

Ancient World History

By Kristen Heider

This 36-week Ancient World History course covers the time period from Creation to AD 476 and includes the following types of activities:

- World Book Online readings
- Vocabulary
- Mapping / Geography
- Journal / Notebooking
- Research and summary activities
- Art projects

Note to Parents: Please at least briefly preview each lesson before assigning it to your student. There are some assignments that are optional, some Internet research activities that request the student get your permission before completing, and some activity choices for the parent to assign. The 36-week version of the course has been designed to be completed across three to four days a week. Use optional activities to expand the course to four to five days a week if desired.

For journal/notebooking entries, students may include drawings, illustrations, and clipart along with written responses. There are themed notebooking pages provided in the downloads for a few of the units.

Journal pages are also available at SchoolhouseTeachers.com, if you wish to print them rather than use a notebook.

<https://schoolhouseteachers.com/blog/wide-ruled-college-journal-page-printouts-free/>

Another good way to learn information is to teach it. As a student completes the lessons in this course, they can try creating their own worksheets, crossword puzzles, or games to teach the information to family and friends. Or they can even line up plush animals, action figures, or dolls to teach the history of the Ancient World to them!

Course Objectives

By the end of the course, the student should be able to demonstrate knowledge of the writings, ways of life, government, wars, and major contributions of this period including:

1. The lands and events of the Old Testament period including Creation, the Flood, the Tower of Babel, the patriarchs, the period of the Exodus, the reign of King David, the Divided Kingdom of Israel, the fall of Israel to Assyria and Babylon, the return of the Jewish people from exile, and the inter-testament period
2. Sumerians, the *Epic of Gilgamesh*, and the Minoans
3. Ancient Egypt including Amenhotep IV, Nefertiti, Tutankhamen, Ramses II
4. Ancient China including the Shang, Zhou, Qin, and Han Dynasties

5. Ancient Greece including Homer, the Olympic Games, Athens and Sparta, the Golden Age of Athens, Socrates, the Peloponnesian Wars, and Alexander the Great
6. Ancient Rome including its founding, the birth of the Roman Republic, the Punic Wars, Julius Caesar, Augustus Caesar, Pilate, Tiberius Caesar, Nero, and the division of the Roman Empire by Diocletian, Constantine I and the Edict of Milan, the Fall of Rome
7. The lands and events of the New Testament period including the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Early Church, and the missionary journeys of Paul
8. The Golden Age of India (Gupta Dynasty)
9. Attila the Hun

Course Text: The reading material for this course is available in the Student Library of World Book Online. Access is included with your SchoolhouseTeachers.com membership and is explained here: <https://schoolhouseteachers.com/world-book/>.

Students will also need access to a Bible and/or a Story Bible for some of the reading assignments.

Vocabulary: Important terms are identified at the beginning of most units. Students should list each term in a notebook on the first day of lessons for that unit and then define the terms as they encounter them during reading and other activities throughout the unit.

Timeline: Throughout this course, students can create a timeline to illustrate the events discussed. There are a number of ways they can do this including:

- Use a large sheet of paper to track events and dates; display it on a wall in your home
- Record events and dates on index cards and file them in chronological order
- Create a timeline on standard size paper and insert it into a notebook

Geography: There are a number of mapping activities assigned throughout the course for which outline maps will be needed. You may obtain maps from your source of choice. [Education Place](#) and d-maps.com are a couple of online sources for free blank outline maps.

Optional Activities: There are optional activities suggested throughout the course for students to examine topics in more depth or to be used as additional assignments for older or advanced students. If a unit includes optional activities, they are presented at the beginning of the unit's lessons so they may be inserted across the unit as you choose.

Answer Keys: An answer key for each topical unit is provided in the downloads for the first lesson in that unit.

Final Project: Final project options are introduced in Lesson 33. You may want to view this lesson early in the course to begin formulating ideas about the direction and format for your student's project(s), as well as to allow time for gathering any needed materials.

Lesson 1: Old Testament, Part 1

Optional: Insert these suggested activities into the unit across the next two weeks as time and interest allow.

- Activity: Illustrate the wedding of Moses and Zipporah. Research the appropriate clothing of the time period and perhaps even provide a mental image of a wedding feast by including the foods they might have enjoyed. Act out the event with your family.
- Biography: Write a short biography of one of the following individuals. In addition to reading about them in the Bible, you can find information in the World Book Student Library. (You may decide to choose someone not listed here.)
 - Moses <https://www.worldbookonline.com/student-new/#/article/home/ar372820/>
 - Daniel <https://www.worldbookonline.com/student-new/#/article/home/ar147800/>
 - David <https://www.worldbookonline.com/student-new/#/article/home/ar149200/>
 - Jacob <https://www.worldbookonline.com/student-new/#/article/home/284400/>
 - Noah <https://www.worldbookonline.com/student-new/#/article/home/392660/>
 - Deborah <https://www.worldbookonline.com/student-new/#/article/home/150900/>
 - Joseph <https://www.worldbookonline.com/student-new/#/article/home/290940/>
 - Rachel <https://www.worldbookonline.com/student-new/#/article/home/456700/>
- Reading: “What is the importance of the Dead Sea Scrolls?” on the Associates for Biblical Research website. You will have to put the title of the article in the search bar to access it. <https://biblearchaeology.org/#Article>
- Reading: Review 1 and 2 Kings and 2 Chronicles for the time period when Israel was divided into the Northern and Southern Kingdoms.
- Activity: Complete the Biblical Kings chart located at the end of this lesson.

Vocabulary: There is no specific vocabulary list for this unit. As you encounter unfamiliar words, write them in your notebook, along with their definitions.

Reading: Read the World Book Student article about the Hebrew Bible and respond to the following review questions in your notebook.

<https://www.worldbookonline.com/student-new/#/article/home/ar250430/Old%20Testament>

1. What is another name for the Hebrew Bible?
2. Name a few of the stories contained in the Hebrew Bible?
3. What are the three parts of the Hebrew Bible?
4. Which books are contained in the Torah?
5. What is the book of Judges about?

6. Who was King Solomon?
7. What is the book of Job about?
8. What story is told in Chronicles?

Timeline: Create a timeline of events mentioned in the World Book Student article about the Hebrew Bible. Include notations to indicate the Old Testament book or books that cover the time span of each event.

<https://www.worldbookonline.com/student-new/#/article/home/ar250430/Old%20Testament>

Reading: Read or review the following Bible stories.

- Creation: Genesis 1:1–2:3
- Adam and Eve: Genesis 2:7–8, 15–25
- Flood: Genesis 6:9–9:17
- Tower of Babel: Genesis 11:1–9

Geography: Map the approximate locations of events from the Bible stories you just read. Use your own resources, if desired. The following World Book Student articles also provide helpful information for mapping these locations.

- Eden: <https://www.worldbookonline.com/student-new/#/article/home/ar173660>
- Noah: <https://www.worldbookonline.com/student-new/#/article/home/ar392660/noah>
- Tower of Babel: <https://www.worldbookonline.com/student-new/#/article/home/ar562680/babel>

Reading: Read or review the Biblical story of Joseph found in Genesis 37–50.

Journal: Summarize one of the following events from Joseph's life by drawing a picture or explaining in words.

- Coat of Joseph – Genesis 37:3
- Dreams of Joseph – Genesis 37:7; 37: 9
- Dreams of the Pharaoh – Genesis 41:1–7



