



*Al Retaj International School*

*"Together Towards Success"*

## High School History Course Description (Academic Year 2020-2021)

History program will dive into the past starting with the very first civilizations, and study the major civilizations of the ancient era. This course follows the Virginia Standards. These standards enable students to examine history and geography from 1500 A.D. (C.E.) to the present, with emphasis on development of the modern world. Geographic influences on history will continue to be explored, but increasing attention will be given to political boundaries that developed with the evolution of nations. Significant attention will be given to the ways in which scientific and technological revolutions created new economic conditions that in turn produced social and political changes. Noteworthy people and events of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries will be emphasized for their strong connections to contemporary issues.

Although the study of history rests on knowledge of dates, names, places, events, and ideas, historical understanding requires students to engage in historical thinking, raise questions, and marshal evidence in support of their answers. Students engaged in historical thinking draw upon chronological thinking, historical comprehension, historical analysis and interpretation, historical research, and decision making. Students will apply these social science skills to engage in their exploration of the global challenges of the twenty-first century.