I. Prehistory to 1400

A. Paleo lithic Age “The Stone Age”: begins the earliest human-like behaviors stone tool manufacture, and ends with modern human hunting and gathering societies. Nomadic behavior

1. Lower Paleolithic - ancestors of human beings - *Homo erectus* and *Homo ergaster*, roamed most of the earth and began making the first stone tools.

2. Middle Paleolithic - witnessed the evolution of *Neanderthals* and the first anatomically modern *Homo sapiens*, and some modern behaviors: sophisticated stone tools, caring for the elderly, hunting and gathering and some amount of symbolic or ritual behavior.

3. Upper Paleolithic – LSA (Late Stone Age) fully modern humans spread all over the planet, modern behaviors such as cave art, hunting, and a wide range of tools.

B. Neolithic Age “New Stone Age.”- Human society prior to 3000 B.C.E.:

1. Development of sedentary communities

2. Animal husbandry (also known as Pastoralism) – Domesticating and taking care of animals – Camels, goats, cattle, etc… (Herding)

3. Agriculture - the first evidence of farming appears on record
   a. The Neolithic farmers seem to have existed alongside the Hunter-Gatherer natives
   b. Built permanent settlements, used fire and more advanced stone tools like polished stone axes, began the deforestation of large sections of land for planting crops.
   c. The modern agricultural landscape of the NE of Scotland has its origins in the actions of these earliest of farmers.

d. the farming lifestyle rendered the nomadic Hunter – Gatherer life obsolete. (The people of the Neolithic were also the builders of the stone circles, the henges and burial Cairns that pepper the landscape of Scotland.)

C. Development of City Civilizations –

1. Mesopotamia - ancient civilization - today is modern Iraq and Syria, wedged between the Tigris River, the Zagros Mountains, and the Lesser Zab River.

2. Indus River Valley - The Indus civilization (also known as Harappan Civilization, Indus-Sarasvati or Hakr a Civilization) is one of the oldest societies known, located along the Indus and Sarasvati rivers in Pakistan and India. The Harappan people grew wheat, barley, rice, cotton, and raised cattle, buffalo, sheep, goats and chickens. Camels, elephants, horses, and asses were used for transportation. Bronze/Copper industry.

3. Huang He (Yellow) River Valley - Silk was also produced from mulberry leaf-fed silkworms. The pottery forms were painted, representing the two cultural groups, Yangshao (in the mountains of the north and west of China) and Lungshan (in the plains in eastern China). Xia Dynasty - ran from 2100 to 1800 B.C. Bronze vessels found at Erlitou along the Yellow River in northern central China also attest to the reality of the Xia. The Xia were ancestors of the Shang. The Shang (c. 1700-1027 B.C.), had been considered mythical and discovered by their writings on oracle bones. It is believed there were 30 kings and 7 capitals of the Shang. The ruler lived at the center of his capital. The Shang had bronze weapons and vessels. The Shang are credited with inventing Chinese writing because there are written records, notably the oracle bones.

4. Mesoamerica - Central American Civilizations and Cultures

   Central America, that part below the United States and above South America, has cultures, including the Aztec, Olmec, Toltec, Zapotec, and Maya civilizations. These advanced civilizations Mesoamerica culture a rich and fascinating study, including the countries of Mexico, Belize, Colombia, Venezuela, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Costa Rica and the Caribbean Islands.

D. Ancient Civilizations and Empires – 1700 b.c. – 500 c.e.

1. India:
   a. Vedic Age - Migrations of Aryan-speaking tribes

   is the period in the history of India during which the Vedas, the oldest sacred texts of Hinduism, were being composed. Centered in northern and northwestern part of the Indian subcontinent.

   b. Hinduism - often stated to be the "oldest living major tradition". It is formed of diverse traditions and types and has no single founder. Hinduism is the world's third largest religion after Christianity and Islam, with approximately a billion adherents, most live in India.
c. **Mauryan Dynasty** - (322–185 BCE), ruled by the Mauryan dynasty, was a geographically extensive and powerful political and military empire in ancient India. Perhaps the largest empire to rule the Indian subcontinent soon after Alexander the Great’s withdraw of Macedonian and Persian armies.

2. **China**:
   a. **Zhou Dynasty** - The Zhou dynasty lasted longer than any other dynasty in Chinese history. Written script evolved, the use of iron was introduced to China.
   b. **Han Dynasty** - The reign of the Han Dynasty, lasting over 400 years, is commonly considered within China to be one of the greatest periods in the history of China. China officially became a Confucian state and prospered domestically: agriculture, handicrafts and commerce flourished, and the population reached over 55 million people. The empire extended its political, cultural influence, and territory over much of Korea, Mongolia, Vietnam, and Central Asia before it finally collapsed under a combination of domestic and external pressures.
   c. **Confucianism** - is an ancient Chinese ethical and philosophical system originally developed from the teachings of the early Chinese philosopher Confucius. It focuses on human morality and good deeds.
   d. **Daoism** (also called **Taoism**) - refers to a variety of related philosophical and religious traditions and concepts. Influencing East Asia for over two thousand years and some have spread internationally. The Chinese character Tao means "path" or "way", Taoist propriety and ethics emphasize the Three Jewels of the Tao: compassion, moderation, and humility. Taoist thought focuses on health, longevity, immortality, wu wei (non-action) and spontaneity.

3. **Ancient Western Asia**:
   a. **Judaism** - is a monotheistic religion based on principles and ethics embodied in the Hebrew Bible (Tanakh/ Torah). Among the oldest religious traditions still being practiced today. Jewish history and the principles and ethics of Judaism have influenced other religions, such as Christianity and Islam. Originated from the land of Israel – Along the Jordan River in NW Asia.
   b. **Persia** - The Persian Empire included all of what is now Iran, and in fact Persia was the official name of Iran until 1935. About 500 BC, the founding dynasty of the empire, the Achaemenids, had conquered Asia as far as the Indus River, Greece, and North Africa including what is now Egypt and Libya.
   c. **Zoroastrianism** - Founded in Persia around 1200-1600 BC by the prophet Zoroaster (Zarathustra), Zoroastrianism is the world's oldest monotheistic religion. Some scholars believe that Zoroastrian doctrines - those of heaven and hell, the struggle of good versus evil, and a redeeming messiah- have deeply influenced the Jewish and Christian religions.

4. **Mediterranean**:
   a. **Early and Classical Greece** - Greece, a country in southeastern Europe extending from the Balkans into the Mediterranean Sea, is mountainous, with many gulfs and bays. Greece, now a country in the Aegean, was a collection of independent city-states or **poleis** in antiquity that we know about archaeologically from the Bronze Age on. These **poleis** fought among one another and against bigger external forces, especially the Persians. Eventually, they were conquered by their neighbors to the north and then later became part of the Roman Empire. After the western Roman Empire fell, the Greek-speaking area of the Empire continued until 1453, when it fell to the Turks.
   b. **Hellenistic World** - to refer to the spreading of Greek culture and colonization over the non-Greek lands that were conquered by Alexander the Great in the 4th century BC, except Sparta who refused. After the conquest of the Persian Empire, Greek culture was spread to Asia and Egypt. Hellenistic culture represents the fusion of the Greek world the Near Eastern and Indo-Iranic cultures. The Hellenistic Period is characterized by a new wave of Greek colonization which established Greek cities and Kingdoms in Asia and Africa.
c. **Roman Republic/Empire** - a period which began with the overthrow of the Roman Monarchy, in 510 BC, and lasted over 450 years. The Roman Republic was governed by a complex constitution, which centered on the principles of a separation of powers and checks and balances. The laws that allowed the aristocracy to dominate the government were repealed, and the result was the emergence of a new aristocracy which depended on the structure of society, rather than the law, to maintain its dominance. Important figures of the Republic were Julius Caesar who fought Pompey in a civil war (murdered for acting like a king), Mark Antony (wife Cleopatra of Egypt who both committed suicide), and Octavian who defeated Mark Antony. Rome's territory expanded from central Italy to the entire Mediterranean world. Rome expanded to dominate Italy, North Africa, Spain, Greece, and what is now modern France, as well as to the east.

d. **Christianity** - began in 1st century AD Jerusalem. It ultimately became the state religion of Armenia about 314, Ethiopia in 325, Georgia in 337, and then the Roman Empire in 380. During the Age of Exploration (15th to 17th cent.), Christianity expanded throughout the world, becoming the world's largest religion. It differs most significantly from the others in the claim that Jesus Christ is God the Son. The vast majority of Christians believe in a triune God consisting of three unified and distinct persons: God the Father, God the Son and the Holy Spirit. Throughout its history, the religion has weathered criticism and theological disputes that resulted in many distinct churches, the largest branches are the Roman Catholic Church, the Eastern Orthodox Church, and the Protestant churches.

