

Month	Content	Skills	Essential Questions	Assessment	Standard
AUG\ SEP	7th Grade Review				
	Ancient Civilizations - Meso, Egypt, Greece, and Rome	Remember all the stuff you were supposed to learn in 7th grade, focusing on early civilizations and Judaism.		Essay	
	<i>World Religions</i>				
	Judaism				
	Stories of the Old Testament History and Traditions of the Jews		What are the main differences between Christianity and Judaism? What are some of the Old Testament stories? What are the main Jewish religious customs?	Standard Test	
	Christianity - life of Jesus				
	Spread of Christianity - Paul Roman Persecution - Great Fire in Rome 64 A.D. Triumph of Christianity and Early Church - Catholic	Understand the origins of the Christian faith from a small persecuted sect to the religion of the Roman Empire	What lessons did Jesus of Nazareth teach? Why did so many Jews believe that Jesus was NOT the messiah? How did Christianity spread?	Interpret the sayings of Jesus Standard test - Christianity Essay	
	Hinduism/ Buddhism - Eastern Religions				
Many aspects of Brahman Reincarnation/Karma - Avatar and Caste System "Buddha" Four Noble Truths/Eight Fold Path	Comprehend the structure of the early Catholic Church - priest, archbishop, pope Recognize the similarities and differences between Hinduism/Buddhism and the Judeo-Christian creed	What are the main beliefs of Hinduism and Buddhism? What are main similarities between Hinduism/Buddhism and Christianity? How do these beliefs effects Hindus every day life?	Creative writing stories involving Hindu folklore or students' past lives. Standard test - Hinduism/Buddhism		

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OCT\ NOV	<i>Aftermath of the Roman Empire/Dark Ages</i>				
	Germanic Invaders and Franks/Anglo-Saxons				
	<p>Customs - hospitality, blood feuds, ordeals, Valhalla</p> <p>Vandals</p> <p>The Churches effort to Christianize the Barbarians</p> <p>Frankish Kings - Clovis, Martel, Charlemagne</p> <p>Anglo-Saxons - Alfred the Great and Beowulf</p>	<p>Understand why the Roman Empire collapsed.</p> <p>Explain how the German invaders and the remnants of Rome struggled to bring light to the Dark Ages.</p> <p>Understand the attempts by the Church and Charlemagne to reinvent the Roman Empire.</p>	<p>Why did the Roman Empire collapse?</p> <p>How were the Dark Ages, dark?</p> <p>How did the Roman Catholic Church civilize the Barbarians?</p>	<p>German essays - Why Rome Fell?</p> <p>Standard test - German Tribes</p> <p>Essay</p>	
	Islam				
	<p>Life of Mohammad -- Persecution of Mohammad and followers</p> <p>Bedouins in Arabia before Islam - polytheism, Mecca, Kaaba</p> <p>Hegira, jihad, & Pillars of Faith</p> <p>Arabian Empire and accomplishments</p> <p>Jerusalem today - Wailing Wall, Dome of the Rock</p>	<p>Explain why Mohammad's new faith was originally persecuted by the city leaders of Mecca.</p> <p>Understand why there are tensions in Jerusalem. (Partly because it is truly the city of God.)</p> <p>Know the true meaning of jihad.</p>	<p>How is Islam connected to Christianity and Judaism?</p> <p>What are the essential beliefs of Islam? (the Five Pillars)</p> <p>How is Islam used by terrorists to justify their actions?</p>	<p>Standard test - Islam</p> <p>Comparing religions essay</p>	
	Viking Invasions				
	<p>Norse Culture - althing, sagas, runic alphabet, berserkers</p> <p>Norse Myth-Death of Balder, Thor Got His Hammer, Ragnarok</p> <p>Viking Accomplishments - Danelaw, Normandy, Eriksson Explorations</p>	<p>Understand why the Vikings were so successful.</p> <p>Explain how they caused Europe to reel back into the Dark Ages.</p>	<p>Why did the Vikings come and why were they successful?</p> <p>What are the Viking's religious beliefs?</p>	<p>Retell Norse myth in cartoon form</p> <p>Standard test -- Vikings</p> <p>Essay</p>	

DEC	<i>Medieval Times</i>				
	Feudalism				
	<p>Development of feudal system</p> <p>Social strata - peasants, nobles, clergy</p> <p>Government based on oaths and honor</p> <p>Knights - Training, Chivalry, Heraldry</p> <p>Fortifications of a castle</p> <p><i>Catherine Called Birdy</i> integration</p> <p>Arthurian legends - movie EXCALIBUR</p> <p>Read Arthurian stories - Gawain & Green Knight</p>	<p>Understand how and why feudal government was developed.</p> <p>Extrapolate how medieval oaths, chivalry and customs affect your life today.</p> <p>Identify the main parts of a castle.</p> <p>Passing knowledge of the Arthurian legend.</p>	<p>How did the Feudal system develop?</p> <p>How did the church help maintain order in the Middle Ages?</p> <p>What was life like during the Middle Ages?</p>	<p>LA - Test on novel <i>Catherine Called Birdy</i></p> <p>Standard Test - Medieval Period</p> <p>Arthur cartoon</p>	
JAN	Medieval Church				
	<p>Catholic Church's role in feudal life</p> <p>Witches, Warlocks & heretics</p> <p>Inquisition - if accused guilty</p> <p>Catholic ritual, faith and practice</p> <p>Power & Corruption of the Church</p> <p>Tithes, Excommunication, Simony, Gregory IV</p> <p>Inquisitional Torture devices :)</p>	<p>Understand how the Church oversaw much good but yet also much evil during the Middle Ages.</p> <p>Become a member of a medieval guild in advisory for the Medieval Faire.</p> <p>Know the operation and justification of the Inquisitional courts.</p>	<p>Explain whether or not the Catholic Church did more good or more harm in the Middle Ages</p> <p>What are the main traditions and customs of the Catholic Church?</p> <p>How did the Church try to protect you from the Devil?</p>	<p>Standard test - Medieval Church</p> <p>Essay</p> <p>European Map test</p>	
	Medieval Faire - guilds	Experience some aspects of life during the Medieval Ages			

