

World History
PISD Curriculum: Year at a Glance

Bundle	Title Big Ideas/Enduring Understandings	Guiding Questions
1	<p><i>First Humans, Neolithic Revolution and River Valley Civilizations</i> The Neolithic Revolution was a crucial turning point in world history which allowed for many developments such as economic, political, and social diversification and sophistication.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Why was the Neolithic Revolution so revolutionary? ▪ What were the social, geographic, political, and economic causes and effects of the development of farming and then of cities? ▪ Were river valleys essential to the development of farming?
2	<p><i>Classical Mediterranean and Americas</i> Ancient civilizations around the world were very complex socially, economically, and politically and, in many ways, continue to define and influence our lives today.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Why were these Golden Ages so golden? ▪ What was similar and different about civilizations around the world? ▪ What ideas and developments from these civilizations are still used today, including math, architecture, philosophy, drama, sports, and politics? ▪ How did the civilizations and their religion influence each other?
3	<p><i>Classical India and China / Islamic Civilizations</i> Ancient civilizations around the world were very complex socially, economically, and politically and, in many ways, continue to define and influence our lives today.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What was similar and different about civilizations around the world? ▪ What ideas and developments from these civilizations are still used today, including math, architecture, philosophy, drama, sports, and politics? ▪ How did the civilization and its religion and philosophies influence each other?
4	<p><i>Middle Ages</i> The Middle Ages in Europe were different than the Middle Ages in other parts of the world. When cultures came into contact, they learned from each other.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How did Muslim religious beliefs, innovations, and politics shape Africa and Europe? ▪ How were the Middle Ages similar and different across Africa, Southwest Asia, Europe, and other places around the world? ▪ How did political, economic, and religious structures contribute to a lack of development in Europe during the Middle Ages? ▪ What events brought cultures into contact with each other and what were the results of those meetings?
5	<p><i>Renaissance and Reformation / Middle Ages in China</i> Social, economic, and political change can be interdependent.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How did the artistic and intellectual achievements of this time period challenge the authority of the Catholic Church? ▪ What were the causes and effects of the Renaissance and Reformation? ▪ What were the legacies of the Sui, Tang, and Song dynasties?
6	<p><i>Exploration, Aztecs and Incas</i> European exploration brought together different groups of people with varying consequences.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How did exploration affect the explorers' countries as well as the people of the lands being explored and claimed? ▪ What motivated the Europeans to explore?
7	<p><i>Scientific Revolution, Absolute</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How did new ideas in science and politics challenge

World History
PISD Curriculum: Year at a Glance

Bundle	Title Big Ideas/Enduring Understandings	Guiding Questions
	<p><i>Monarchs, Enlightenment</i> New ideas in science and politics challenged absolutism and changed many of people’s underlying beliefs about the world in general.</p>	<p>absolutism?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How did new ideas in science and politics influence religion and society in general?
8	<p><i>Revolutions</i> Revolutions to more evenly and fairly distribute political power had different effects and consequences at different times and places.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How did Enlightenment thinking lead the revolutionary change around the world? ▪ What makes a revolution revolutionary? ▪ How were the revolutions similar and different? ▪ How were the effects of the revolutions similar and different?
9	<p><i>Muslim Empires and the Industrial Revolution</i> The Industrial Revolution had complex and far-reaching positive and negative effects. Muslim empires shaped South and Southwest Asia.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How did industrialization affect the lifestyles of those who experienced it? ▪ What were the social, economic and political causes and effects of industrialization? ▪ How did Muslim empires influence South and Southwest Asia?
10	<p><i>Imperialism, Nationalism, and World War I</i> Imperialism, nationalism, and alliances led to unequal balances of power both within and between nations, colonies, and regions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How did imperialism lead to systems of inequality? ▪ How did the expansion of empires throughout the world lead to a system of alliances? ▪ How and why did nations become increasingly interdependent? ▪ Why did nationalism arise and what are some of its characteristics? ▪ How did the system of alliances established by imperialism lead to WWI?
11	<p><i>TAKS Review / Between the Wars / World War II / Rise of the Cold War</i> Increasing globalization and interdependence, combined with nations’ radically different economic and political systems led to worldwide conflicts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How did the aftermath of World War I contribute to World War II? ▪ How did totalitarianism shape World War II? ▪ Why did many nations perceive communism as a threat?
12	<p><i>20th Century Topics</i> We all have rights and responsibilities in our contemporary world with its unlimited possibilities and increased potential to inflict harm.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How has nuclear capability affected warfare and the threat of conflict? ▪ How has the fall of the Soviet Union led to a global economy? ▪ In the 20th century, how have civil rights been protected and abused around the world? ▪ What is the role of individuals and superpowers in dealing with economic inequity, genocide, terrorism, and other 20th century issues?