange.
- Examine the origins, major events, and consequences of the two World Wars and the Cold War.
- Explore the rise of totalitarian regimes, the Holocaust, and their impact on global history.
- Assess contemporary issues such as human rights, globalization, technological innovation, and international security.
- Develop historical thinking skills by interpreting primary and secondary sources, analyzing cause-and-effect relationships, and drawing connections between historical and modern events.

Student Expectations

This course requires the same level of commitment from students as a traditional classroom course. Students are expected to spend approximately 5–7 hours per week online on:

- interactive lessons, which include a mixture of instructional videos and tasks.
- assignments, in which they apply and extend learning in each lesson.
- assessments, including quizzes, tests, and cumulative exams.

World History Essentials

Communication

Teachers will communicate with students regularly through discussions, emails, chats, and system announcements. Students will also communicate with classmates, either via online tools or face to face, to collaborate, ask and answer questions in peer groups, and develop speaking and listening skills.

Grading Policy

Students will be graded on work completed online and work submitted electronically to the teacher. The weighting for each category of graded activity is listed below.

Grading Category	Weight
Assignments	20%
Lesson quizzes	30%
Unit tests	30%
Cumulative exams	20%

Scope and Sequence

When students log on to Imagine Edgenuity, they can view the entire course map—an interactive scope and sequence of all topics under study. The units of study are listed below

Course Units
Unit 1: Renaissance and Reformation
Unit 2: Enlightenment and Global Convergence
Unit 3: World Wars
Unit 4: The Cold War
Unit 5: The Modern World