5. **Africa:**

a. **Kush** - civilization centered where the Blue Nile and the White Nile converge, in what is now the Republic of Sudan. One of the earliest civilizations to develop in the Nile River Valley, the Kushite state, also referred to as Nubia, was formed before a period of Egyptian rule. The Kushite was also referred to as Ethiopia in ancient Greek and Roman records. According to classical writers, the Kushite Empire covered all of Africa, and some parts of Asia and Europe at one time or another. The Kushites built burial mounds/pyramids, and shared some gods worshipped in Egypt, especially Amon and Isis.

b. **Axum** – A city in northern Ethiopia named after the Kingdom of Aksum, a naval and trading power that ruled from the region 400 BC into the 10th century. The kingdom was occasionally referred to in medieval writings as Ethiopia.

c. **Nok Culture** - The Nok culture originated in a valley in West Africa between the Niger and the Benve Rivers about 500 BC. They have produced the oldest sculptures in black Africa. Although the culture died out around 200 AD, they continue to influence other West African cultures and art traditions. African art has traditionally had a socially-useful function, it is known that they worshipped ancestors and had many gods. The elaborately detailed sculptures could represent a god, or a highly prized ancestor, while plain figures could represent a lesser individual; showing social status.

d. **Bantu migrations** - The Bantu originated in the north western Africa. Their migration is one of the largest migrations in human history. The migration began about 1000 BC and continued until the third or fourth century AD. What caused the migration? One idea is that overpopulation encouraged some groups to move away in search of fertile land to practice agriculture. Or, the move may have been due to internal conflicts within their communities or outside attacks by their neighbors. The Bantu introduced many things into the areas they migrated to. They were an agricultural people and introduced crops like millet and sorghum. They may also have introduced iron smelting and iron tools. But, mostly Bantu is known for influencing local languages as they migrated, including what is today known as Swahili.

6. **Development of World Religions** – 5 Major World Religions formed during early history.

i. **Christianity** - Catholicism, Eastern Orthodoxy, Protestantism, Oriental Orthodoxy, and Nestorianism (Holy Trinity – God Father, God Son, God Holy Spirit)

ii. **Islam** - Sunni, Shi'a, Sufism, and Kharijites ( Prophet Mahammad)

iii. **Hinduism** - Shaivism, Vaishnavism, Shaktism, Smartism, and others (Reincarnation)

iv. **Buddhism** - Theravada, Mahayana, and Vajrayana (Buddah, Confusious)

v. **Judaism** - Hasidic, Orthodox, Conservative, and Reform (Hebrew – God)
E. Decline of Classical Civilizations and Change – 500-1400 c.e.

1. Nomadic migrations: Huns, Mongols
   a. Huns/Mongols - little is known for certain about a people whose natural habitat was the Asian steppe (E. Russia and Mongolia today), impacting on China, India, and Persia, and whose supremacy in Europe lasted barely a century. As nomadic herdsmen, accompanied by their wives and families, they moved around continually seeking the best opportunities for grazing and plunder. The reputation of the Huns as a warlike people is due to perceptions of their impact upon the late Roman empire. Under their greatest leader, Attila, they threatened to create an empire in 5th-century Europe.

2. Eastern Europe
   a. Byzantine Empire – successor state to the Roman Empire, also called Eastern Empire.
      It was named after the city Byzantium, which Emperor Constantine I (first Christian Emperor), rebuilt and called Constantinople. Upon his death in AD 395 the empire was split between his two sons, never to be reunited. The eastern empire was ruled from Constantinople and developed as the Byzantine Empire. The greatest Byzantine emperor was probably Justinian the Great who ruled from AD 527 to 565. He introduced a new legal system and expanded the boundaries as far west as Spain, Italy, and Africa. He encouraged the arts, a unique blend of late Roman and Greek influences, and commissioned the building of the great basilica of Hagia Sophia in Constantinople. Throughout its existence the empire was subject to important changes in its boundaries. The core of the empire consisted of the Balkan Peninsula (i.e., Thrace, Macedonia, Epirus, Greece proper, the Greek isles, and Illyria) and Asia Minor (Turkey). The empire combined Roman political tradition, Hellenic culture, and Christian beliefs. Greek was the prevalent language, but Latin long continued in official use.
   b. Russia - begins with that of the East Slavs. The first East Slavic state, Kievan Rus’, adopted Christianity from the Byzantine Empire in 988, beginning the synthesis of Byzantine and Slavic cultures that defined Russian culture for the next millennium. Kievan Rus’ ultimately disintegrated as a state, finally succumbing to Mongol invaders in the 1230s. During this time a number of regional magnates, in particular Novgorod and Pskov, fought to inherit the cultural and political legacy of Kievan Rus’. After the 13th century, Moscow gradually became more dominant and ultimately the cultural center.

3. Rise and expansion of Islam:
   a. Islamic Civilization - Islam was destined to become a world religion and to create a civilization which stretched from one end of the globe to the other. Early Muslim caliphates, Arabs, Persians and later the Turks created classical Islamic civilizations. In the 13th century, Africa and India became great centers of Islamic civilization and then Muslim kingdoms were established in Indonesia, while Chinese Muslims flourished. Islamic civilization is based on a unity which stands completely against any racial or ethnic discrimination. Allowing major racial and ethnic groups, the Arabs, Persians, Turks, Africans, Indians, Chinese and Malays in addition to numerous smaller units embraced Islam.
   b. Umayyad caliphate - established in 661. During this time Damascus became the capital of an Islamic world which stretched from the western borders of China to southern France. Islamic conquests continued during this period through North Africa, Spain, and France in the West and to Sind, Central Asia where basic social and legal institutions of the newly founded Islamic world were established.
   c. Abbasids - The Abbasids, succeeded the Umayyads, shifted the capital to Baghdad which soon developed into a center of learning and culture as well as the administrative and political heart of the Islamic world. They ruled for over 500 years. The Mongols devastated the eastern lands of Islam and ruled for a century. But they soon converted to Islam and became known as the Il-Khanids. They were in turn succeeded by Timur and his descendents who made Samarqand their capital and ruled from 1369 to 1500.
   d. The Ottoman Empire - became the dominant power in the Islamic world. The Turks rose to dominate over the whole of Anatolia and even parts of Europe. In 1453 Mehmet the Conqueror captured Constantinople and put an end to the Byzantine Empire. The Ottomans conquered much of eastern Europe and nearly the whole of the Arab world, and northern Africa. While the Ottomans were concerned mostly with the western front of their empire, to the east in Persia a new dynasty called the Safavids came to power in 1502.
e. The Persian Empire – (Islam) The Safavids established a powerful state which flourished for over two centuries and became known for their arts. Their capital, Isfahan, became one of the most beautiful cities with its blue tiled mosques and exquisite houses.

