



## CROSSROADS INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

<http://www.lexrich5.org/CrossRoadsIS.cfm>



Course: Honors World History Email: <a href="mailto:djjohnso@lexrich5.org">djjohnso@lexrich5.org</a> Website: <a href="http://lexrich5.org/webpages/djjohnso">lexrich5.org/webpages/djjohnso</a>	Instructor: Mrs. D. Johnson Telephone number: 476-83399	South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale A= 90-100 B= 80-89 C= 70-79 D= 60-69 F= Below 60
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

### Course Description:

Sixth grade Honors Social Studies, or World History, examines the past from prehistoric times to approximately 1600 AD. Students will work to understand maps, charts, timelines, and globes. Students will become familiar with terms used by historians and geographers. We will use the State Standards to study the ways of life, religion, power structure, geography, technology, and economy of the ancient civilizations. As an honors course, this class will distinguish itself from other grade sixth social studies classes by rigor, depth of content, and emphasis on the use of primary documents. Scholarly inquiry is promoted, and research skills are stressed. Using a variety of materials, students will deepen their understanding of history and of political, social, and economic concepts. Students will learn to think analytically as they use primary documents to compare and contrast events, consider cause and effect relationships, and identify links between historical and modern-day issues. Students will develop their ability to construct and express their views orally and in writing. The development of writing skills will include the formation of a thesis supported by factual evidence, argument, and the analysis of primary documents. Projects and class assignments will be incorporated using technology with the understanding that research skills and presentations are an integral part of the social studies honors curriculum. The course is challenging and requires students to take greater responsibility for their learning by participating in problem-seeking and problem-solving, scholarly and creative processes, critical analysis and application, reflective thinking, and the expression and defense of ideas generated through the study of the content.

**Textbook:** Spielvogel, J.J. ( 2014). *Discovering Our Past: A History of the World; Early Ages*. McGraw Hill, Bothell, WA. Print.

### Instructional Goals:

Using a timeline format, students will learn about the Stone Ages, the first four river valley civilizations (Fertile Crescent, Egypt, India, and China), western cultures founded in Greece and Rome, the Islamic Empire, the West African Kingdoms, and Feudal Japan. We will also spend time studying the tremendous times of change on the continent of Europe from the fall of Rome, the rise of the Byzantine Empire, through the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, the Reformation, the Scientific Revolution, New World Exploration and the discovery of the Americas; as well as major world religions.

Using our text as a resource tool, we will be involved in interdisciplinary reading and research, class presentations, and individual as well as group projects. Note-taking and various study skills will help prepare students to be successful and view the world in a new and exciting way. Teachers will also strive to tie curriculum topics together with other subject areas; and whenever possible, to bring more integration to the learning experience. Our Social Studies units will continuously integrate character education, enabling students to understand how decision making truly shapes world events. We will also periodically study careers that are related to the field of Social Studies. Students will build good school/work habits that over time will develop into essential work habits.

### **Scope and Sequence:**

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter

Stone Ages  
Mesopotamia and The Fertile Crescent  
Ancient Egypt  
Ancient India

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter

Ancient China  
Ancient Greece

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter

The Roman Empire  
Early African Civilizations  
Middle Ages

#### 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter

Renaissance and Reformation  
Age of Exploration and Scientific Revolution  
Early Americas

Major world religions (Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, and Shinto) will be taught throughout the school year.

### **Assessments/Grading:**

Major Assignments (Tests/Projects/Essays) = 50%  
Quizzes/Classwork = 40%  
Homework/Daily Work = 10%