

WHY TAKE WORLD GEOGRAPHY?

8th Graders:
Why should
you take
Geography
first?

- Geography isn't just about maps—
 - It's about understanding how the world works.
 - How people and the environment affect each other
 - How to think critically about the world around you.
- These skills will also set you up for success in World History later on.
- **Let's break it down...**

What do you learn in Geography?

- **Spatial Awareness:** You'll learn to recognize patterns and relationships, like how places are connected and how humans and the environment interact.
- **Global and Local Knowledge:** We'll dive into physical processes, like climate and earthquakes, and human processes, like how cities grow, why people move, and how the world is becoming more connected.
- **Map Skills:** You'll get really good at reading and interpreting maps, and we'll even use tools like GIS (geographic information systems) to understand places and data.
- **Data Analysis:** We'll look at charts, graphs, and statistics to help you make smart, evidence-based conclusions about what's happening in the world.
- **Argumentation:** You'll practice writing strong arguments backed by solid evidence and clear reasoning. This skill will be useful in all your classes!
- **Critical Evaluation:** You'll learn how to check if information is reliable, spot bias, and compare different perspectives on geographic issues.



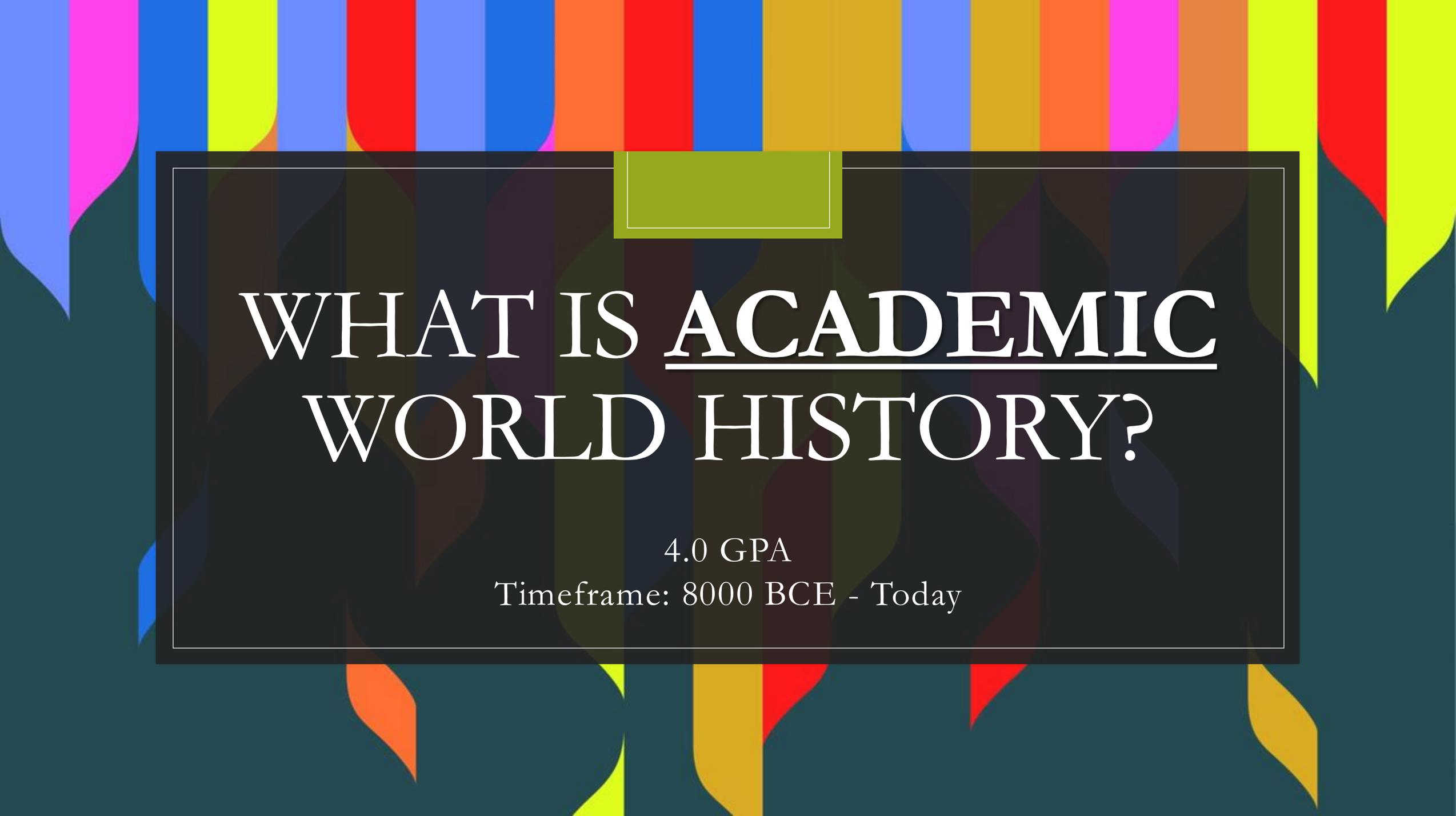
THESE SKILLS ARE
IMPORTANT WHEN YOU
TAKE WORLD HISTORY
SOPHOMORE YEAR!

