Our online courses cover a range of global issues, regions and topics. Interested in running a private online course for your staff or colleagues? No need to check the current course schedule. Browse our complete list of 4-week and 8-week offerings below, and fill a private course with a cohort of educators from your own school or district.

Contact Stephanie Depauw at stephanie@primarysource.org (617) 804-2325 to learn more.

4-WEEK ONLINE COURSES

**Essential Topics for Global Understanding: Health, Environment & Economics**

Today’s students live in an increasingly globalized and interconnected world. To successfully learn, collaborate, and lead in the future, they need to understand and wrestle with topics of global significance. This online course offers an introduction to trans-regional issues that affect the lives and experiences of people living around the world. You will learn about globalization, the environment, and international health as well as the organizations and people who work together to find fair and sustainable solutions to today’s most pressing challenges. Using online resources and readings, scholar videos, and interactive discussion forums, you will collaborate to expand your thinking about global issues and to explore ways to integrate the study of global topics into your teaching. Course highlights include “Featured Teacher” ideas for K-12 classroom application, web 2.0 tool explorations, and weekly “web highlight” resources for classroom use. Open to all K-12 educators.

**Global Understanding in Action: Human Rights, Educational Access & Gender Equity**

How can we engage students around global topics in meaningful ways that encourage them to become change-makers? This online course explores critical global topics – human rights, educational access, and gender equity – through the lens of social action. Through readings, videos, interactive web-based activities, and discussion forums, you will become familiar with key issues related to these topics and learn how to integrate these themes into classroom teaching and school initiatives. At the same time, you will examine case studies of how K-12 teachers have implemented curricular activities and projects to turn student learning into student action, and develop an action project to support students’ transformation from global learners to global citizens. Open to all K-12 educators.
Engaging Culturally & Linguistically Diverse Students & Families in Secondary Schools

This online course provides a theoretical and practical foundation for culturally responsive teaching of English language learners in the secondary school setting. We will examine immigrant teenagers and their experience of schooling; the demographic and diversity profile of Massachusetts districts; cross-cultural communication and its implications for teaching and learning; and effective strategies for secondary schools to engage immigrant and refugee families. You will have the opportunity to reflect on your own teaching practice, apply course skills and strategies, and receive feedback from peers and instructor. **For educators of grades 6-12.**

Engaging Culturally & Linguistically Diverse Students & Families in Elementary Schools

This online course provides a theoretical and practical foundation for culturally responsive teaching of English language learners in the elementary school setting. We will examine how young immigrant students experience school; the demographic and diversity profile of Massachusetts districts; cross-cultural communication and its implications for teaching and learning; and effective strategies for elementary schools to engage immigrant and refugee families. You will have the opportunity to reflect on your own teaching practice, apply course skills and strategies, and receive feedback from peers and instructor. **For educators of grades K-5.**

Thinking Like a Historian: Immigration History Through Primary Sources

Learn how to incorporate and use primary sources in the elementary and middle school classroom through online resources about immigration history. You will explore materials from the Library of Congress collection and the Lower East Side Tenement Museum, deepen your understanding of primary sources, and consider how K-8 students can benefit from observing and analyzing them. This course will be offered completely online and will require a basic comfort level and interest in the use of computer technology as a medium for learning. **For educators of grades K-8.**

Africans in the Age of Atlantic Slavery

New scholarship has placed Africa and Africans at the hub of a historical process critical to the early modern history of four continents. In this online course, we will examine the making of the Atlantic world and the transatlantic slave trade with special attention to African perspectives and experiences. Through readings, activities, collaboration with colleagues and discussion with leading scholars, you will explore the wealth of virtual exhibits, databases, and digital document collections for Black Atlantic history, and craft a curriculum project for your own classroom. **For educators of grades 8-12.**
Windows to the Islamic World: Art, Architecture & Music

Learn about the key features of Islamic art, Arabic calligraphy, "Arts of the Book," Islamic architecture, and the music or "soundscapes" of Islam. Using online resources and readings, expert videos, and interactive discussion forums, you will collaborate to expand your thinking about the history and influence of Islamic art and explore ways to integrate the study of Islamic art into your curriculum. This course is a four-session, asynchronous online course. Each week will include content readings, videos, web-based activities, and a facilitated asynchronous discussion — one that happens in a group discussion forum but at a time convenient for each individual over the weeklong session. Open to all K-12 educators.

