

# PIECES: AP World History Themes

This course is organized around six overarching themes that serve as unifying threads throughout the course, helping to relate what is particular about each time period or society to a “big picture” of history. The themes also provide a way to organize comparisons and analyze change and continuity over time.

<p><b><u>Political</u></b></p>	<p><b>AP World History Theme: Governance (GOV)</b>            Guiding Questions: Who is in charge and who gives that person or group power? What is power based on? Is there a contract? What is the government structure? Are there any significant wars, treaties, courts or laws?  <b>Political structures</b>                      <b>Forms of governance</b>                      <b>Empires</b>  <b>Nations/nationalism</b>                      <b>Revolts/revolutions</b>                      <b>Gender roles</b>  <b>Family and kinship</b>                      <b>Race/ethnicity</b>                      <b>Social classes</b></p>
<p><b><u>Innovation</u></b></p>	<p><b>AP World History Theme: Technology and Innovation (TEC)</b>            Guiding Questions: How have people adapted to their surroundings? How do they get from place to place? What tools or machines have they developed? Are there any significant achievements or innovations in technology, math, or science?  <b>Technology</b>                      <b>Science</b>                      <b>Math</b></p>
<p><b><u>Environment</u></b></p>	<p><b>AP World History Theme: Humans and the Environment (ENV)</b>            Guiding Questions: In what geographic region is the society/civilization located? What makes up the geographic landscape of this region? How are people/events affected by the geography? How do the people interact with the environment? How does the environment define the society/civilization?  <b>Demography</b>                      <b>Disease</b>                      <b>Migration</b>  <b>Patterns of settlement</b></p>
<p><b><u>Culture</u></b></p>	<p><b>AP World History Theme: Cultural Developments and Interactions (CDI)</b>            Guiding Questions: What is the meaning of life for people in the society/civilization? How do they live their daily lives? What are the basic religious beliefs? Are there leaders or documents that define religion? What groups are given the chance to learn and how do they learn? Do they have forms of philosophy? How do they express themselves?  <b>Religions</b>                      <b>Belief systems</b>                      <b>Philosophies</b>  <b>Ideologies</b>                      <b>Arts and architecture</b></p>
<p><b><u>Economic</u></b></p>	<p><b>AP World History Theme: Economic Systems</b>            Guiding Questions: Is there a currency present in this society? How do the people earn their money (or food)? What commodities are valued and traded? Is the economy based on agriculture or commerce (small trades &amp; professions)? Is the economy based on industry (manufacturing &amp; technology)?  <b>Agriculture</b>                      <b>Pastoral production</b>                      <b>Trade and commerce</b>  <b>Labor systems</b>                      <b>Industrialization</b>                      <b>Capitalism/Socialism</b></p>
<p><b><u>Social</u></b></p>	<p><b>AP World History Theme: Social Interactions and Organization (SIO)</b>            Guiding Questions: How does the group relate to one another? How do people communicate? What do people do together? How is the group organized? What are the family and gender relations? Are there social classes? How do they live? Are there inequalities within the society?  <b>Gender roles</b>                      <b>Family and kinship</b>                      <b>Race/ethnicity</b>  <b>Social classes</b></p>