

Guest Hollow Whirlwind World History Syllabus Fall 2026

Welcome to World History! This course will definitely be a whirlwind of information.

Course Description: This course is an overview of world history from prehistory and the beginning of civilization through modern times. Students will examine major events, key people, conflicts and inventions that shaped the course of history in both western civilization and civilizations in other parts of the world.

Online Access: Students will need access to the online textbook via Guest Hollow's website, found [HERE](#). Please bookmark it.

Homework: **Please check Band every week for the most updated information regarding homework.** I have made an [edited version of the GH schedule](#) without all the extras - it has links to the exact sections you will need to read at home every week, workbook pages to complete, and links to extra videos you can watch (the extra videos in this schedule are optional but fun and informative).

Papers/Quizzes: Any papers that we write in this course will need to be submitted in Google Docs to megpresley@gmail.com AND monarchclassical@gmail.com . I will also ask for a paper copy to be submitted in class. Quizzes will occur periodically throughout the year.

Note: It is difficult to cover the broad scope of history in only 28 weeks. Guest Hollow Curriculum is designed to be spread over 36 weeks, so at the discretion of your home instructor, you may opt to fill in the missing weeks of information at your convenience throughout the year or during the month of May after Monarch has concluded for the school year.

Extra resources: Guest Hollow offers a plethora of additional books, videos, and activities to round out this curriculum. Browsing the full schedule included with your curriculum purchase will help you locate extras to enjoy during the week if you have time. They will not be required for Monarch.

FALL SEMESTER

Ancient Civilizations and the Rise of Empires (Prehistory to 500 CE)

Week 1: August 25, 2026

Topic: Mesopotamia and Early Writing

Read: Agriculture Brings About Civilizations, The Fertile Crescent: Mesopotamia (all sections through Life in Mesopotamia)

Week 2: September 1

Topic: Ancient Egypt and Ancient Israel

Read: Ancient Egypt and all subsections; The Israelites and Ancient Israel; Nebuchadnezzar II

Week 3: September 8

Topic: Indus Valley and Early China

Read: Ancient India (all subsections); Ancient China (Shang Dynasty, Zhou Dynasty, Warring States, Qin Dynasty; jump to Han Dynasty and read all sections)

Week 4: September 15

Topic: Ancient Greece

Read: Greece intro (Periods of Greek History); Military Organization and Politics; Sparta; Athens; The Persian War; The Peloponnesian War; The Aftermath; Classical Greece introduction, History and Herodotus, Philosophy, Conclusion

Week 5: September 22

Topic: The Hellenistic Age and the Roman Republic

Read: The Hellenistic Age introduction <through> Alexander After the Conquest of Persia; Philosophy; Science and Math; Rome (Origins <through> Society)

Week 6: September 29

Topic: The Rise of the Roman Empire

Read: Rome (The End of the Republic, Julius Caesar, Marc Antony); Roman Empire (all sections)

Week 7: October 6

Topic: Late Empire and Christianity

Read: The Late Empire and Christianity (all sections)

OCTOBER 13 - FALL BREAK

The Medieval World (400 -1450)

Week 8: October 20

Topic: The Byzantine Empire and the Rise of Islam

Read: Byzantium (all sections); The Origins of Russia; Islam (Origins <through> Political History After Muhammed); Part of Europe Under Muslim Rule; Conclusion

Week 9: October 27

Topic: Early Middle Ages and Charlemagne

Read: Early Medieval Europe (all sections)

Week 10: November 3

Topic: The High Middle Ages

Read: The High Middle Ages introduction <through> William the Conqueror

Week 11: November 10

Topic: The Crusades and Church Power

Read: The Crusades <through> The Northern Crusades; Monasticism; Corruption

Week 12: November 17

Topic: The High Middle Ages

Read: The Middle East After the Caliphates <through> Men's and Women's Roles

THANKSGIVING BREAK

Week 13: December 1

Topic: Crisis - Famine, Death, and War

Read: The Late Middle Ages and Europe (all sections)

Week 14: December 8

Topic: Africa and Asia in the Middle Ages

Read: Africa in the Middle Ages (all sections); Asia in the Middle Ages (all sections)