

## Themes of AP World History

The AP World History course requires students to engage with the dynamics of continuity and change across the historical periods that are included in the course.

Students will be taught to analyze the processes and causes involved in these continuities and changes. In order to accomplish this task we will focus on the FIVE overarching themes which serve throughout the course as unifying threads, helping students to put what is particular about each period or society into a larger framework.

The themes also provide ways to make comparisons over time and facilitate cross-period questions. Each theme should receive approximately equal attention over the course of the year.

### 1. **Interaction between humans and the environment**

- Demography and disease
- Migration
- Patterns of settlement
- Technology

### 2. **Development and interaction of cultures**

- Religions
- Belief systems, philosophies, and ideologies
- Science and technology
- The arts and architecture

### 3. **State-building, expansion, and conflict**

- Political structures and forms of governance
- Empires
- Nations and nationalism
- Revolts and revolutions
- Regional, trans-regional, and global structures and organizations

### 4. **Creation, expansion, and interaction of economic systems**

- Agricultural and pastoral production
- Trade and commerce
- Labor systems
- Industrialization
- Capitalism and socialism

### 5. ***Development and transformation of social structures***

- Gender roles and relations
- Family and kinship
- Racial and ethnic constructions
- Social and economic classes