Overview

What is world history? Is it the study of events that took place centuries ago? Could it include events that take place during your lifetime? This course will provide answers to these questions and more. World history reveals how people lived at various times and in different places. In fact, world history rewrites itself every day as events take place and new facts are uncovered all over the world. The goal of this course is to explore how past events can shape the present and the future.

The information needed to achieve this goal is presented in the textbook *Pacemaker World History* (4th edition) and in this study guide. Globe Fearon published the textbook. The study guide, designed by the staff and faculty at The Hadley School for the Blind, directs you through the course.

No prerequisites are necessary before starting this course. To complete the course, however, you need the materials that The Hadley School for the Blind has provided and writing materials in the medium of your
choice. If you are taking the audio version of this course, you also need your own tape recorder.

Study guides are popular tools for completing distance education courses. They introduce the material presented in the textbook and offer directions for completing each chapter. In addition, this study guide provides answers to selected exercises. It also includes assignments that enable you and your instructor to evaluate your progress throughout the course.

This course is divided into 10 units. Unit 1 introduces the basic aspects of world history. Unit 2 discusses ancient civilizations. Unit 3 explores the origins of Western civilization. Units 4 and 5 describe the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, respectively. Unit 6 examines the age of exploration and conquest. Unit 7 covers the birth of democracy, and Unit 8 the age of imperialism. Unit 9 focuses on nationalism and the spread of war and revolution. Unit 10 concludes the course with an assessment of postwar events in different parts of the world. A glossary is provided at the end of the textbook. For braille users, a supplement features a selection of tactile maps that match some of
the maps presented in the print version of the textbook.

To complete the course, follow the study guidelines in each chapter. Although the textbook offers a variety of exercises, you are required to do only those specified in the study guidelines. As you complete the selected exercises, keep the following in mind:

- Note your answers in the medium of your choice so you can compare them with those provided in the study guide.
- Do not mail your answers to your Hadley instructor; they are for your personal development only.
- Refer to the contact card included with your course materials if you want to clarify concepts with your instructor.

You are required to submit the 18 assignments presented in the study guide. These assignments enable your instructor to measure your ability to apply the concepts presented in each chapter. Note that the assignments can cover more than one chapter. Submit one assignment at a time, and remember to wait for
your instructor's feedback on one assignment before submitting the next.

If you mail your assignments, use the enclosed mailing labels. Send your assignments as Free Matter for the Blind provided they are in large print (14 point or larger) or braille, or on cassette. Your course materials include a contact card with your instructor’s fax number and email address. Use this information if you prefer to send your assignments electronically.
Chapter 33: Latin America After World War II

Chapters 29 and 30 described post–World War II events in Europe, Asia, and Africa. Chapter 31 examined tensions in the Middle East. Chapter 32 discussed the demise of the Soviet Union. Many changes also took place in Latin America after World War II. Not surprisingly, the United States found itself quite involved with the events in this part of the world.

This chapter unfolds the postwar developments in Latin America, focusing on U.S. involvement. Many of these countries had despotic military governments. In 1959, Fidel Castro overthrew the military dictator of Cuba, only to become a dictator himself of a Communist regime. Civil wars raged in Nicaragua and El Salvador. Mexico and Haiti experienced unstable political and economic situations. Most Latin American countries struggled with poverty, as high population growth added to the unemployment problems. Many of these problems affected the United States and warranted the nation’s involvement. The United States even invaded Panama to resolve a difficult situation. Recognizing the
complexity of U.S. involvement in Latin America after World War II shows how past events can shape the present and the future.

**Study Guidelines**

Suggestions on how to proceed can be found in the Overview to the course. To complete the chapter, go to your textbook and do the following:

- Read pages 496 through 509.
- Answer the Check Your Understanding questions on page 502.
- Complete the sections Vocabulary Review, Chapter Quiz, and Using the Timeline on pages 508 and 509.

When you have completed the chapter, return to the study guide to check your responses.