4. African Kingdoms: The most important developments occurred in the Sahel area just south of the Sahara; the Sahel provided southern points for goods being shipped across the Sahara. The Sahel is a dry, hot area with fertile areas and grasslands; all of the major north African kingdoms grew up in this area: Ghana, Mali, Songhay, and Kanem-Bornu: the Sahelian kingdoms.

a. Ghana – Berbers indigenous African people were primarily a nomadic people and play a crucial role in the spread of Islam across northern Africa. In the fifth century, they formed a new kingdom, called Ghana in an area that is now southeastern Mauretania. Although the state was originally formed by Berbers, it was built they built their capital city, Kumbi Saleh, right on the edge of the Sahara and it quickly became the most important southern point of the Saharan trade routes. The state was ruled by a hereditary king called the Ghana (hence the kingdom, Ghana). The kingship was matrilineal, the king’s sister provided the heir to the throne. Fueled by its economic vitality, the Ghana rapidly expanded into an empire. The kingdom of Ghana never converted to Islam, The Ghananian court, however, allowed Muslims to settle in the cities and even encouraged Muslim specialists to help the royal court administer the government and advise on legal matters. The Berbers who had originally formed the state ultimately proved to be its demise. Unlike the Ghanaians, the Berbers, calling themselves Almoravids, fervently converted to Islam and, in 1075, declared a holy war, or jihad, against the state of Ghana. Ghana ceases to be a commercial or military power after 1100.

b. Mali - After 750 AD, became the center of culturally and politically dynamic cities and kingdoms because of the strategic importance of the Sahel for trade across north Africa, located along the upper Niger river. The Keita a ruling family in Ghana, formed the kingdom of Mali. Mali was built off of the trade routes (gold) from western and southern Africa to eastern and northern Africa. Malians lived in an agriculturally fertile land. Mali was not a true empire. The historical founder of Mali was the magician, Sundjata, one of the most legendary figures in African history. Sundjata, ruled from 1230-1255, began as a royal slave and magician among the Soso who had inherited the Ghanaian empire. According to African oral histories, Sundjata seized the major territories through which gold was traded. He introduced the region to cultivation and weaving of cotton. The most significant of the Mali kings was Mansa Musa (1312-1337) expanded Mali over the large Niger city-states of Timbuktu, Gao, and Djenné. Mansa Musa was a devout Muslim, built magnificent mosques throughout Mali; his gold-laden pilgrimage to Mecca made him an historical figure even in European history. Under Mansa Musa, Timbuktu became one of the major cultural centers not only of Africa but the entire world. Under Mansa Musa, libraries were built and madrasas (Islamic universities) were endowed; Timbuktu became a meeting-place of the finest poets, scholars, and artists of Africa and the Middle East. Even after the power of Mali declined, Timbuktu remained the major Islamic center of sub-Saharan Africa. After the death of Mansa Musa, the power of Mali began to decline.

c. Songhai - West African Empire, centered on the largest bend of the Niger River. Fishing and trading people who originated in the Dendi region of northwestern Nigeria, gradually extended their domination upstream in the 8th century AD and by 800 had established themselves at Gao, which soon became a flourishing market town. The Songhai accepted Islam, shortly after 1000. In the late 13th century, power in Songhai was consolidated in the Sunni dynasty, which gradually gained independence from Mali and thereafter began to encroach upon the weakening Mali power. Songhai expansion was most aggressively advanced by Sunni Ali, who incorporated the eastern part of Mali into his empire. He was followed by Muhammad, of the Askia dynasty, who further extended Songhai’s influence and made Timbuktu again a thriving cultural center. Dynasty rivalry weakened the empire, while revolts and raids from neighboring states aided. An assault by Moroccan forces equipped with firearms in 1591 was the final blow, from which the Songhai state never recovered.
5. Feudalism: a contract system of political and military relationships existing among members of the nobility in Western, Central Europe and Japan (primarily) during the Middle Ages. Medieval (Latin for Middle) time means between the fall of the Roman Empire and the Renaissance. The feudal system first appears in the Frankish lands in the 9th and 10th cent. Scholars argue whether its origin was Roman or Germanic. Germanic tribes loyal to only their own kind scattered throughout Europe causing Europe to divide into different sects, making feudalism necessary. Feudalism was characterized by the granting of fiefs (Land), in return for political and military services. Contracts sealed by oaths of fealty (loyalty). The grantor was lord (seigneurs). He awarded portions of his land to lesser lords his vassal, but both were free men and social peers. Failure by a lord or a vassal to live up to a commitment was a felony, punishable by loss of the offender's title, land, and other assets. King or Great Lord Gave - Land King or Great Lord Received - Protection (Military Service) Knights, highly trained mounted warriors, were the backbone of the great lord's army. The feudal system first appears in the Frankish lands in the 9th and 10th cent.

a. Western/Central Europe – Feudalism joined political and military service with landholding to preserve medieval Europe from disintegrating. The estate given a vassal was commonly understood to be hereditary, provided the vassal’s heir was satisfactory to the lord, and paid an inheritance tax called a relief. Feudalism spread from France to Spain, Italy, and later Germany and Eastern Europe. This is the age of kings and castles, born in Europe after the Dark Ages. Gallant knights, beautiful princesses and clashing swords are the stuff of many Shakespeare plays, notably his histories. King John, Henry V, Richard II, Richard III, Macbeth—all title characters of Shakespeare plays—ruled in Britain during the age of moats and drawbridges, when chain-mailled warriors on foot and horseback for God, country and glory. In England in 1215, the Magna Carta was written, which is often thought to have implied Habeas Corpus. After the Roman Empire collapsed in the late Fifth Century A.D., its former territories in central Europe had to fend for themselves. Without the imperial Roman army to protect them, these territories fell to Viking invaders from the north and Muslim invaders from the south. In the early 1330s an outbreak of deadly bubonic plague occurred in China. The bubonic plague mainly affects rodents, but fleas can transmit the disease to people. Once people are infected, they infect others very rapidly. Plague causes fever and a painful swelling of the lymph glands called buboes, which is how it gets its name. The disease also causes spots on the skin that are red at first and then turn black (Black Death). China was a leader in trade, it was only a matter of time before the outbreak spread to western Asia and Europe. In October of 1347, Italian merchant ships returned from a trip to the Black Sea, a key in trades with China. When the ships docked in Sicily, many on board were already dying of the plague. Within days the disease spread through Italy and then across Europe. During the winter the plague seemed to disappear, because fleas which were spreading the disease were dormant then. Each spring, the plague attacked again, killing new victims. After five years 25 million people were dead, one third of Europe’s population at the time. The disease took its toll on the church as well. Christians had prayed devoutly for deliverance from the plague. But, their prayers were not being answered, helping to lead to a new period of political turmoil and philosophical questions. The rise of powerful monarchs in France, Spain, and England broke down the feudal organization. Another reason was the increase of communication, which vanquished the isolation, assisted the rise of towns, and facilitated the emergence of the burgess class. This process was greatly accelerated in the 14th century and aided in destroying the feudal classifications of society. The system broke down gradually. It was not completely destroyed in France until the French Revolution (1789), and it persisted in Germany until 1848 and in Russia until 1917.

b. Japan -Feudalism developed later in Japan than in Europe (12th and 9th centuries). Possibly, due to Japan's isolation and the lack of foreign invasions. However, both systems were designed to ensure allegiance and caused periods of constant warfare. The legal foundations were different, Japan feudalism had as its basis Chinese Confucian morality, although Japan was primarily Buddhist at the time. The Japanese feudal system began when large plots (shoen) of land were set aside for growing and storing crops. The plots of land eventually became tax exempt, and the Ryoshu became very wealthy and powerful. Ryoshu had absolute control over every aspect of their shoen from land, labor, law, and self-governance. Families increased their wealth and power by using; war, purchasing land, marriage, etc... Out of the marriages and warfare arose a warrior class called Bushido. The Bushi, operated on a code of ethics called bushido, and pledged allegiance to the Ryoshu in exchange for
land and money. We know them as the samurai, probably of the greatest importance in Japan during their Feudal period. The first period of feudalism in Japan started with the Kamakura Period, which began in 1192. During the reign of the Kamakura Shogunate (War Lord/Family), an invasion by the Mongols took place in which the Japanese were able to deter the invaders. The problems the Mongol invasion caused finally led to the end of the line for the Kamakura Shogunate, about 1333. The "Japanese Middle Ages" had begun, lasting through the next ruling family in the Muromachi Period. Later in this period, around 1542, a Portuguese ship ran aground on Japan's shores breaking their long period of isolationism. This ship was carrying firearms and a new technology was introduced to Japan. This also led the way to other traders from Portugal and other European countries, and Christianity was also introduced at this time. Feudalism ended with the Edo Period lasting from 1800 to 1868. This was a very important part of the Japanese time line, as this is when much of the artistic developments of the country occurred. It is also the period when the samurai really came to the forefront of culture and politics, being placed in status high above other commoners. The Edo Period was the last period marked by a ruling shogun. In roughly 1870, the people supported the Emperor ending Feudalism in Japan.

