

# Unit 0: Overview

## Key Terms: Strayer Foundations Reading (\* items not found in reading)

Paleolithic Era	Confucius	Allah
egalitarian	<i>The Analects</i>	Deity
Neolithic Revolution	Filial piety*	Umma
Pastoral societies	Han Dynasty	Caliph*
Civilization—definition	5 Basic Relationships*	Sunni
Patriarchy	Mandate of Heaven	Shia
Civilization and the environment	Son of Heaven*	Ulama
Bureaucracy	Daoism	Mosques
Caste system	Yin & yang	Sufism
Hinduism	Scholar-gentry (official)	Silk Roads
Brahmins	Abraham	Indian Ocean Road (trade route)
Upanishads	Judaism	Trans-Saharan Trade Routes
Brahman	Ten Commandments	City-states
Moksha	Torah*	Polytheism
Karma	Christianity	Mesopotamia/Fertile Crescent
Buddhism	Jesus of Nazareth	Ziggurat
Siddhartha Gautama	Saint Paul	Cuneiform
4 Noble Truths*	Church hierarchy	Hammurabi's Code
Eightfold path	Roman Catholic	Abraham
Nirvana	Eastern Orthodox	Moses
Enlightenment	Dar-al-Islam	Torah
Clergy*	Muhammad Ibn Abdullah	Monotheism
Buddhahood	Quran	Exodus
Confucianism		

## Key Terms for Classical Empires:

### China:

Shi Huangdi  
Qin Dynasty  
Han Dynasty  
*Yin and Yang*  
Daoism (Dao)  
Legalism  
Confucianism  
Great Wall  
filial piety  
scholar-gentry

### India:

caste  
Aryans  
Vedic Religion  
Chandragupta  
Maurya  
Ashoka  
*Edicts of Ashoka*  
Gupta Empire

### Mediterranean:

Persia  
Royal Road  
Greek civilization  
Hellenistic Period  
direct democracy  
Roman Republic  
Julius Caesar  
*pax Romana*  
Twelve Tables

## Unit 0.1: Foundations—8,000 BCE - c. 600 BCE

### Key Concepts 1.1 Big Geography and the Peopling of the Earth

1. What is the evidence that explains the earliest history of humans and the planet? How is this evidence interpreted?
2. Identify and explain earliest humans' technology & tool and its connection to adaption?
3. How did the earliest humans' society help them procure enough supplies to survive?

### **Key Concept 1.2 The Neolithic Revolution and Early Agricultural Societies**

1. What were the long-term demographic, social, political, and economic effects of the Neolithic Revolution?
2. Why did the Neolithic Revolution start (at all)?
3. What were the environmental effects of the Neolithic Revolution?
4. What effects did pastoralism & agriculture have on the food supply?

### **Key Concepts 1.3 The Development and Interactions of Early Agricultural, Pastoral, and Urban Societies**

1. What is a civilization and what are the defining characteristics of a civilization?
2. Where did the earliest civilizations develop, and why did they develop in those locations?
3. What role did pastoral civilizations play with regard to empires?
4. What pre-600 BCE religions strongly influenced later eras?
5. How “big” were the pre-600 BCE trading regions?
6. How did social and gender identities develop pre-600 BCE?

## **Unit 0.2 Classical Era 600 BCE – 600 CE**

### **Essential Questions for Unit 0.2**

1. What are the basic characteristics of the classical period’s major religions/belief systems (Judaism, Greco-Roman philosophy, Christianity, Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, and Daoism)?
  - a. How did religions/belief systems help strengthen political, economic, and cultural ties within societies?
  - b. How did religions affect gender roles in their respective societies?
  - c. How and where did Christianity, Buddhism, and Hinduism spread by 600 CE?
2. What is an empire and what were empires’ common characteristics during the Classical Era?
3. What are the basic characteristics of the major classical empires (Rome, Greece, Maurya and Gupta India, Qin and Han China)?
  - a. What techniques did classical empires create to govern their territories? Hint: consider centralized government, bureaucracy, legal systems, military power, etc.
  - b. What unique social and economic characteristics existed in these empires? Hint: consider social classes, labor systems, gender and family structures, role/function of cities, trade, etc.
4. What caused classical empires to decline, collapse, or transform into something else? Remember internal weakness (environmental issues, social unrest, poor leadership, etc.) or external pressure (invasions).
5. How did Classical era trade networks compare to early civilization trade networks? What forces contributed to the changes between the two eras?