

## Course Outline

### (AG) World Cultures (online)

<b>Grade Level(s):</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> grade		
<b>Assignments:</b>	36 lessons	<b>Credits:</b>	10 units
<b>UC a-g Requirements:</b>	Fulfills a - (History)		
<b>Instructional Materials:</b>	online with interactive websites		

#### **Course Description:**

World Cultures offers a highly informative tour around our world. Touching down in several countries on each continent, students will learn about the interactions of demographics, economics, geography, history, religion and cultural traditions, politics, tourism and cuisine, gaining a panoramic vision of the world we inhabit. This course engenders cultural literacy, tolerance and teaches appreciation for the immense variety of life on this earth –from Turkey to Asia to New Guinea to Morocco to Europe to South America to Mexico to Canada and much, much more.

#### **Learning Objectives**

- Students develop chronological and spatial thinking skills.
- Students use a variety of maps and documents to interpret human movement, including major patterns of domestic and international migration, changing environmental preferences and settlement patterns, the frictions that develop between population groups, and the diffusion of ideas, technological innovations, and goods.
- Students relate current events to the physical and human characteristics of places and regions.
- Students construct and test hypotheses; collect, evaluate, and employ information from multiple primary and secondary sources; and apply it in oral and written presentations.
- Students show the connections, causal and otherwise, between particular historical events and larger social, economic, and political trends and developments.
- Students recognize the complexity of historical causes and effects, including the limitations on determining cause and effect.

- Students interpret past events and issues within the context in which an event unfolded rather than solely in terms of present-day norms and values.
- Students understand the meaning, implication, and impact of historical events and recognize that events could have taken other directions.
- Students analyze human modifications of landscapes and examine the resulting environmental policy issues.

## Course Outline

### Lesson 1: Introduction to World Cultures

- (A) Definitions: What is culture? - *Enculturation*, etc. - Reading questions
- (B) Cultural Diversity
- (C) Cultural Diffusion - Reading questions
- (D) Geography - relationship to culture
- (E) Reading questions & photo gallery

### Lesson 2: Turkey

- (A) Five major themes of geography - Reading questions
- (B) Map of Turkey & reading questions
- (C) Geographic regions of Turkey
- (D) Ethnic & population demographics - definitions & demographics of Turkey - Reading questions
- (E) Photo gallery & reading questions
- (F) Ancient civilizations - historical cultures - Cradle of Civilization
- (G) City of Ephesus - overview & reading questions
- (H) History of Turkish/Kurdish conflict
- (I) Nomads - definitions & nomadic cultural groups - reading questions

### Lesson 3: Turkey, (cont.)

- (A) Religion- definition & reading questions
- (B) Overview of Islam - reading questions
- (C) Mosques - photos
- (D) Islam & terrorism - terrorism & racial profiling - reading questions
- (E) Turkish culture - choose 3 topics & complete question

### Lesson 4: Mongolia

- (A) Cultural definition & lifestyle - nomadism & transhumance - reading questions
- (C) Geographic & cultural demographics of Mongolia - map - reading questions
- (D) Photo gallery
- (E) Anatomy of a *Ger* - family & *Ger* - photos, video & discussion - reading questions
- (F) Tsaatan people - reading questions
- (G) Horses & Mongolian nomadic culture - reading questions
- (H) Festival of *Nadaam* - Mongolian women - reading questions

### **Lesson 5: India**

- (A) More about the effects of climate on culture - kinds of climate (12 climate groups) & climate change - reading question
- (B) Discussion: how maps are used to study an area - question
- (C) Climatic regions of India - question
- (D) Hinduism: overview - cultural diversity of india - questions
- (E) India's *Caste System* - the interplay of religion and class distinction - reading questions
- (F) Major languages of India - language map - reading questions
- (G) Arranged marriages: explanation & practice of - reading questions
- (H) Women in India: traditional cultural practices - the *Bindi & Sati* - reading questions
- (I) Photo gallery & question

### **Lesson 6: India, (Cont.)**

- (A) The Ganges: geographical & cultural significance - reading questions
- (B) Colonialism in India: definition & history - impact on culture - Mahatma Gandhi - reading questions
- (C) Music of India as an expression of culture - discussion of cultural symbols - reading questions
- (D) Art & Architecture of India - Taj Mahal - reading questions

### **Lesson 7: Pakistan**

- (A) History of Pakistan - political and cultural forces and importance - reading questions
- (C) Cultural, political, & geographic demographics of Pakistan - reading questions
- (D) Photo gallery & questions
- (E) Cultural diversity - cultural groups of Pakistan - reading questions
- (F) Cultural images & symbols of Pakistan - Truck painting - reading questions
- (G) Refugees & Pakistan - reading questions
- (H) Music: Traditional Islamic music of pakistan - questions