World History Options

- **3 Levels of World History:**

- Academic/ On Level
- KAP World History
- AP World History: Modern

- All three levels of World History continue to build on the skills you learned as a freshman in World Geography!



WHAT IS ACADEMIC WORLD HISTORY?

4.0 GPA

Timeframe: 8000 BCE - Today

Homework and Tests

- **Homework/In class work**

- Homework is often class work that is not completed during class time. The exception being minor grades that are more hands on.
- Quite a bit of in class work does require students to be able to work at a relatively steady pace, but also be good at having a consistent work ethic.

- **Test reviews**

- Test reviews are given a few days in advance of the test, with a mixture of definitions, matching terms, and written questions all pulling from notes/work from the unit.

- **Test**

- Test will push students towards higher levels of thinking with a mixture of multiple choice, short reading excerpts, hot spot questions of maps, drag and drop, and inline questions.

Projects/ Group Work and Writing:

- **Projects/Minor grades**

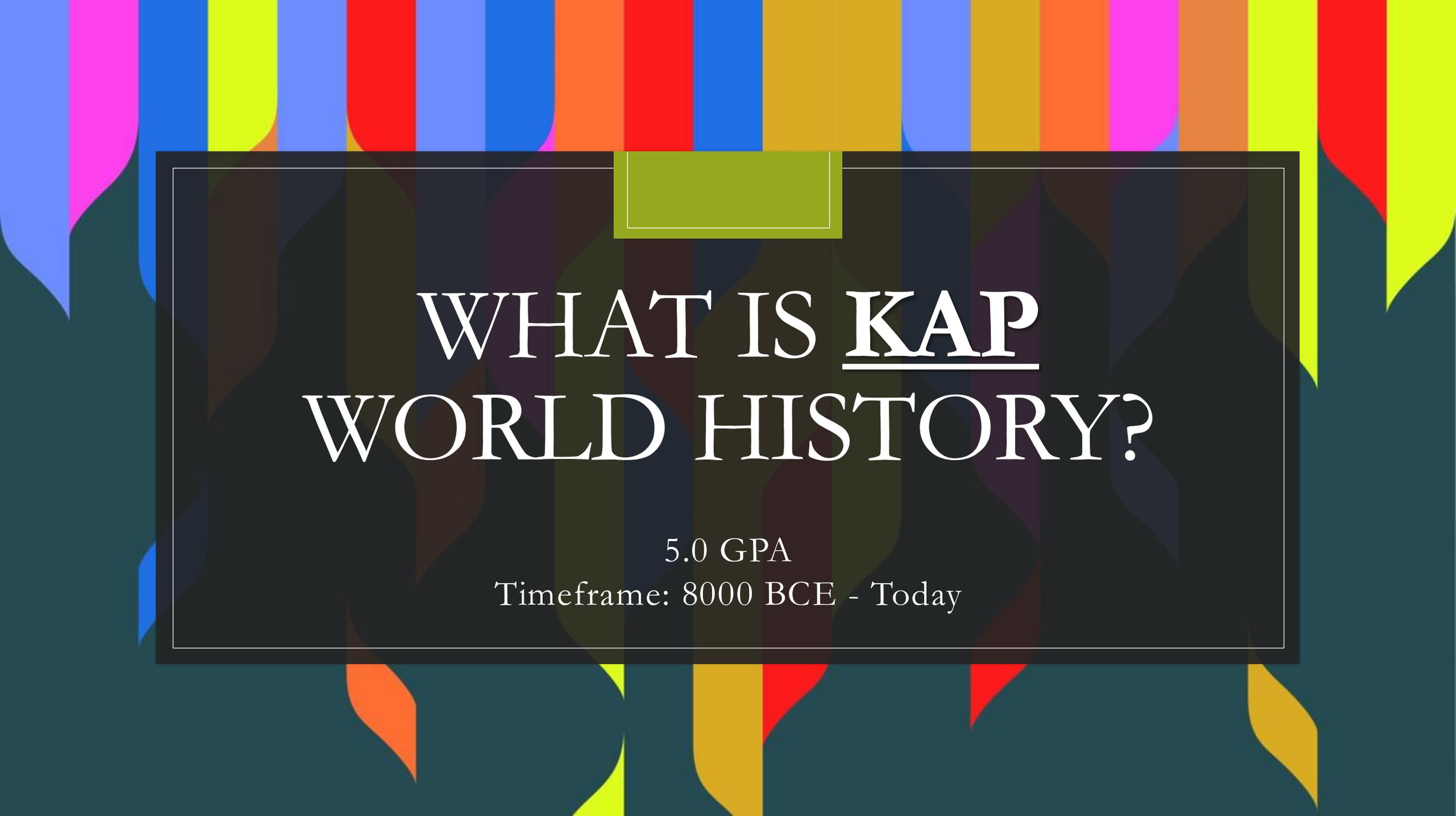
- There is one major project in the spring, the World War II Museum project, but many of the minor grades could be considered mini projects. This often includes students having to draw/be creative. Create neat work but also decipher information on their own to understand what would be important to fit the mini project at hand.

- **Group work**

- There is quite a bit of group work, with things like group jigsaws requiring students to be able to explain information in a clear way to their peers.

- **DBQs/CER**

- There are quite a few DBQs that do have higher level vocabulary and that pulls from some previous knowledge that would come from World Geography.



WHAT IS KAP WORLD HISTORY?

5.0 GPA

Timeframe: 8000 BCE - Today

Workload:

- **Homework:**

- 2-5 pages of reading notes most nights.
- Occasionally class work will need to be completed at home if not completed in class.

- **Tests/ Quizzes:**

- No test reviews!
- Tests will all have FRQ writing.
- Quizzes will be based on the reading homework.

- **In Class:**

- Analyze documents and learn the basics of building an argument.
- Practice reading, critical thinking and study skills throughout the year.
- Writing each week in response to prompts and to demonstrate understanding of how all content works together.
- Activities and projects each 6 weeks!
- No fill in the blank notes.



WHAT IS AP WORLD HISTORY?