6. Mesoamerica - Means "middle America" in Greek, located on the isthmus joining North and South America. Mesoamerica often refers to the similarities existing among the various pre-Columbian cultures within the region that included southern Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, El Salvador, western Honduras, and the Pacific lowlands of Nicaragua and northwestern Costa Rica. Most of the cultures were agricultural, growing maize, chili peppers, avocados, beans, etc…

a. The Olmecs (possibly the first Americans) lived around the Gulf of Mexico around 1200 BC. They had picture writing, mathematics and left huge heads carved from boulders that were Asian in look. The Mayan civilization was established in the Yucatan peninsula, southern Mexico, and Guatemala about 1000 BC.

b. The Mayans used hieroglyphics, developed calendars and predicted solar eclipses. Sculptors created statues and built cities like Tikal, Chichen, and Itza using stair-stepping pyramids. The Mayans died out around 900 AD possibly to disease or war.

c. Aztec, is the term used to describe the culture that dominated the Valley of Mexico in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. The Mexica (pronounced "me-shee-ka") were the largest tribe called themselves Tenochca, at the time of the European conquest. The Mexica migrated from the north into the Valley of Mexico as early as the twelfth century AD. According to history, the Tenochca were originally peaceful, but their practice of human sacrifice, revolted other tribes who banded together against them. In 1300 the Tenochcas slowly became more powerful and militarily skilled, so much that they became allies of other local tribes. The Tenochcas finally won their freedom under Itzacoatl (1428-1440), and they began to build their city, Tenochtitlan (on an island in Lake Texcoco). They built temples, roads, a causeway linking the city to the mainland, and they established a government and religious hierarchy. Itzacoatl and the chief who followed him Montecucoma I (1440-1469) began conquering the Valley of Mexico and the southern regions. Tenochtitlan grew dramatically calling for the need for an aqueduct system to bring water from the mainland. It grew culturally as they assimilated the gods of the region into their religion. They developed markets selling/trading slaves, flowers, jewelry, herbs, and cloth. Montecucoma II the Great Speaker, is better known as Montezuma (1466-1520), ruled until the arrival of Cortes. In November of 1519, Cortes along with 400 Spaniards on horseback and over a 1000 native troops crossed the causeway into the city of Tenochtitlan. The Aztecs used primitive weapons and had never seen guns or horses. The Spaniards conquered the Aztecs with the aid of disease and subject tribes who had been abused/sacrificed and seeking revenge against the Aztecs.

d. Andean Cultures - The Inca Empire centered in what is now Peru, from AD 1438 to AD 1533. The Inca used conquest and peaceful assimilation to incorporate a large portion of western South America into their empire, centered on the Andean mountain ranges. The Inca Empire proved short-lived: by AD 1533, Atahualpa, the last Inca emperor, called a Sapa Inca, was killed by order of conquistador Francisco Pizarro, beginning Spanish rule.
7. China

a. Tang - The Tang Dynasty is sometimes considered the greatest in Chinese history. Tang dominance in politics, economics, foreign relations, and military power perhaps made them the greatest civilization of their time. China saw governmental reforms that strengthened the government by centralizing, with a large civil service, and large territory expansion. Tang laws/codes are still in existence, and were also used by the Japanese, Koreans, and Vietnamese. It was a dynasty of prosperity and education. Literature, science, technology, art, and poetry flourished along with inventions such as the printing block. Advances in agriculture and irrigation doubled harvests. Better harvests brought more people. Craftsmanship in both pottery and porcelain, and manufacturing silk and cotton saw great improvement. With a friendly foreign policy and the Silk Road, they traded with more than seventy countries, which also brought foreigners with new technologies, such as astronomy and mathematics. Through contact with the Middle East and India, Buddhism took roots within the Tang rulers. The Tang capital of Chang’an became the most populated and wealthiest city in the world at the time. Including foreign traders and students, well over one million people resided there. The Tang are also is the only dynasty to recognized a female ruler of China, Wu Zetian, but she was ousted for her son. This dynasties’ decline is believed to have begun as a result of a series of rebellions and military loses around the eighth century CE.

b. Song - Starting in 960 and ending in 1279, the Song Dynasty consisted of the Northern Song Dynasty and the Southern Song Dynasty. With a prosperous economy and culture, the Song Dynasty was considered as another period of ‘golden age’ after the glorious Tang Dynasty (618 - 907). In agriculture, the productive technology improved output of food; the division of labor became more detailed making the technology reach an advanced level. The earliest paper currency appeared at that period. It was the first government in world history to issue banknotes or paper money, and the first Chinese to establish a permanent standing navy. Two of China's four great inventions - typography and compass were both invented and the application of gunpowder also developed. With regard to literature, a large number of outstanding scholars and poets, such as Zhuxi, Ouyang Xiu, Su Shi, Sima Guang and Shen Kuo, emerged and built up a splendid cultural atmosphere.

c. Ming - In 1368, Zhu Yuanzhang officially proclaimed himself emperor in Yingtian and founded the Ming Dynasty. In the same year, the Ming army captured Dadu (currently Beijing), the capital city of Yuan, ultimately ending the Yuan Dynasty. Zhu Yuanzhang focused on eliminating corruption and controlling the imperial powers. After his death, his grandson Zhu Yunwen took over the throne. He was overthrown by his uncle, Zhu Di, the fourth son of Zhu Yuanzhang. Zhu Di was Emperor Chengzu of the Ming Dynasty, his reign was considered one of the most prosperous periods in the Ming Dynasty. During his reign, an encyclopedia called Yongle Dadian was regarded as the biggest and earliest encyclopedia in the world. From 1405 to 1433, Emperor Chengzu sent Zhenghe to lead Ming’s fleets across the Indian Ocean. They visited many countries in Southeast Asia. Meanwhile, Emperor Chengzu began to construct an imperial palace from 1406 and moved the capital city from Yingtian to Beijing in 1421. Economically, the Ming Dynasty was a period during which the feudal society began to show the decline, capitalism started to originate. In agriculture, both the food output and production surpassed that of the Song and Yuan Dynasties. The fall of the Ming Dynasty was caused by the corruption of the court officials and the domination of the eunuchs. The exploitation from the ruling class and natural disasters in successive years caused the people to live in extreme hardship.

II 1400-1914

A. Global Interactions (1400-1800)

1. Agriculture to a market economy - People moved from rural areas to centralized cities where they can buy, sell, and work. A market economy is a realized social system based on the division of labor in which the prices of goods and services are determined in a free price system set by supply and demand.

2. Europe:

   a. Renaissance – (1350-1600) “Rebirth” – Resurection of Greek and Roman ideals in Art, Literature, philosophy and was the start of modern science. The renaissance began around the time Europeans came home from the Holy Wars/Crusades. They had been to the Holy Lands, recovered historical texts thought to have been previously destroyed. They were inspired by the history they had forgotten, in the Middle East.
Italy was most inspired by the relics of the Roman Empire that still remained. City-States began to develop – Florence, Rome, Venice, and Milan…Prosperity grew including trade and banking, starting a wealthy class of business men. The wealthy began to support and encourage the arts, developing a new way to looking at life, through the human perspective. These new studies were called “Humanities.” Humanists believed man could become good at a variety of things not just one trade, “Renaissance Man.”

1. Artists – Michelangelo (sculpture of David & Sisteen Chapel), Brunelleschi, da Vinci (Mona Lisa &The Last Supper), Raphael Sanzio (The School of Athens)
4. Explorers: Vasco de Gama, Christopher Columbus, Ferdinant Magellan, Cortes, Dias,
5. Rulers: Hapsburgs of Germany/Austria, Tudors of England (Henry VIII, Elizabeth I), Ferdinand and Isabella – Spain, Phillip II, Charles V, Ivan the Terrible & Anastasia Romanovna - Russia
5. Other notables of the time:
   Joan of Arc leads troops into battle in France on a Mission from God, later burned at the stake.
   Ivan the Great – Russian, Kremlin restoration

b. Reformation - The movement began as an attempt to reform the Catholic Church.

