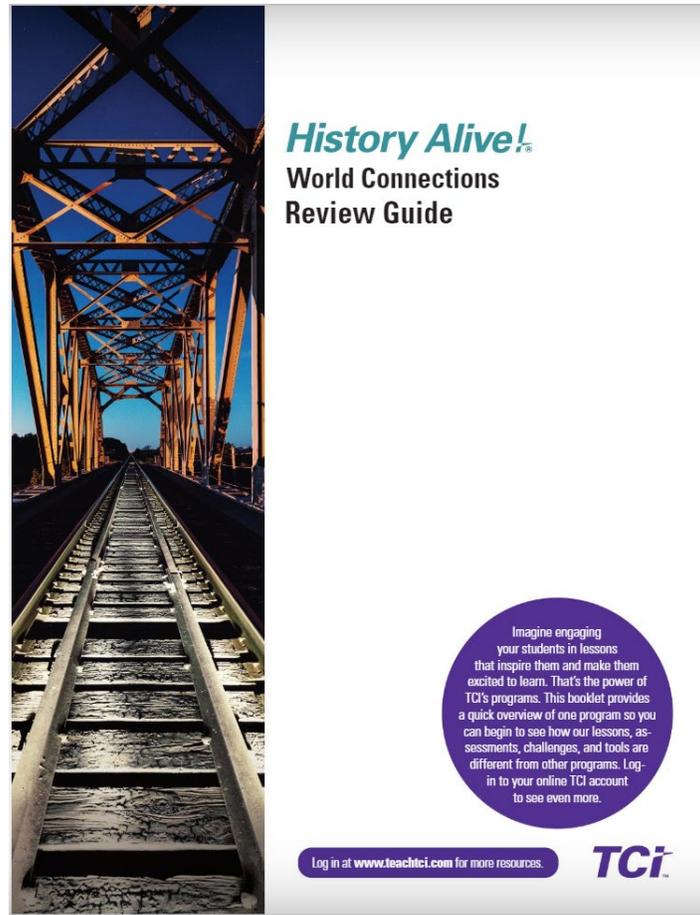


# History Alive!

## Modern World Curriculum Adoption

### INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS COMMITTEE REVIEW



[HS SS ProgramOverview.pdf - Google Drive](#)

[High School Social Studies Curriculum | TCI Interactive Learning \(teachtci.com\)](#)

[History Alive! World Connections Review Guide by Teachers' Curriculum Institute \(TCI\) - Issuu](#)

[Culturally Responsive Teaching with TCI HA! Pursuing American Ideals - Google Docs](#)

[Current Events Toolkit \(1\).pdf](#)

## Introduction

The 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Modern World History course, approved through the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), provides students with the knowledge, skills, and application required for graduation, and beyond.

World Connections takes a global approach to the study of world history by exploring inter-regional connections and global themes that connection our world today. This program invites students to begin with a wide-angle view to examine eras in world history and then zoom in to understand the development of events and interactions among the world's people and cultures today.

## 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Modern World Adoption Committee

- Mathew Witek.....Kalles Junior High, Emerald Ridge HS
- Sean Shoup.....Ballou Junior High
- Jeanna Koozer .....Kalles Junior High
- Debbie Hopkins.....Glacier View Junior High
- Mady Gysler.....Glacier View Junior High
- Tracy Pitzer .....Director of Instructional Leadership, 2020 (Social Studies)
- Lisa Rowan .....Director of Instructional Leadership, 2021 (Social Studies)

## History

In 2019, two significant events resulted in a change to the 9th grade World History curriculum: the adoption of Pre-AP and changes in state standards for World History. The change shifted course content dates from 1900 to present, to 1450 to present, resulting in the need for new resources. The Director of Instructional Leadership at that time, along with a 9<sup>th</sup> grade team of teachers, examined resources and met with Discovery Education & TCI History Alive. The committee overwhelmingly selected the TCI materials, both for the content it covered, the amount of learning strategies & resources offered, as well as the support and structure for new teachers. Before the process was complete, the Covid19 pandemic resulted in school closure for the remainder of the year. The following school year, under new leadership, the adoption process continued. All 9<sup>th</sup> grade teachers were invited for an overview and training, were provided access to online curriculum, and the team proceeded with the recommendation.

## Rationale for Recommending TCI Modern World Curriculum:

- **Standards Alignment**
  - The Modern World curriculum is aligned to the OSPI state approved framework, state adopted social studies standards.

