

Age of Exploration
ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS & STANDARDS

Prerequisite Knowledge:

Students should arrive to class with a firm understanding of how Europe viewed the known world during the Dark Ages and early Renaissance eras. Students should be able to discuss the Catholic Church's views on ocean exploration for Europeans and how that differed for various other world religions and their followers. Please take a moment to research early sailing vessels and the instruments used to navigate by stars and logs.

Essential Questions:

- Explain how increased global interaction accelerates the pace of innovation in modern societies (e.g. advancements in transportation, communication networks and business practices).
- Explain how environmental conditions and human response to those conditions influence modern societies and regions (e.g. natural barriers, scarcity of resources and factors that influence settlement).
- Compare the sources of power and governmental authority in various societies (e.g. monarchs, dictators, elected officials, anti-governmental groups and religious, political factions).
- Explain how competition for resources affects the economic relationship among nations (e.g. colonialism, imperialism, globalization and interdependence).
- Explain how culture unites and divides modern societies and regions

Learning Objectives:

- H.2.3 - New technology and desire for resources allowed Europeans to explore other lands, which influenced their future development.
- G.1.1 - European desire for a water route to Asia was driven by geographic barriers (i.e. the closing of the Ottoman Empire, the African continent) and avenues (i.e. sea routes).
- C&G.1.4 - The impact of foreign influence and occupation on indigenous people dramatically changed government structures.
- E.1.1 - Competition for Asian goods fueled exploration.
- E.1.1 - The discovery of goods in the Americas contributed to the exploration and eventual colonization of the "New World."
- C.1.1 - Through global interaction, cultures were exposed to new ideas and technologies which led to an exchange and transformation of traditions.

Essential Standards:

- H.2.3 - Explain how increased global interaction accelerates the pace of innovation in modern societies
- G.1.1 - Explain how environmental conditions and human response to those conditions influence modern societies and regions
- C&G.1.4 - Compare the sources of power and governmental authority in various societies
- E.1.1 - Explain how competition for resources affects the economic relationship among nations
- C.1.1 - Explain how culture unites and divides modern societies and regions

Major Topics:

- Key people of early exploration
- Key places found during early exploration