Many western Catholics were troubled by what they saw as false doctrines and malpractices within the Church, and considerable corruption within the Church’s hierarchy. This corruption was seen by many at the time as systemic, even reaching the position of the Pope. The Reformation began on October 31, 1517, when German monk Saint Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the Castle Church door in Wittenberg, Germany. Saint Martin made a translation of the Bible from Greek and Hebrew into German. Soon all the countries of Europe followed his example, translating the Scriptures into their languages. For the first time in history, the printing press made the Bible available to all people. Saint Martin wrote a book entitled The Babylonian Captivity of the Congregation. Germans accepted Lutheranism as their Protestant religions, also came the Anglican Church and Presbyterian. The political separation of the Church of England from Rome under Henry VIII (who was seeking a divorce, the Catholic Church would not allow), began in 1529 and completed in 1536, brought England religious reform. However, religious changes in the England were more conservative than in the rest of Europe. Reformers in the Church of England alternated, for centuries, between sympathies for Catholic traditions and Protestantism, progressively forging a stable compromise between adherence to ancient tradition and Protestantism. The Catholics were forced to change and achieved success during the Counter-Reformation, inspired in . The growth of a Puritan party dedicated to further Protestant reform inspired the Elizabethan Age (named for Elizabeth I first Queen of England), although it was not until the 1640s that England underwent religious strife comparable to that which the rest of Europe had suffered long before.

c. Scientific Revolution – (1600’s) natural science and technological change, but in reality, a series of changes in the structure of European thought itself: systematic doubt, empirical and sensory verification, the abstraction of human knowledge into separate sciences, and the view that the world functions like a machine. Europe developed a new way of thinking, putting the larger greater good in front of individual wants and needs. Looking at life in a systematic way and moving away from the spiritual view that everything happens as a reward or punishment from “God.” The scientific revolution did not begin at any set date. We associate the scientific revolution with Galileo (advances in telescope and mathematics), Kepler, Sir Francis Bacon (gunpowder and experimental method), Leeuwenhoek (microscope), and Sir Isaac Newton (Three Laws of Motion). We can go back to the work of Nicolaus Copernicus (heliocentric theory) at the beginning of the sixteenth century, or Leonardo da Vinci. Major advances were made in astronomy, chemistry, biology, anatomy (blood circulation) and more. Discoveries – Magnetism, creating panes of glass, telescope, microscope, steam power,
d. **Enlightenment (1650-1800)** - Known as the “Age of Reason” This is one of those rare historical movements inspired by the Thirty Years War. Certain thinkers and writers, primarily in London and Paris, believed that they were more enlightened than their fellow citizens and set out to enlighten them. The Enlightenment was an intellectual, philosophical, cultural, and social movement that spread through England, France, Germany, and other parts of Europe during the 1700s. Enabled by the Scientific Revolution, to think beyond what is already known. The Enlightenment transformed the Western world into an intelligent and self-aware civilization. It directly inspired the creation of the world’s first great democracy, the United States of America. The new freedoms and ideas sometimes led to abuses—in particular, the descent of the French Revolution from a positive, productive coup into tyranny. In response to the violence of the French Revolution, some Europeans began to blame the Enlightenment’s attacks on tradition and breakdown of norms for inducing anarchy. Not know at the time but it improved women’s rights, more efficient steam engines, fairer judicial systems, increased educational opportunities for all, economic theories to a rich array of literature and music. This was also the beginning of slave trade, great sea travel, plantations,

**Thinkers/Writers:**

- **Thomas Hobbes** - provocative treatise *Leviathan* (1651). Taking a sociological perspective, Hobbes felt that by nature, people were self-serving and preoccupied with the gathering of a limited number of resources.
- **John Locke** - promoted the opposite type of government—a representative government—in his *Two Treatises of Government* (1690)
- **The Baron de Montesquieu** - the separation of power by means of divisions in government.
- **Voltaire** took a different approach, choosing to incite social and political change with satire and criticism.
- **Jean-Jacques Rousseau** wrote *The Social Contract* (1762), a work championing a form of government based on small, direct democracy that directly reflects the will of the population
- **Jane Austen** wrote *Sense and Sensibility*
- **Adam Smith** wrote *The Wealth of Nations*

**Rulers:**

- Russia – *(Romanov Family)* *Peter the Great – Tsar (city of St. Petersburg), Catherine the Great
- England – Stuart Kings (James I and Charles I), James II, Mary/William or Orange, Oliver Cromwell
- France – *King Louis XIV (The Sun King)*
- Turkey – Ottoman Empire
- United States – George Washington

**Inspirations/Discoveries:**

- Rembrandt, Stradivarius – Violin,
- Monteverdi’s opera Orfeo, The Taj Mahal, Dutch – Expand and Explore,
- Boston Tea Party – Taxation without Representation
- Declaration of Independence & the Constitution
- Jethro Tull (Seed Drill, planting in rows), Eli Whitney (Cotton Gin)
- Steam Engines, Coal Refining, Vaccination (Cowpox for Smallpox)

**Wars:**

- American Revolution – *(See American History Section)*
- French Revolution – Storming of the Bastille
- French and Indian War (7 Years War)
- England Civil War – King/Queen loses power, England becomes Constitutional Monarchy, East India Trading Company
- Thirty Years War – War of Religion
- Russian Wars of Expansion – Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, etc..

**Religion:**

- Amish Church begins in Switzerland
- Quakers – Founded by George Fox, Trial of William Penn
- Methodists – John Wesley

**Understanding – Colonization, Trading, Movement of Peoples and Cultures, and Cultural Diffusion**

1. **Colonization** – Spanish, Dutch, English, French, German, Chinese and Japanese

   **Europe:** The market (capitalist) economic system in most European nations emerged from a mix of tradition (manorialism) and command (mercantilism) economies. As the scale of commerce increased, and new privately owned businesses prospered, government involvement declined and a spirit of “laissez faire” prospered.

   a. **English** – East India Trading Company
      - English took over trading in India, Hong Kong, and Other Asian Countries
      - Slave Trade – British Slave ships (Fifteen million Africans were removed from
societies causing political instability in some of the African kingdoms.)
- Australia – Island for British Convict Exile
- Plantations – Tobacco, Cotton, etc...
b. Dutch (Netherlands) – South Africa, New Amsterdam became New York and taken by the English
- Windmills – pumped land dry and grew Tulips
c. Spanish – Destruction and take over of Mesoamerica and S. America, Africa - Slave Trade
- Plantations – Sugar, Coffee, etc..
d. French – Canada and Northern United States
e. Portuguese – Slave Trade – Cuba, Atlantic Islands and S. America

2. China and Japan
- Europeans, through their supremacy of the seas, expanded trade with South Asia.
  Muslim domination of the Indian Ocean was successfully challenged by Europeans and Africa
  became more closely tied into global trade than ever before, but the new pattern of movement
  by sea did not greatly affect East Asia. China and Japan largely resisted European intrusion
  and maintained a high degree of isolation. The Chinese allowed Catholic missionaries (Jesuits) to
  establish a settlement, but Christians were generally seen as a threat to both China and Japan.

3. Cultural Diffusion - the process by which a cultural trait, material object, idea, or behavior pattern is
   spread from one society to another

C. – Industrialization, Population Expansion, and Urbanization

1. Industrial Revolution: Steam Power, Coal, Oil
   The First Industrial Revolution, which began in the eighteenth century, merged into the Second
   Industrial Revolution around 1850, when technological and economic progress gained
   momentum with the development of steam-powered ships, railways. -England/Europe–
   Industrial Revolution altered the ways that natural, human, and capital resources are dispersed.
   The growth of factories, the advent of steam engines, advances in iron and steel, and
   innovations in transportation and communication pushed Britain into a position of industrial
   leader in the world. Prior to 1815, industrial innovations moved slowly into the rest of Europe.
   Corporations came into being. Society changed from rural to urban and a larger bourgeoisie
   (Upper Class) appeared. It started with the mechanization of the textile industries, the
   development of iron-making techniques and the increased use of refined coal. Monopolies and
   patents on products slowed the spread of industrialization. Trade expansion was enabled by the
   introduction of canals, improved roads and railways. Later in the nineteenth century with the
   internal combustion engine and electrical power generation. The working class suffered from
   low wages and poor working conditions, little hope for improvements in the future, and
   pressures on the family. By 1850, European governments had started to become somewhat
   more proactive in their response toward education, public health and housing, and the welfare
   of their peoples. The British government eliminated many oppressive laws because of social
   criticism by writers such as Dickens and Eliot. Educational opportunities increased for the
   middle class. Monopolies and patents on products slowed the spread of industrialization.
   Interchangeable parts, stronger and more effective tools, machinery, military weapons,