Turning Points in Latin American History & Culture: From Colonization to the Cold War

Understanding the dynamism and challenges of Latin America today requires a grasp of key historical events and cultural shifts over the past few centuries. This online course is designed to introduce important events and legacies through multimedia approaches that make history and the arts vivid and explain what is distinctive about the region. We will explore the periods of colonialism, independence and the abolition of the slavery, revolution (with examples from Mexico and Cuba), and the Cold War, making use of case studies from different countries and bilingual primary sources. Sessions include readings, videos, scholar podcasts, classroom-friendly primary sources, featured web resources, and discussion forums for reflection. As part of the course, you will curate a Latin American resource collection for your classroom using a tool of your choosing. Open to all K-12 educators.

India's Century of Change: Diversity, Democracy & Social Dynamics

India’s multifold diversity lies at the core of the challenges and opportunities it faces in the political, economic and social realms. This online course will provide you with ways to approach this daunting diversity and to use it as a lens to examine India’s political development from the movement for independence and Partition to the recent election victory of Narendra Modi. We will also examine the challenges India has faced as it has attempted to develop its economy over the last 60 years, paying particular attention to urbanization, the wealth gap, and environmental issues. Social issues from gender to education and a look at differing perspectives on Bollywood will round out the course in the final week. A rich collection of readings, maps, photographs, documents, video, literature and art will inform our explorations throughout the course. Open to all K-12 educators.
Modern African History: Colonialism, Independence & Legacies

This four-session online course will help you find new entry points in your curriculum for teaching about modern Africa and new strategies and resources to support your teaching. In a community of online learners you will advance your knowledge of African history in the nineteenth through twenty-first centuries, understanding the continent’s history not as a “single story” but a multifarious one. The course will also emphasize Africa’s relationship to world historical developments. Course topics include European colonization, the multiple forms of African resistance to colonial control, the rise of independence movements and leaders, Africa’s experience of the Cold War, the political upheavals and economic crises of the late 20th century, and the hopes and challenges of the continent today. Each session will highlight a unique teaching strategy and explore exceptional web-based resources for the topic. Our course was co-developed with Boston University’s African Studies Center. Especially for 6-12 educators.

8-WEEK ONLINE COURSES

The Enduring Legacy of Ancient China

In this engaging online course, we explore the long period from the emergence of China's earliest civilizations to the end of the dynastic phase in 1911, with a focus on the remarkable richness and endurance of Chinese civilization. Topics include geography, belief systems, the arts, and China's relationship with the world. Drawing from the most current scholarship, course work features supplemental readings, scholar podcasts, and web-based activities that give you the opportunity to explore student-friendly tools and resources. Receive The Enduring Legacy of Ancient China as course material, free with registration. Open to all K-12 educators.

Changing China: History and Culture Since 1644

What has driven the dramatic transformation of China over the past 350 years? What should students know about this economic and cultural powerhouse? The complex history of modern China and its unique place on the world stage will be the central focus for this online course, which will explore the period from the Qing Dynasty and the decline of dynastic China to the present day. In addition to the materials presented in our sourcebook China Since 1644: A History Through Primary Sources, this course will make use of readings, videos, and web-based resources to engage educators in some of the most current scholarship and thinking on China’s development as a nation state. Topics will include the early republic, communist China, economic and political changes, internal migration, arts and literature, and China’s future in an era of globalization. This
course will be offered completely online and will require a basic comfort level and interest in the use of computer technology as a medium for learning. **For educators of grades 6-12.**

**Japan and the World: Historical and Cultural Developments (5th Century - Present)**

Explore Japan through its history, arts, and literature. With an emphasis on Japan post-1853, this online course integrates an overview of Japanese history and culture with extensive consideration of the best pedagogical approaches to translate such learning into effective teaching. We will examine rich primary and secondary sources that explore Japan’s geographic features, belief systems, feudal and contemporary government systems, artistic traditions, and the ways in which Japan has interacted with the world. Drawing on course content and innovative web 2.0 tools, you will have the opportunity to construct curricular materials for use in your own classrooms. **Open to all K-12 educators.**