**Answers to Check Your Understanding**

*Page 502*

1. Under Fidel Castro, Cuba allied itself with the Soviet Union.
2. In several Latin American nations, civilian governments replaced military governments by the
early 1990s. Answers should include three of the following:

- Guatemala
- Argentina
- Brazil
- Chile
- Paraguay

3. President Reagan believed it was the role of the United States to keep communism out of the Western Hemisphere. He felt this was vital to U.S. security, and he feared the domino theory could apply to Latin America.

Chapter 33 Review

Answers to Vocabulary Review

1. False. Cuba is a Communist stronghold in the Western Hemisphere.

2. True

3. True

4. False. A moderate government is not extreme in its policies or actions.
Answers to Chapter Quiz

1. Friendly relations between Cuba and the United States ended after Castro took power. In fact, the United States refused to recognize the Castro government.

2. In Nicaragua, the United States was afraid the Sandinista government would become a Communist stronghold in Central America. Therefore, the United States sided with the rebels.

3. In El Salvador, the United States thought the rebels were backed by Communist governments in Cuba and Nicaragua. In this instance, the United States fought on the side of the government.

4. Answers may vary; possible answers may include
   • Mexico shares a border with the United States.
   • Many people in the United States have relatives and friends in Mexico.
   • Mexico is a major trading partner of the United States.

5. Answers may vary; possible answers may include
   • The rain forest probably affects the climate of the world.
   • Even small climate changes could affect the way people live and grow food.
Answers to Using the Timeline

1. The Falklands War came first, in 1982; the U.S. invasion of Panama occurred in 1989.

2. The Organization of American States was founded in 1948.

If you found the previous questions difficult, review the chapter. If you are satisfied with your answers, however, proceed with Chapter 34: The World Today.
Chapter 34: The World Today

Chapters 29 and 30 described post–World War II events in Europe, Asia, and Africa. Chapter 31 examined tensions in the Middle East. Chapter 32 discussed the demise of the Soviet Union. Chapter 33 unfolded the postwar developments in Latin America. Many changes, dramatic and subtle, have taken place throughout world history. Learning about how the world has changed, and how certain things have remained the same, lends insight to the nature of the world today.

This final chapter seeks a perspective on the world at the dawn of the third millennium. Nuclear power has changed the nature of warfare and international relations. Successful and failed ventures into space have introduced a new frontier for exploration. Many breakthroughs in communications, transportation, and technology have changed the way people live, relate, and work. Despite immense progress, however, people retain the same needs and problems they have had throughout history. In the current global economy, all nations depend greatly upon each other. But developing
nations depend more on developed nations for economic support. Gaining a historical perspective on the world offers examples of how past events can shape the present and the future.

**Study Guidelines**

Suggestions on how to proceed can be found in the Overview to the course. To complete the chapter, go to your textbook and do the following:

- Read pages 510 through 525.
- Answer the Check Your Understanding questions on page 514.
- Complete the sections Vocabulary Review, Chapter Quiz, and Using the Timeline on pages 524 and 525.
- Note that the Unit Review on page 526 is optional.

When you have completed the chapter, return to the study guide to check your responses.

**Answers to Check Your Understanding**

*Page 514*

1. The name “Nuclear Age” refers to the time after the first atom bomb was exploded in 1945. This began an age of development for atomic energy.
2. Oil, coal, and natural gas are nonrenewable energy sources.

3. Nuclear energy has serious inherent dangers. If something goes wrong at a nuclear power plant, millions of people could be exposed to radioactive fallout. And accidents do happen. A danger also lies in the fact that no completely safe method has been found for disposing of nuclear waste.

**Chapter 34 Review**

**Answers to Vocabulary Review**

1. astronaut
2. cosmonaut
3. nonrenewable
4. technology
5. satellite

**Answers to Chapter Quiz**

1. Nuclear power can be used in weapons and as a source of energy.
2. The Space Age began when the Soviets launched *Sputnik I* in 1957.
3. The world seems to be shrinking because of developments in transportation and communications.
   - Jet planes make it possible to travel great distances within hours.
   - Television and the Internet bring news from around the world each day.
   - Hundreds of communication satellites beam radio, television, telephone, and computer signals, which connect people to each other all over the world.