### **Lesson 8: Thailand**

- (A) History & geography of Thailand - reading questions
- (B) Buddhism: Theravada and Mahayana Buddhism - nature of Buddhism - *The Eightfold Path* - reading questions
- (C) Biography of a novice monk - reading questions
- (D) Temples & religious imagery - photo gallery of rural life - reading questions
- (E) Family life in rural Thailand - 6 ethnic groups - definitions: *animism* - Hill Tribes - reading questions
- (F) Northern Thailand, *The golden Triangle*, & Controversy - reading questions
- (G) Global Slavery: issues and cultural difference - reading question

### **Lesson 9: Thailand, (Cont.)**

- (A) Impact of tourism - *Eco-tourism* as a solution to pressures of tourism on environment - plight of the *Padaung* people & tourism reading questions

(B) Choose 3 topics on Thai culture and respond in writing - further reading question

### **Lesson 10: Brazil**

- (A) Indigenous people - hunter-gatherer societies - political map of Brazil
- (B) Land & climate - 3 main land regions of Brazil - population distribution - reading questions
- (C) People of Brazil - ethnic groups - economic issues - reading questions
- (D) Photo gallery - question - Brazilian culture: choose 3 topics and respond
- (E) Environmental issues: effect of environmental change on people & animals - rainforest ecosystems - development & indigenous cultures - reading questions

### **Lesson 11: Brazil, (cont.)**

- (A) Indigenous beliefs & cultural significance - *animism & animatism* - *shamanism* - reading questions
- (B) The Yanomami: culture & belief system - reading questions

### **Lesson 12: Borneo**

- (A) The island of Borneo & its people - demographics - cultural groups - environment - animal inhabitants - reading questions
- (B) Indigenous people - tattoos- *Dayak* culture - beliefs, practices & cultural symbols - reading questions
- (C) The Penan of Sarawak - culture & practices - reading questions

### **Lesson 13: Papua New Guinea**

- (A) Demography of New Guinea - map - reading questions
- (B) Cultural diversity - reading questions - photo gallery
- (C) Cultures: The Huli - the Maisin - cultural symbols & practices - video - reading questions & independent web research exercise
- (D) Introduction to the art of Papua New Guinea - reading questions

### **Lesson 14: Australia**

- (A) Demographics & map - reading questions
- (B) The everyday people of Australia - reading questions
- (C) Aboriginies - ancestral humans - history of Australia - reading questions
- (D) Aboriginal culture - *Dreamtime* - stories - , reading questions
- (E) Cultural diffusion & language - reading questions

### **Lesson 15: Ecuador**

- (A) Plate tectonics: overview - terms & definitions - map of tectonic plates - reading questions
- (B) Climatic regions - the Andes Mountains - reading questions
- (C) Demographics of Ecuador - photo gallery - reading questions
- (D) The Huarani - reading questions
- (E) The Jivaro - reading questions
- (F) The Shuar - headhunting - reading questions

**Lesson 16: Peru**

- (A) The Inca Empire - history of Peru - reading questions
- (B) Hiram Bingham article - reading questions
- (C) Architecture & Culture - photo gallery - reading questions
- (D) Indigenous people - textiles of Peru - traditional cultural symbols & music - reading questions

**Lesson 17: Haiti**

- (A) Physical & political map of Haiti – assignment – reading questions
- (B) Present day & historical Haiti – brief demography – reading questions
- (C) Photo gallery – Vodou – reading questions
- (D) Language & culture: *Language Tensions* – 2 official languages – reading questions
- (E) Optional: history of art in Haiti

**Lesson 18: Cuba**

- (A) Cuban history & culture – assignment & reading questions
- (B) The Cuban Revolution – political issues & economic realities – exiles & embargoes – reading questions
- (C) Maps – Geography – demographics – reading questions
- (D) *Cars*: cultural & economic indicators – photo gallery – question
- (E) Optional: Cuban fine art

**Lesson 19: Mexico**

- (A) Cultural & geographic demography – reading questions
- (B) Climate of Mexico – reading questions
- (C) Who are the indigenous people of the world? – definition of term – problems facing the indigenous populations of the world – reading questions
- (D) Tarahumara Indians – social issues – reading questions
- (E) 4 regions of Mexico – Socio-economics – political movements – photo gallery & questions

**Lesson 20: Canada**

- (A) Cultural & geographic demography - map – reading questions
- (B) Canada's national parks – country comparisons & population densities – reading questions
- (C) Language and political unrest: French vs. English in Quebec – photo gallery – reading questions
- (D) Inuit culture: Inuit clothing – modern day Inuit hunters – reading questions

**Lesson 21: Africa**

- (A) Maps: Political & Temperature maps – reading questions
- (B) Fresh water issues in Africa – World's fresh water issues & socio-political effects – desertification – reading questions
- (C) AIDS in Africa – photo gallery – reading questions