2. Population and Urbanization:
   - People were living longer thanks to improvements in medicine and a better understanding of
     human life and nutrition. The Industrial Revolution led to a population increase. Urbanization
     refers to a process in which an increasing proportion of an entire population lives in cities and
     the suburbs of cities. Historically, it has been closely connected with industrialization. When
     more and more inanimate sources of energy were used to enhance human productivity
     (industrialization), surpluses increased in both agriculture and industry. Larger and larger
     proportions of a population could live in cities. Economic forces were such that cities became
     the ideal places to locate factories and their workers. There was still limited opportunity for
     education, and children were expected to work. Employers could pay a child less than an adult
     even though their productivity was comparable; there was no need for strength to operate an
     industrial machine, and since the industrial system was completely new there were no
     experienced laborers. This made child labor the labor of choice for manufacturing in the early
     phases of the Industrial Revolution between the 18th and 19th centuries. Reports were written
detailing some of the abuses, particularly in the coal mines and textile factories. The public
outcry helped change child labor. Politicians and the government tried to limit child labor by law,
but factory owners resisted; some felt that they were aiding the poor by giving their children
money to buy food to avoid starvation, and others simply welcomed the cheap labor. In 1833
and 1844, the first general laws against child labor, the Factory Acts, were passed in England:
Children younger than nine were not allowed to work, children were not permitted to work at
night, and the work day of youth under the age of 18 was limited to twelve hours. Factory
inspectors supervised the execution of the law. About ten years later, the employment of
children and women in mining was forbidden. These laws decreased the number of child laborers.

Living conditions during the Industrial Revolution varied the rich to the poor. Poor people lived in very small houses in cramped streets. These homes would share toilet facilities, have open sewers and would be at risk of damp. Disease was spread through a contaminated water supply. Conditions did improve during the 19th century as public health acts were introduced covering sewage, hygiene and, the construction of homes. Not everybody lived in homes like these. The Industrial Revolution created a larger middle class of professionals such as lawyers and doctors. The conditions for the poor improved over the course of the 19th century because of government and local plans which led to cities becoming cleaner places. Huge numbers of the working class (Proletariats) died due to diseases spreading through the cramped living conditions. Chest diseases from the mines, cholera from polluted water and typhoid were also extremely common, as was smallpox. Accidents in factories with child and female workers were regular. Dickens’ novels perhaps best illustrate this; even some government officials were horrified by what they saw. Strikes and riots by workers were also relatively common, and eventually led to the development of unions.

D. Liberalism, Socialism, Marxism, Nationalism and Imperialism

1. Laissez-faire liberalism, market liberalism or, simply liberalism is a doctrine stressing individual freedom and limited government. This includes the importance of human rationality, individual property rights, natural rights, the protection of civil liberties, constitutional limitation of government, free markets, and individual freedom from restraint as demonstrated in the writings of John Locke, Adam Smith, David Hume, David Ricardo, Voltaire, Montesquieu and others. Modern socialism originated in the late nineteenth-century working class political movement. Karl Marx (Marxism) and Frederick Engles (Communist Manifesto) wrote that socialism would be achieved by a class struggle and a proletarian revolution, it being the transitional stage between capitalism and communism. Socialists mainly share the belief that capitalism unfairly concentrates power and wealth into a small section of society who control capital (Property and money), and creates an unequal society. All socialists want a society, in which wealth and power are distributed more evenly, although there is considerable disagreement among socialists over how. Liberalism and Socialism deal with ownership, social order and the political constitution.

2. Nationalism can be defined as the pride or belief one has within their country. Nationalism was made popular by Napoleon Bonaparte as he swept through Europe with his French Nationalism! Nationalism was the most successful political force of the 19th century. It emerged from two main sources: "feeling" and "identity" and the Liberal requirement that a legitimate state be based on a "people" rather than, a dynasty, God, or imperial domination.

3. Imperialism is the process in which the dominant politico-economic interests of one nation for their own good take over the enrichment the land, labor, raw materials, and markets of another people. Imperialism has been a powerful force in world history over the last four or five centuries, carving up whole continents while oppressing indigenous peoples and obliterating entire civilizations.

III. 1914 – Present

A. Changes in the Twentieth Century

1. WWI - 1914-18 – “The Great War”
   
   i. The Balkan Powder Keg was set to explode when a revolver used by a Serbian nationalist, (The Black Hand) to assassinate Archduke Franz Ferdinand (heir apparent to the Austro-Hungarian throne) in Sarajevo on June 28, 1914.
   
   ii. Military alliances - Europe divided quickly. The Allies -- chiefly Russia, France and Britain against the Central Powers -- primarily Germany, Austria-Hungary and Turkey. Eventually, the War spread beyond Europe as the warring continent turned to its colonies and friends for help. This included the United States, which joined the War in 1917 when President Woodrow Wilson called on Americans to "make the world safe for democracy."
   
   iii. First Modern War – Tanks, Machine Guns, Chemical Weapons, Genocide, Trench War resulted in a total war-producing stalemate. The war went on for 1,500 days. Before the official Armistice was declared on November 11, 1918, nine million people died on the battlefield and the world was forever changed and left Europe destroyed!

2. Russian Revolution - The Russian Revolution of 1917 centers around two primary events: February Revolution and the October Revolution. People everywhere sought ways to cope with, if not escape, the environment of war. Russian front line soldiers grew increasingly disillusionsed and apathetic. Many refused to obey orders, retreating when commanded to advance; they deserted the military and engage in open rebellion and mass mutiny.
B. Effects on the World After WWI:

1. **League of Nations**: The League of Nations came into being, after World War One. The League of Nation’s task was simple - to ensure that war never broke out again. After the turmoil caused by the Versailles Treaty, many looked to the League to bring stability to the world. America entered World War One in 1917. The country as a whole and the president - Woodrow Wilson in particular - was horrified by the slaughter that had taken place in what was meant to be a civilised part of the world. They needed to create an international body whose sole purpose was to maintain world peace and which would sort out international disputes as and when they occurred. This would be the task of the League of Nations. It could call on the states in dispute to sit down and discuss the problem in an orderly and peaceful manner. This would be done in the League’s Assembly - which was essentially the League’s parliament which would listen to disputes and come to a decision on how to proceed. If one nation was seen to be the offender, the League could introduce verbal sanctions – warning an aggressor nation that she would need to leave another nation’s territory or face the consequences.

2. **World Economy** - The decade before the war had seen some of the fastest economic growth in history. In many nations, especially in the United States and Canada, this growth continued during the war as nations mobilized their economies to fight the war in Europe. After the war ended, however, the global economy began to decline. The worst year of the recession was 1921 when the global economy fell very sharply. The recession was caused by the end of wartime production, along with an influx of labor from returning troops causing high unemployment. The war also had a lasting effect on global trade. The industries of continental Europe had been destroyed and damaged. Also, the vast debts that had accumulated during the war. In the victorious nations of Britain and France, a moderate recession lasted through much of the 1920s. The recession was far worse in the defeated powers. There, the entire economy was in shambles. Hyperinflation hit much of Central Europe and unemployment reached great heights. The German economy, long the largest in the region, was also hurt by the obligation to pay reparations and the confiscation of machinery and goods by the victorious powers. Growth did not resume in much of Europe until 1926-1927.

   i. **The February Revolution** removed Tsar Nicholas II from power, developed spontaneously out of a series of increasingly violent demonstrations and riots on the streets of Petrograd (present-day St. Petersburg), the tsar was away from the capital visiting troops on the World War I front. During the February Revolution, Vladimir Lenin had been living in exile in Switzerland. After his return Lenin pulled his closest supporters together and promoted “The Soviets.”

