

## **World Cultures – First Semester**

### **Course Objectives/Essential Questions**

1. In today's global society, why is it important to appreciate human diversity?
  2. How do global issues and events impact me as an individual?
  3. How can a broad knowledge of cultures prevent misunderstandings, bias, and stereotypes?
  4. How do an individual's actions or inactions impact the world?
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### **Introduction to a Global World – Objectives/Essential Questions**

1. In what ways is a culture shaped by the needs of a people building their lives in a particular environment? In what ways is it the product of a people's unique historic experience?
2. What do people gain when they link themselves together in local, national, and international groups? What do they give up or risk when they do?
3. How is globalization changing societies and impacting individuals? What are the costs and benefits of globalization?

### **Russia – Objectives/Essential Questions**

1. How has discontent contributed to revolution in 20th century Russia?
2. How has the Russian view of leadership been shaped by their historical experiences?
3. What is the legacy of the Cold War in Russia, the former Soviet Republics, and Eastern Europe?

### **Latin America – Objectives/Essential Questions**

1. How are Latin American countries addressing social, economic, and political challenges post-independence?
2. How has interventionism in Latin America impacted their political and economic conditions?
3. How has Latin America developed to have such rich cultural diversity?

### **Middle East – Objectives/Essential Questions**

1. What is the significance of the rise in religious fundamentalism in this region?
2. Why is the Middle East so influential in today's world?
3. Why is the U.S. so involved in the events/conflicts of the Middle East? What is at stake?
4. How has the creation of the state of Israel shaped events in the Middle East?

## **World Cultures – Second Semester**

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### **East Asia – Objectives/Essential Questions**

1. How has traditional culture continued to thrive in the face of great change?
2. How has conflict with the outside world and with each other shaped the political region of East Asia?
3. What events in East Asia today have the greatest global impact?

### **South Asia – Objectives/Essential Questions**

1. What made the Indian independence movement so unique?
2. What challenges does South Asia face in the 21st century?

### **Sub-Saharan Africa – Objectives/Essential Questions**

1. Why is the cycle of poverty, instability, and conflict so difficult to break in sub-Saharan Africa?
2. Why does the world seem unwilling to assist African nations in crisis?
3. How have colonialism and neocolonialism impeded progress in sub-Saharan Africa?