

## Introduction to World History Overview: World History II, 10th Grade

### **Driving Concept: Introduction to Historical Thinking**

*In World History II, students study the evolution of the early modern world and the impacts of interactions between societies from the 15th century through the modern era. Students analyze the impact of innovation, expansion, colonization and conflict on global societies through primary sources and historical artifacts. Throughout the course, students evaluate the causes and consequences of global connections, empire-building, resistance, revolution, the emergence of capitalism, decolonization, migration, trade and cultural exchange. World History II equips students to analyze the benefits and challenges of an interconnected world through the lens of power, perspectives, and lived experiences of different people.*

*In World History II, students continue to develop historical thinking skills through historical inquiry and synthesizing information from multiple historical sources. Throughout the course, students analyze different accounts of historical events, considering the impact of context, perspective and credibility. Students compare events by analyzing and evaluating continuity and change over time. By the end of World History II, students can make and defend a claim about a historical event using a critical analysis of historical evidence*

*Source: District of Columbia, Office of the State Superintendent of Education, June 2023.*

### **Essential Question**

*What is history and what skills do historians use to study the past?*

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## About This Unit

**Unit 0: Introduction to World History** consists of four lessons designed to introduce students to the course. Students will ultimately understand the purpose of history and the skills historians use to learn about the past. This unit focuses on how personal narratives contribute to our understanding of history and how they help individuals tell their stories. It explores the importance of determining the reliability of historical information by using primary and secondary sources. Additionally, students will learn how historians apply various historical thinking skills, such as contextualization/sourcing, evaluating evidence, and historical significance, to analyze the past. Lastly, the unit emphasizes how historians incorporate diverse perspectives to create a more comprehensive and nuanced understanding of historical events and experiences.

*Use the Best Practices Repository for information on implementing every strategy and lesson activity!*

### Standards

As this unit serves as an introduction to the work and tools of the historian, there are no content specific standards addressed within these lessons.



### Evaluating Evidence: Unit Focus Skill

Thinking historically means analyzing historical documents in order to make evidence-based claims about the past.

# Introduction to World History II: Topic Overview

	<u>LESSON 1 (90 MINS)</u>	<u>LESSON 2 (60 MINS)</u>	<u>LESSON 3 (60 MINS)</u>	<u>LESSON 4 (120 MINS)</u>
<b>SUPPORTING QUESTION</b>	How do personal narratives help us tell our story and understand history?	How can we determine the reliability of historical information using primary and secondary sources?	How do historians use various historical thinking skills to analyze the past?	How do historians incorporate different perspectives into their understanding of the past?
<b>STANDARD(S)</b>	N/A (Introduction)	N/A (Introduction)	N/A (Introduction)	N/A (Introduction)
<b>FOCUS SKILL(S)</b>	Historical Significance	Evaluating Evidence	Introduction to all Disciplinary Skills	Perspective Evaluating Evidence
<b>DO FIRST</b>	Frayer: Introduction Write a Tweet	Frayer: Source Quickwrite	Frayer: Historian Anticipatory Guide	Frayer: Perspective Give one, Get one
<b>ACTIVITY 1 - LAUNCH</b>	Create a Personal Timeline	Introduction to Sources	CSI vs. Historian Venn Diagram	Introduction to Historical Perspective
<b>ACTIVITY 2- PRACTICE</b>	Reading of <i>Becoming</i> by Michelle Obama	Source Showdown	Historical Thinking Skills Memes Worksheet	The Breakup Worksheet & Source Analysis
<b>ACTIVITY 3- EXHIBIT</b>	Construct a Personal Narrative	Historical Sources	Inside/Outside Circle	Write the Story of the Breakup
<b>CONCLUSION</b>	Exit Ticket: Write and Draw	Exit Ticket: Triangle, Circle, Square	Anticipatory Guide OR Exit Ticket: Quick Write	Exit Ticket: Quickwrite



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## **Unit Commentary:**

The start of a school year is filled with an abundance of excitement, anxiety, and overwhelm for both teachers and students. Unit 0 serves as an introductory unit designed to lay the foundation for the study of world history. It introduces students to key historical concepts and essential skills historians use to understand and analyze the past. By the end of this unit, students will gain a deeper understanding of the purpose of history, the importance of historical thinking, and the role of diverse perspectives in shaping our knowledge of the world.

In Lesson 1, students explore how personal narratives—stories from individuals who lived through historical events—contribute to our understanding of history. They will learn how narratives provide unique insights into the experiences and emotions of people in different times and places and construct their own personal narrative.

Lesson 2 focuses on the importance of evaluating the reliability of sources. Students will examine the difference between primary sources and secondary sources and showcase their learning by researching an historical event and brainstorming sources that may exist pertaining to it.

In Lesson 3, students will gain an introduction to the disciplinary skills that historians use to analyze historical events and sources. They will explore historical thinking techniques such as contextualization (understanding the broader context of an event), sourcing (analyzing the origin and purpose of a source), and evaluating evidence. Additionally, they will participate in an inside/outside circle to facilitate academically productive talk and the development of a mindset focused on collective learning.

The final lesson in Unit 0 emphasizes the importance of incorporating diverse perspectives when studying history. Students will learn how historians consider a variety of viewpoints—whether based on culture, class, gender, or geography—to create a more nuanced and inclusive understanding of historical events. Students will consider both sources that are known and an absent narrative to foster a critical examination of the recording of the past.

Many of the skills and tools utilized in Unit 0 will be repeated throughout the school year. Make sure to take an adequate amount of time for students to understand the goal and significance of each learning task. However, if gaps in understanding remain, students will have ample practice throughout the school year. The pacing of lessons and activities should provide you with opportunities to teach classroom routines and to get to know your students. However, if you need more time to reinforce classroom expectations, please feel free to extend the unit beyond the time allotted. Ensuring that your students understand the classroom dynamics will pay dividends throughout the year.