   ii. **October Revolution (Bolshevik Revolution)** Inspired by Lenin the masses overturned the interim provisional government and established the Soviet Union. The October Revolution was a much more deliberate event, orchestrated by a small group of people. The Bolsheviks, who led this coup, prepared their coup in only six months. They were generally viewed as an extremist group and had very little popular support when they began serious efforts in April 1917. By October, the Bolsheviks’ popular base was much larger; though still a minority within the country as a whole, they had built up a majority of support within Petrograd and other urban centers. After October, the Bolsheviks realized that they could not maintain power in an election-based system without sharing power with other parties and compromising their principles. As a result, they formally abandoned the democratic process in January 1918 and declared themselves the representatives of a dictatorship of the proletariat. In response, the Russian Civil War broke out in the summer of that year and would last well into 1920.

   iii. **Lenin’s government** secured power, one of its first major goals was to get Russia out of World War I. Following his Decree on Peace, Lenin sent out diplomatic notes to all participants in the war, calling for everyone to cease hostilities immediately if they did not want Russia to seek a separate peace. Russia’s pull out of the war resulted in losing: territories including Finland, Poland, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Ukraine, Belarus, Bessarabia, and the Caucasus region, along with some of the lands of southern Russia.
4. In Italy the fascist party, headed by Benito Mussolini, came to power at the height of the economic downturn. In the west, the population was far less radicalized by the recession. Discontent was made manifest in the growing labour movement. Fascism - is a totalitarian nationalist and corporatist ideology. It is primarily concerned with perceived problems associated with cultural, economic, political, and social decline or decadence, and which seeks to solve such problems by achieving a national rebirth by exalting the nation, as well as promoting sects of unity, strength and purity.

5. Germany – The Treaty of Versailles was a catastrophe for the Germans, leading many of them seeking revenge. Germany felt humiliated and was in constant debate with France over reparations. Hyperinflation became so ridiculous that in 1923 it took a wheelbarrow full of paper money to buy a loaf of bread. During this time of economic struggle the Nazi party was formed. The Depression killed German democracy and opened the door for Hitler! As unemployment went up, so did the vote for the Nazi party. Hitler offered jobs, uniforms, food and shelter, he became a savior to the people! The loyalty of his people became so powerful he was able to convince them that the Jews among others were in service to Capitalism and Communism the root of Germany's fallen economy. As Germany returned to glory Hitler began to expand into other territories without objection. Until they invaded Poland

6. Russia – Lenin died and Stalin took over the Communist Soviet Union. He denounced Communist cooperation with the German Nazi party believing the Nazi's would fall quickly, leaving Germany open for Communism…

7. The Great Depression: Affected the entire world! Although the United States had experienced depressions before, the stock market crash on October 27, 1929, none had been as severe as when "Black Thursday" struck Wall Street. At first, economists and leaders thought this was a mild bump, perhaps merely a correction of the market. Forty percent of the farms in Mississippi were up for auction on FDR's inauguration day. Although the depression was world wide, no other country except Germany reached so high a percentage of unemployed. The poor were hit the hardest. By 1932, Harlem had an unemployment rate of 50 percent and property owned or managed by blacks fell from 30 percent to 5 percent in 1935. Farmers in the Midwest were doubly hit by economy and the Dust Bowl. Schools closed for good, for the year or even shortened school days. FDR, after assuming the presidency, promoted a wide variety of federally funded programs aimed at restoring the American economy, helping relieve the suffering of the unemployed, and reforming the system so that such a severe crisis could never happen again. However, while the New Deal did help restore the GNP to its 1929 level and did introduce basic banking and welfare reforms, FDR refused to run up the deficits that ending the depression required. Only when the federal government imposed rationing, recruited 6 million defense workers (including women and African Americans), drafted 6 million soldiers, and ran massive deficits to fight World War II did the Great Depression finally end.

C. World War II, the Holocaust, and other cases of genocide; the Cold War

1. WWII - 1939-1945. Hitler took over Czechoslovakia and followed with demands on Poland. He sent his armies across the Polish border on Sept. 1, 1939. Britain and France, pledged to support Poland in the event of aggression, declared war on Germany two days later. The Russians moved into the eastern part of the country and began the process that was to lead to the absorption in 1940 of Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania. Meanwhile, Japan had undertaken military operations for the subjugation of China proper, and was making preparations for the expansion of its empire into Southeast Asia and island groups of the Southwest Pacific. Mussolini watched the progress, while preparing to join in the war at the appropriate moment. Hitler turned against the USSR in June 1941. In a series of brilliant military maneuvers, he reached the gates of Moscow in December, only to be stopped by bad weather and Russian reinforcements defended the city. Meanwhile, Mussolini sought to realize his dream of an Italian Mediterranean empire. In December 1941, Japan thought the time ripe to extend her empire into a Greater East Asia Coprosperity Sphere which it did very rapidly against poor opposition. It was the Japanese plan to fortify this area so they withstand American counterattacks and eventually gain a negotiated peace. The attacks on Pearl Harbor and the Philippines brought the United States into the war and altered the balance of power in favor of the Allies. The year 1942 saw the turn of the tide for the Allies. In June, Japanese naval airpower was decimated by the United States Navy in the Battle of Midway. Having been repulsed at Moscow, Hitler turned to the Caucasus, but the Germans were severely defeated and turned back at Stalingrad (now Volgograd) by the Russians. Following a massive buildup of troops, air and naval power, and equipment in the British Isles, American, British, and French troops landed on the Normandy coast of France in June 1944 and pressed the Germans back (D-Day). In December, the Germans launched a final counterattack, which failed. The Germans surrendered on May 7, 1945. Meanwhile, the Japanese position in Asia progressively deteriorated. By the summer of 1945, with its navy and air force virtually destroyed, its cities at the mercy of American aircraft, the Japanese were almost defeated. The U.S. dropped two ATOMIC BOMBS on Japanese cities Hiroshima and Nagasaki. On Jan. 1, 1942, the United States, Great Britain, France, the USSR, China, and 21
other countries signed in Washington the Declaration by United Nations, pledging mutual assistance and promising not to enter into separate armistice or peace negotiations with the Axis powers. The member nations also subscribed to the Atlantic Charter's purposes and principles.

**Leaders:** Germany – Hitler, Italy – Mussolini, USA – Franklin D. Roosevelt, Great Britain – Winston Churchill, Russia – Joseph Stalin

**Major Players Involved:**
- Allied Powers – Germany, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Japan
- Axis Powers – Germany, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Japan

**2. Holocaust** - the genocide of approximately six million European Jews during World War II, as part of a program of deliberate extermination planned and executed by the National Socialist German Workers' Party (Nazi) regime in Germany. Other groups were persecuted and killed, including the Gypsies; Soviets, particularly prisoners of war; Communists; ethnic Poles; in total, 2.5 million non-Jewish Polish citizens perished during the course of the war. Over two million were ethnic Poles, other Slavic people; the disabled; homosexuals; and political and religious dissidents. Many scholars do not include these groups in the definition of the Holocaust, defining it as the genocide of the Jews, or what the Nazis called the "Final Solution of the Jewish Question." Total victims of Nazi persecution, is estimated to be nine to 11 million people.

**3. Cold War** this term is used to describe the relationship between America and the Soviet Union 1945 to 1980. Cold mean they never fought each other, the war would have destroyed too much, but they did ‘fight’ for their beliefs using client states, such as South Vietnam was anticommunist and was supplied by America during the war while North Vietnam was pro-Communist and fought the south (and the Americans) using weapons from communist Russia or communist China, similarly North and South Korea. In Afghanistan, the Americans supplied the rebel Afghans after the Soviet Union invaded in 1979 while they never physically involved themselves thus avoiding a direct clash with the Soviet Union. Extreme distrust existed during WWII, between Allies Soviet leader, Joseph Stalin, was distrustful of the Americans after Truman only told him of a new terrifying weapon that he was going to use against the Japanese. Stalin did not know what this weapon could do, until reports on Hiroshima got back to Moscow. So this was the scene after the war ended in 1945. Both sides distrusted the other. One had a vast army in the field (the Soviet Union with its Red Army supremely lead by Zhukov) while, the Americans had the most powerful weapon in the world, the Atomic bomb and the Soviets had no way on knowing how many America had, but knew they were not afraid to use them. The name "United Nations", coined by United States President Franklin D. Roosevelt, was first used in the "Declaration by United Nations" of 1 January 1942, during the Second World War, when representatives of 26 nations pledged their governments to continue fighting together against the Axis Powers.