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The Crusades					
FEB	<p>Eastern Empire - Byzantine</p> <p>Constantinople - Justinian I and Theodora attempt to re-conquer West</p> <p>Crusade beginnings</p> <p>Manzikurt, Comnenus, Urban II</p> <p>Peasant's Crusade - Peter Hermit</p> <p>First Crusade – Antioch, Jerusalem - massacre</p> <p>Later Crusades -- 3rd Crusade - "Kings", Outremer, Saladin, Richard, Phillip, Barbarossa</p> <p>4th "Unholy" Crusade</p>	<p>Understand the reasons the crusades began and the effect they continue to have in the Islamic world.</p> <p>Know how the crusading spirit eventually degraded into wars for plunder masked by the façade of wars for God.</p>	<p>Why did the Byzantine Empire survive the German invasion?</p> <p>How did the First Crusade begin?</p> <p>How does the First Crusade end?</p> <p>How does the Outremer survive in a Muslim sea?</p> <p>Describe the heroes of the third Crusade.</p> <p>What is the legacy of the Crusades?</p>	<p>Standard test - the Crusades</p> <p>Esay</p> <p>Readings from "Warrior of God" book on Richard Lionhearted and Saladin.</p> <p>Create a recruitment poster for the Crusades, either for the Christians or the Muslims</p>	
The Mongols					
MARCH	<p>Great Hunt, laws, discipline</p> <p>Conquests N. China and Khwarizm.</p> <p>Mongol brutality - death of Genghis</p> <p>Ogodei, Batu and invasion of Europe</p> <p>Kublia, Polo & failed invasion Japan</p> <p>Japan - samurai, bushido, hari-kari</p>	<p>Understand how Genghis Khan transformed an average collection of barbaric clans into the world's most fearsome war machine!</p> <p>Explain the Mongol reasoning behind the massive slaughter of civilized peoples.</p> <p>Comprehend how the modern Japanese mindset is affected by their medieval past and code of Bushido.</p>	<p>Describe the life and death of Genghis Khan.</p> <p>Why were the Mongols so successful?</p> <p>What was the lasting influence of the Mongol Empire?</p>	<p>Creative writing piece on the Battle of Leignitz</p> <p>Standard test - the Mongols</p> <p>Asia Map test</p>	

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	Rise of Trade and Kings				
	Revival Trade -Venice, growth towns Craft guilds, interest, usuary King John & Magna Carta Hundred Year's War - longbow Black Death - Joan Arc	Understand how commerce pulled Europe out of the Medieval Period. Explain how the Magna Carta heralded democracy.	Why was trade returning to Europe? Why is the Magna Carta considered important? How did the 100 Years War and Blackdeath effect Europe?	Standard Test - Trade and Kings Essay "Warrior of God" reading Joan of Arc	
	<i>Renaissance, Reformation, New World</i>				
	Humanism - Italian city-states and art DaVinci, Michelangelo, Shakespeare, Copernicus, Galileo Fall Church - Papal Captivity, Great Schism	Comprehend the magnitude of the rebirth of art and learning and how this affected a vulnerable Church.	What caused the Renaissance? Who were the great minds of the Renaissance? What is Humanism and how did it impact the Renaissance?		
	Protestant Reformation				
APRIL	Martin Luther - 95 theses John Calvin - Geneva - Salvation of the Elect Gutenberg Printing press Henry VIII - Anglican Church Wars of Religion	Explain the ideas of Martin Luther and John Calvin and how they were radically different from the Catholic Church. Know why Protestant heresy succeeded where other heresies had failed. Explain the motivation for European discovery.	What caused Martin Luther to break with the Catholic Church and how were his ideas different from Catholicism? What were John Calvin's ideas and how were they used in Geneva, Switzerland? What was the Catholic response to the Reformation?	Essays on the differences between Protestants and Catholics -- Luther and Calvin Standard test - Renaissance/ Reformation Standard Test - Voyage of Discovery	

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MAY\ JUNE	Voyages of Discovery				
	Gold, Glory, God - Diaz, da Gama, Columbus, Magellan, Cabot, Cartier, Verazzano, da Salle	Know what kind of man Chris Columbus was and how he effected change on the new world.	Why did Europeans suddenly explore in the 1500s? What was the significance of Columbus's voyage? Tell the events of Magellan's voyage.	Standard test - Explorers	
	Mesoamerica				
	Maya, Inca, Aztec, Cortes, Quetzalcoatl, smallpox	Understand that Mesoamerican civilizations were quite advanced.	What were the reasons for Cortez's/Pizarro's conquest to be successful? Why did the Mesoamericans use human sacrifice? How advanced were Mesoamerican civilizations?	Standard test - Mesoamerica	
	Perishing Rainforests				
Diversity in the canopy, forest destruction, greenhouse effect Movie: The Mission	Understand why the rainforest is important and why it will be gone, and how it effected those early American cultures.	Why is the rainforest disappearing? Why does it matter if it disappears?			