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History and Culture: Threads of Civilization

A brief history of the Modern World – 1500 to 1945A.D

Course Objective:

The study of the past is an essential tool to understand present day culture. History enables us to reach our individual and collective identities by the study of the interplay of events, their causes and results. History therefore helps people to know themselves better and have more fulfilling social interactions and the development of a worldview.

This course attempts to study the rise and fall of ideas in general and History in particular. Students will learn of different strands of thought, which shaped World Culture, and specific patterns of response. It will also examine the implied lessons of History in the analysis of past events and their link to the present.

Topics we will explore through this course:

- The Emergence of Asia
- The Rise of Europe
- The Growth of the Russian Empire
- The Partition of Africa
- America's World presence
- The Progress of Science and the Industrial Revolution
- Imperialism and Colonialism
- The First World War
- The Challenge of Communism
- An Asian update
- The Second World War

Teaching Methodology:

- Reading assignments including case studies and article analysis
- Group discussions and interactive learning
- Quiz contests
- Theme presentations
- Lectures
- Major Essay