**Lesson 22: South Africa**

- (A) History & political policy in South Africa – *Apartheid*- reading questions
- (B) Demographic information – economy – reading questions
- (C) The Zulus in South Africa – history - traditional beliefs and customs – lifestyle – beadwork as ritual & cultural symbol – Rituals & the Zulu Isangoma – reading questions
- (D) Photo gallery – African ceremonies – reading questions

**Lesson 23: Kenya**

- (A) Map – geography & climate regions – reading questions
- (B) Economy, politics, & history – reading questions
- (C) The semi-nomadic Maasai – culture & stereotypes – traditional culture
- (D) The Maasai of Eastern Africa – traditional Massai culture – interactive web site: Dorobo, Kikuyo, & Maasai cultures – reading questions

**Lesson 24: Democratic Republic of the Congo**

- (A) Demographics – geography, regions, & political variables – political & physical maps – reading questions
- (B) The Congo River & economic development – reading questions
- (C) The Mbuti – Mbuti culture & environment – cultural practices – reading questions
- (D) African Masks – cultural symbolism & function of masks – photo gallery of masks – reading questions

**Lesson 25: Egypt**

- (A) Geographical forces & the Egyptian cultural landscape – The Nile River: its geography & socio-cultural significance – reading questions
- (B) Aswan High Dam & the economy – photo gallery – reading questions
- (C) The Sahara Desert – photo gallery of The Sahara
- (D) Profile of Egypt – socio-economic realities – religion – reading questions
- (E) Photo gallery – Cairo & Alexandria

**Lesson 26: Egypt, (Cont.)**

- (A) 3 cultural groups of Egypt – The Fellahin – rural life – religion – photo gallery – reading questions
- (B) Pastoralists & semi-nomadic people – cultural importance of animals
- (C) Bedouins – polygamy – music & culture – social life – reading questions
- (D) Nubians – history of Dynastic Egypt & the modern economic reality – cultural diffusion – cultural symbols – reading questions

**Lesson 27: Morocco**

- (A) 4 main geographical regions – political demographics – reading questions
- (B) Berber & Arab women – video – keywords – Islamic religious laws – reading questions
- (C) Berber vs. Arab: political tension – transhumance – language issues – photo

gallery – reading questions

**Lesson 28: Scandinavia**

- (A) Photo gallery – history & Vikings – Norse Mythology – reading questions
- (B) Facts about Norway – demographics – geography – reading questions
- (C) Architecture – Stave Churches – art – Edward Munch & Expressionism – photo gallery of paintings – reading questions
- (D) Sami culture – beliefs – music – reading questions

**Lesson 29: France**

- (A) Propaganda – war & propaganda – reading questions
- (B) Geography of France – cultural and population demographics – reading questions
- (C) Cuisine as a cultural symbol – reading question

**Lesson 30: France, (Cont.)**

- (A) Art – cave art at Lascaux – reading questions
- (B) Fine art – article – gargoyles – photo gallery of gargoyles – reading
- (C) Photos of France – choose from various subjects about France – reading questions

**Lesson 31: Italy**

- (A) Facts about Italy – physical & political maps – reading questions
- (B) Fine art of Italy – art & the artist – terms & periods – Michelangelo – photo gallery – reading questions
- (C) Vatican City – Venice – Cuisine – photos – reading questions

**Lesson 32: Spain**

- (A) Overview - economy - land & cultural regions - reading questions
- (B) Cultural symbols & practices - running of the bulls - reading questions
- (C) Cultural difference in Spain - Gypsies - Flamenco - Madrid & Barcelona - reading questions

**Lesson 33: Russia**

- (A) History - Bolshevic Revolution- Nikolas II, Anastasia, & Rasputin - Reading questions
- (B) The Soviet Union - leaders - Chenya - cultural conflict - reading questions
- (C) St. Petersburg - museums & art- photo gallery - reading questions

**Lesson 34: Russia, (cont.)**

- (A) Geography - demographics - land & climate - maps - reading questions
- (B) Ethnic groups & conflict - cultural symbols: architecture - the church - reading questions
- (C) The Khanti - Chernobyl - famous writers of Russia - Gorbachev : The Nobel Prize - reading questions

**Lesson 35: China**

- (A) Geography - demographics - history - The Cultural Revolution & communism - reading questions
- (B) The communist government - religion - economy - reading questions
- (C) Regions - The Yangtze River - map - reading questions
- (D) The Great Wall - The forbidden City - photo gallery - reading questions

**Lesson 36: China (cont.)**

- (A) Cultural symbols - dragons - Chinese & Japanese dragons - reading questions
- (B) Religion - Zen Buddhism - Confucianism - Lao-Tzu - Taoists - reading questions
- (C) Chinese medicine - Yin & Yang - culture & fine arts - reading questions

**Lesson 37: FINAL EXAM**