4. Answers may vary; a possible answer follows:
   A global economy gives some nations great influence over others. One danger of a global economy is that what happens to the economy of one nation can quickly affect other nations. The healthy balance between exports and imports becomes even more difficult to achieve.

5. Answers may vary; possible answers follow:
   - Developed nations have more technology and industries.
   - They have a higher standard of living than developing nations. For instance, their people have a higher literacy level.
• Developed countries are generally less dependent on other nations, and they have a more stable economy.

**Answers to Using the Timeline**

1. The first human heart transplant was in 1967 in South Africa.
2. Yuri Gagarin, a Soviet cosmonaut, made the first manned space flight in 1961.

If you found the previous questions difficult, review the chapter. If you are satisfied with your answers, proceed with Assignment 18, which covers Chapters 33 and 34.
Assignment 18

After receiving feedback on your previous assignment, complete this assignment in the medium of your choice. Begin by giving your full name, address, and phone number. Also indicate the course title, Assignment 18, your instructor’s name, and the date. Then provide your answers. Be sure to indicate the question number along with each answer. This assignment is worth 100 points. Instructions for sending assignments can be found in the Overview to the course.

True or False

Indicate whether the following statements are true or false. If the statement is false, rewrite it to make it true. (2 points each, 20 points total)

1. After Fidel Castro took power in Cuba, Communist activity increased in Latin America.
2. Daniel Ortega was the Nicaraguan dictator ousted by the Sandinistas.
3. The civil war in El Salvador lasted 25 years.
4. Political corruption and population growth created an economic crisis in Mexico during the 1980s.
5. Manuel Noriega was taken from Panama to stand trial in the United States.
6. No one knows for sure what the long-range effects of radioactive fallout might be.
7. The first satellite in space was Explorer I.
8. Computers of today are much larger than those of 30 years ago.
9. Some developing countries have rich oil fields.
10. Russia, France, Japan, and Great Britain are some of the world’s developed nations.

Short Answer

Briefly respond to each of the following items in complete sentences. (40 points total)
11. What were the terms of the treaty that was signed in 1989 by President Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua and the Contras? (4 points)
12. Why did some U.S. citizens object to U.S. backing of the military government in El Salvador’s civil war? (4 points)
13. List four problems that have led to revolutions and government takeovers in Haiti in recent years. (4 points)
11. List three recent positive changes in Latin America. (6 points)
15. Nuclear power was first used in 1945. When was it first visualized, and by whom? (4 points)

16. The Pacific Rim was the region with the fastest growth worldwide in the 1980s in terms of trade. What is meant by the term Pacific Rim, and what are three countries included in this area? (4 points)

17. Identify two reasons why companies build factories in foreign countries. (4 points)

18. Name four developing countries. (4 points)

19. Name six developed nations. (6 points)

Essay

Read both of the following essay questions carefully. Then choose either Essay A or Essay B, and answer it section by section. Limit your answer to two print pages, five braille pages, or a 2-minute recording. (40 points total)

Essay A

You might be interested in reading more about Latin American history. First, refresh your memory of the various events covered in Chapter 33, by answering the following questions:
a. Give three examples of the kind of relationship the nations of the Americas have had prior to and since World War II. (12 points)
b. Describe the two parts of the Iran-Contra affair. (8 points)
c. What has Brazil done, beginning in the 1980s, to show concern for the environment? (10 points)
d. Summarize two warlike events that marked Latin American history during the 1980s. (10 points)

Essay B

Have you ever been to an exposition or a museum that featured inventions and challenges that might change the future? It can be interesting to spend some time imagining the possibilities of tomorrow. In preparation, answer the following questions to review where the world is today and how it got there:

a. How might the 1991 breakup of the Soviet Union have decreased or increased the possibility of nuclear warfare? (8 points)
b. Identify five milestones in space exploration from the Space Age. (10 points)
c. Give three specific examples of how technology can greatly affect domestic or world events. (12 points)

d. Trace the history of AIDS to discuss how this disease continues to pose a serious threat to both developing and developed nations. (10 points)

Once you have completed this assignment, submit it to your instructor. This completes the course “World History.”