**Semester 1 Overview**

This course emphasizes the actions of men and nations, their causes and effects, as occurred during the period of time pre-Protestant Reformation, the French Revolution, the Age of Industry and the Victorian Era. We included the study of the Reformation, the basis of liberties in England, and the Italian and Northern Renaissances. We have been studying and applying a Christian worldview to the course of history including:

* God’s Principle of individuality
* Christian Principle of Self Government
* Christian Character & Conscience
* Christian form of Government
* Voluntary Political Union

The class has reviewed the following in Semester 1:

* Protestant Reformation as begun by Martin Luther.
* We also encapsulated the lives of great reformers such as John Calvin, Zwingli and William Tyndale. In counterpoint to studying the lives and times of these great men, we looked at the political world of the time to fully understand the impact of the Reformation.
* We studied areas of the Catholic Counter-Reformation and the fight for religion freedoms in England, Scotland, France and the Spanish Netherlands.
* In Post-Reformation study, we looked at the rise of modern science, music and art. The lives of great men such as Copernicus, Galileo, Johannes Kepler, Francis Bacon and Isaac Newton were investigated. We also reviewed the rise of ‘classical’ music and the lives of some of the great composers such as Vivaldi, Mozart, Bach, and Beethoven and artists of the period such as Rembrandt, Raphael, Titian, Caravaggio, Bosch and Cranach.
* We studied the historical steps that led to the American and French Revolutions. From the prosperous and powerful, aristocracy who led France and their belief in the ‘divine right of kings’, to France’s choice to remove Christ and Christian principles from its society, we witnessed the consequences of such, culminating in the French Revolution.
* We studied the Industrial Revolution (called the Age of Industry)
* We gave detail review of the Victorian Era and the British colonial expansion that lead to the Commonwealth’s motto: “The Sun Never Sets on the British Empire.”

**Primary Text**: World History and Cultures; 2nd addition; publisher: A Beka

**Required Reading**

1st quarter: The Hawk That Dared Not Hunt By Day; Author: Scott O’Dell

2nd quarter: Scarlett Pimpernel; author Baroness Orczy