- Modern World Connections supports C3, College, Career and Civic life framework for social studies standards, through inquiry and activities that deepen investigations, acquire rigorous content, and apply knowledge and ideas in real world settings to become active and engaged citizens in the 21st century.
  
- **Organization and Presentation of Materials**
  - The Modern World history curriculum outlines each of its seven units by description, essential questions, teaching strategy, and primary resources.
  - The teacher guide (online and hard copy) provides a lesson overview, teacher prep, blended learning, differentiation, pacing options, and enhancing learning.
  - Elements of the lessons includes both a complete lesson guide, as well as a lesson outline to cover the essential components. Additional components include a preview, activity, vocabulary, processing, and wrap up.
  
- **Support Material and References**
  - Curated content for current events, blended learning strategies, culturally responsive classroom, and citizenship toolkit.
  - ELA/ELD Connections Support: Students who need additional guidance and structure with reading, writing, or vocabulary development with ELA/ELD Connections. Make these pages available to your students as an independent tutorial, for class instruction, or for use with peer tutoring.
  - Reading Support: Student Text and Interactive Student Notebook has built-in support for emerging to advanced readers (change text reading level, highlight main idea, text to speech audio, considerate text, lesson summaries, graphically organized notebook).
  
- **Focus on Citizenship**
  - TCI engages students in learning skills of active citizenship through civic discourse and by engaging in their local communities. This includes a Citizenship Toolkit that provides concrete lessons that help students channel their energy and passion in a variety of ways. TCI strives to represent role models throughout the programs that reflect the diversity of society in the United States and in local public schools in addition to including historically underrepresented groups in our text and images.
  
- **Quality of Information**
  - This curriculum is designed to help students master the essential skills and knowledge that aligns with the state standards. The materials are updated

with relevant, current content. Students analyze documents such as primary sources, court cases, and case studies related to the program.

- Inquiry-based learning is at the core of TCI curriculum; every lesson utilizes at least one of six unique, hands-on classroom strategies.
- Students are inspired to ask questions and conduct purposeful research, as well as engage in collaborative projects, writing assignments, and critical thinking challenges.

## **Bias Screening**

We completed the bias screening tool and found that while there was certain criterion in the bias screening process that were not present, due to the nature of the curriculum. We also found, as is true of history, a significant focus on men in leadership roles. What is evident, is that TCI embeds an intentional focus on culturally responsive teaching through ensuring that equity issues are integrated into the curriculum. Examples found include exploring multiple perspectives, building historical empathy, and including stories from diverse and traditionally underrepresented groups and peoples.

## **Cost**

Modern World curriculum includes a teacher and student licenses, teacher lesson guide, student textbook, placards, supplemental resources, student support materials, citizenship, and current events toolkits. The total cost of the of the Modern World curriculum is \$35,000, per year.

TCI offers a 3-step implementation and professional development plan.

- Step 1 is a overview of TCI, experiencing a lesson, and navigating both the teacher and student platforms.
- Step 2 is a self-paced course that allows teachers to learn at their own pace as they are introduced to the philosophy behind TCI and explore their TCI accounts. These conclude with a quiz and the teachers are emailed a certificate showing the completion of the course.
- Step 3 professional development is to support advanced skills. These are differentiated based on the teacher's need. They are scheduled throughout the year, to provide the teachers with time to explore and gain understanding of the program to ask deeper, more meaningful questions. These can focus on things like assignments, assessments, grading with TCI, using TCI with district LMS, and Q and A sessions.

## Community Review

The community was invited to review the materials online, and in person at each of the seven junior high buildings, from April 27<sup>th</sup> through the present. There was an issue reported regarding online access May 7<sup>th</sup>, that was addressed and resolved May 10<sup>th</sup>.

### Anonymous comments

- *4/30/21 I would like to know what exactly my student will be taught in the "adoption of TCI History Alive, World Connections." The overview only provided an overview of the system, not the curriculum or material itself, as mentioned. I would like to know what my student will be learning and where I can access the material.*
- *5/7/21 How does TCI highlight diverse voices? Has TCI been looked at through an equity lens? In my experience it is a very high-level, thick, and white-washed curriculum that doesn't properly give highlight to POC and the things they brought into world history. We need to make sure that TCI History Alive is a curriculum our students can see themselves in to better help connect them to contact that is already a struggle for them to connect to.*
- *5/12/21 I love the images, content of the book and the interact engaging activities for students.*