5.0 GPA

Timeframe: 8000 BCE – Today

AP Exam Timeframe: 1250 CE - Today

The Workload

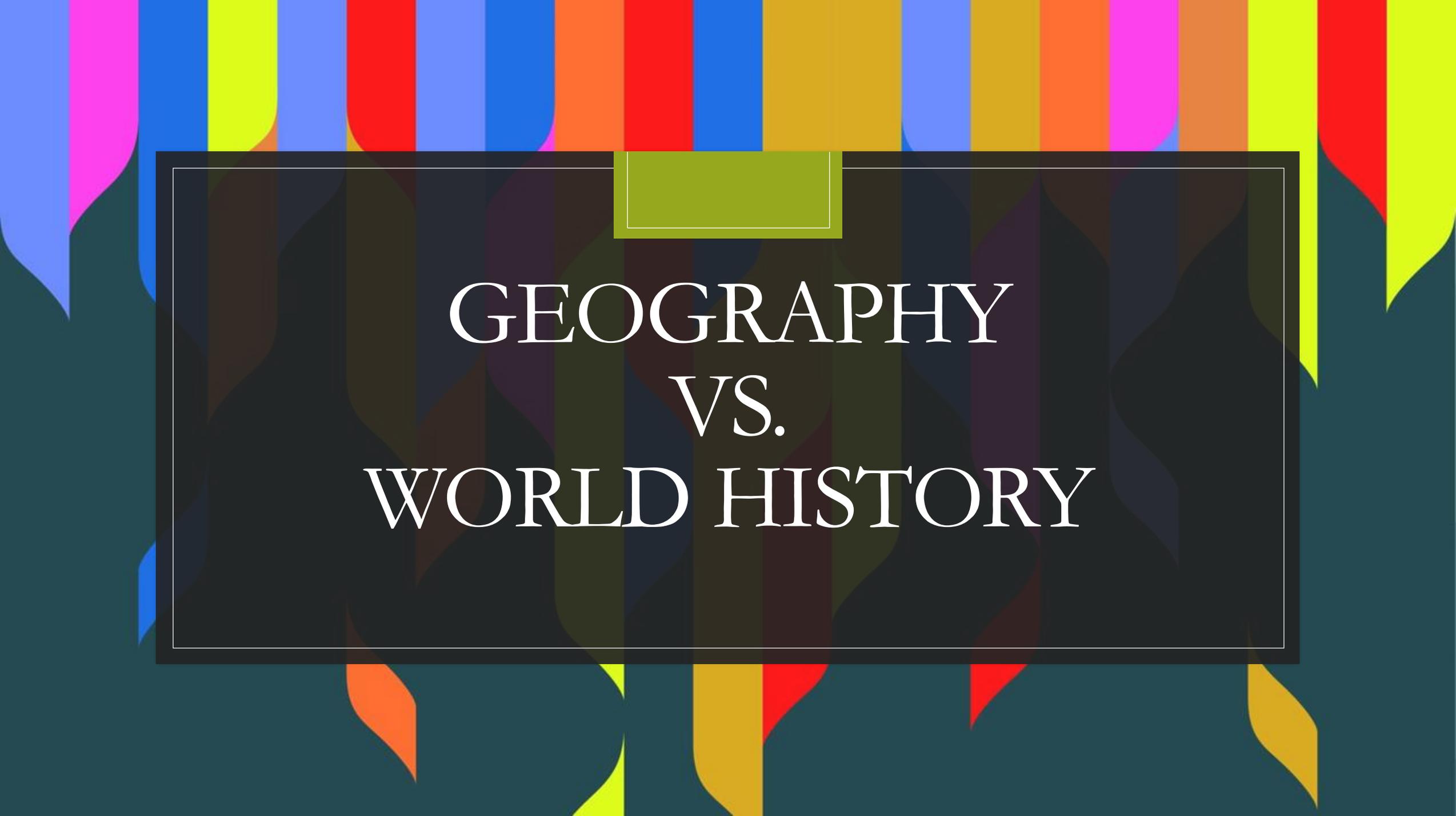
- College level course
- 5-10 pages of reading on average
- Requires time management
- Self-pacing required- some assignments are spread over a month of time
- Review material every night
 - o You can't learn all of history the night before the test!
 - o There are NO test reviews.

Writing:

- You will be asked to demonstrate your knowledge through writing essays and short answer questions.

AP Test

- Test in May
- Students are highly encouraged to take the exam, but it is not required.
- Close to a 90% passing rate every year
- Mock exam provided to prepare you in addition to two weeks of in class review



GEOGRAPHY
VS.
WORLD HISTORY

Differences between Geo and World:

- Geography is intended to be a freshman level course that helps to build skills that vertically align to the other Social Studies Courses.
- World History is intended to be a sophomore level course that builds on the knowledge foundation established in Geography.