

## Key Goals of Course Revisions

The revisions to the AP World History course were designed to accomplish the following key goals:

- **Provide a detailed curriculum framework**  
The curriculum framework promotes the use of [historical thinking skills](#) to explore global patterns of change over time. Acquiring these skills enables students to analyze and interpret historical events in depth and to apply their understanding to a variety of historical contexts. Exam questions will ask students to use and apply historical thinking skills to support the conceptual understandings contained in the curriculum framework.
- **Strike a balance between teaching facts and covering key concepts in depth**  
Reducing the scope of AP history courses enables teachers to concentrate on teaching key concepts and historical thinking skills.
- **Articulate clear learning outcomes for students**  
AP history course revisions incorporate the learning objectives for history, as outlined in the curriculum framework.
- **Encourage multiple approaches to teaching**  
AP history course revisions focus on key concepts and themes, which allows either a chronological or thematic approach to teaching. Exploring key concepts supports students as they investigate historical developments within a chronological framework. Through course themes, students learn to make crucial connections across historical periods. Using either approach, or alternating between the two, can help improve learning outcomes.
- **Reflect college-level expectations**  
Educators from colleges, universities and secondary schools collaborate with the AP Program to ensure that course revisions reflect rigorous college-level standards.

For detailed information, download the [AP World History Course and Exam Description, Effective Fall 2011](#).

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