**4. Personal Rights within the State:** Women's Rights: national women's suffrage did not come until the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution was ratified in 1920. In 1918 the British Parliament finally passed a bill allowing women over the age of 30 to vote. In 1928 the age limit was lowered to 21. Minority Rights: A minority or subordinate group is a sociological group that does not constitute a politically dominant voting majority of the total population of a given society. A sociological minority is not necessarily a numerical minority — it may include any group that is subnormal with respect to a dominant group in terms of social status, education, employment, wealth and political power. The term "minority group" often occurs in reference to civil rights and collective rights which gained prominence in the 20th century. Members of minority groups are prone to different treatment in the countries and societies where they live. This discrimination may be directly based on an individual's perceived membership of a minority group, without consideration of that individual's personal achievement. It may also occur indirectly, due to social structures that are not equally accessible to all. During the Cold War, class societies really came to light. Have a class for each individual sect of people. For example, Socio-economic class - people having the same social, economic, or educational status; "the working class"; "an emerging professional class," or simply lower, middle, and upper class in many capitalist societies.

**5. Economic Structures:** Socialism - a theory or system of social organization that advocates the vesting of the ownership and control of the means of production and distribution, of capital, land, etc., in the community as a whole. Also see Marxism

Communism - a theory and system of social and political organization that was a major force in world politics for much of the 20th century. As a political movement, communism sought to overthrow capitalism through a workers’ revolution and establish a system in which property is owned by the community as a whole rather than by individuals. In theory, communism would create a classless society of abundance and freedom, in which all people enjoy equal social and economic status.

Capitalism - An economic system in which the means of production and distribution are privately or corporately owned and development is proportionate to the accumulation and reinvestment of profits gained in a free market.
6. Population Growth: As is often the case, after a major war, the end of World War II brought a baby boom to many countries, notably those in Europe, Asia, North America, Australia and Asia. There is some disagreement as to the precise beginning and ending dates of the post-war baby boom, but the range most commonly accepted is 1946 to 1964. In the United States alone, approximately 76 million babies were born between those years. In 1946, live births in the U.S. surged from 222,721 in January to 339,499 in October. By the end of the 1940s, about 32 million babies had been born, compared with 24 million in the 1930s. In 1954, annual births first topped four million and did not drop below that figure until 1965, when four out of ten Americans were under the age of twenty.

D. Contemporary Trends 1991-Present

1. Geopolitical Maps –
   i. Berlin Wall – Constructed in 1961, dividing East and West Berlin (Germany) down the middle. The wall separated West Germany democracy and East Germany communism. The President Ronald Reagan’s demand (June 12, 1987), “Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this Wall,” had a lasting effect on world history. The wall was not torn down until 1989 and E. and W. Germany did not join as one country completely until 1991.
   ii. Failed attempts at reform, a stagnant economy and war in Afghanistan led to a feeling of discontent, especially in the Baltic republics and Eastern Europe. Greater political and social freedoms, instituted by the last Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, created an atmosphere of open criticism of the Moscow regime. Several Soviet Socialist Republics began resisting central control, and increasing democratization led to a weakening of the central government. The USSR’s trade gap progressively emptied the coffers of union, leading to eventual bankruptcy. The Soviet Union finally collapsed in 1991 when Boris Yeltsin seized power in the aftermath of a failed coup that had attempted to topple reform-minded Gorbachev.
   iii. New Europe - New Europe is a rhetorical term used by political analysts in the United States to describe European post-Communist era countries. "New European" countries were originally distinguished by their governments' support of the 2003 war in Iraq, as opposed to an "Old Europe" noted as unsupportive of that war. Even initially, however, the term was not based solely on this fact. The governments of several other countries, such as the UK, Denmark, the Netherlands, Italy, Portugal and Spain also supported the war, but are not commonly conceived as belonging to a New Europe. It is also worthy to note that while New Europe countries didn't experience protests on the scale seen in Old Europe, neither was the support for operation in Iraq a major issue in their internal politics.

E. Regional and global economic and environmental interdependence: Globalization

1. Global geopolitical structure is a global system strengthened by various regional economic powers (Example: European Economic Community). This system will be based on global interdependence on human rights and freedom, energy and environmental management, international trade and finance, technological and science development, and modern communications, providing a more balanced global structure. The best prospect for a system of cooperation and interdependence among nations is the UN. Proper engineering of links in the global and regional framework can bring about sustainable development. If competition between various economic power blocs is the guiding principle of these links, the world will experience a new era of regional and global conflict. For example, exploited huge oil reserves in developing countries and did not provide them appropriate compensation for depletion of their most important natural resource (Iraq). Host countries reacted to this unfair treatment and took over and nationalized the companies, leading to a sizable increase in oil prices in the 1970s. This then caused global economic instability and general mistrust between exporting and importing countries. Demand for oil fell, and the producing countries could not decide how to distribute the oil sales reduction among themselves, so the buyers took control and still have control of the oil market. The demand for oil is rising and reserves are shrinking which will result in a rapid increase in oil prices. Thus, all nations must invest in development of new sources of energy. Developed countries place peaceful resolution of regional conflicts and bilateral disputes at the top of their agenda. Internationalism should replace nationalism and multilateralism should replace bilateralism. Conflicts like – Somalia, Rwanda, Sudan, Iraq, Afghanistan, etc… Agreements made such as NAFTA and other Free-Trade agreements.
2. **Environmental Interdependence** - growing environmental awareness has required a change in how states operate in the international arena: in order to protect the future of the planet, states must cooperate. Cooperation towards managing environmental problems gives leverage to powerful states while placing the developing world at a great disadvantage. Institutions/treaties designed to regulate environmental sustainability have generated new duties for both developing and developed countries. The green conditionality’s implemented by the IMF and the World Bank demonstrate that economic interdependence must be considered when discussing environmental cooperation. The North Pole is melting for the first time in 50 million years, three times faster than computer models predicted. Even more telling is the folly that this meltdown was discovered by tourists, not data jockeys. (1) A ten-fold increase is beyond our comprehension in its cascade of effects, from the collapse of agriculture to the demise of coastal megacities, tidal waves of ecological refugees, and swiftly migrating disease patterns. Public health is showing serious strains from the 80,000 or so synthetic chemicals now pollute the ground.

3. **Globalization** - is the process of transformation of local or regional businesses, beliefs, economic structures, etc… into global ones. It can be described as a process by which the people of the world are unified into a single society and function together. This process is a combination of economic, technological, sociocultural and political forces. Globalization is often used to refer to economic globalization, that is, integration of national economies into the international economy through trade, foreign direct investment, capital flows, migration, and the spread of technology. The growing integration of economies and societies around the world – has been one of the most hotly-debated topics in international economics over the past few years. Rapid growth and poverty reduction in China, India, and other countries that were poor 20 years ago, has been a positive aspect of globalization. But globalization has also generated significant international opposition over concerns that it has increased inequality and environmental degradation. This site provides access to some of the most recent presentations on globalization and some of the leading research on the subject.

4. **Popular Culture** - patterns of human activity and the symbolic structures that give them significance and importance. Popular, well-liked or common. This is often defined or determined by the mass media. Popular culture is deemed as what is popular within the society. Otherwise, popular culture is also suggested to be the widespread cultural elements in any given society that are perpetuated through that society's vernacular language. It comprises the daily interactions, needs and desires and cultural 'moments' that make up the everyday lives of the mainstream. It can include any number of practices, including those pertaining to cooking, clothing, consumption, mass media and the many facets of entertainment such as sports, magazines, and books.

5. **Technology and Communication** – Household computers – Internet, record information (magnetic disk/tape, optical disks (CD/DVD), flash memory etc.) technology for broadcasting information - radio, television; and technology for communicating through voice and sound or images - microphone, camera, loudspeaker, telephone to cellular phones. It includes the wide variety of computing hardware (PCs, servers, mainframes, networked storage), the rapidly developing personal hardware market comprising mobile phones, personal devices, MP3 players, application software from the smallest home-developed spreadsheet to the largest enterprise packages and online software services; and the hardware and software needed to operate networks for transmission of information, again ranging from a home network to the largest global private networks operated by major commercial enterprises.