

# History: Global Empires

## Units 1-2

The Early Modern era was a time of transition between medieval feudalism and the modern, secular nation-state. International trade developed as European countries became emerging powers. New knowledge and technology allowed them to expand as they launched voyages of discovery. The early stages of capitalism saw the extraction of profit from new colonial possessions and the creation of empires.

### UNIT 1

#### Exploration and expansion

Students will examine the world dominated by the Ottoman Empire, the Ming dynasty and the Venetian Empire as well as the challenges posed by the emerging sea-faring countries of Western Europe. Students examine the motivations of new globally oriented empires.

#### LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Creative responses to historical events, oral presentations, discussion and debates, case studies, Internet investigations and group activities.

#### KEY SKILLS REQUIRED

Use of concepts relevant to the historical context, analysis of written and visual primary source materials, synthesising evidence to draw conclusions, research skills and essay writing skills.

#### ASSESSED TASKS

Short answer tests, essays, image and document analysis, case studies and examinations.

### UNIT 2

#### Disruptive ideas

Students will examine how new ideas of the Early Modern period challenged old certainties and assisted in the expansion of empires. The Age of Exploration was made possible by discoveries that made for easier travel and navigation. Students investigate how the bringing together of science, technology and new economic and political ideas enabled Western European empires to entrench themselves as global superpowers.

#### LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Case study research, oral presentations, Internet investigations and group activities.

#### KEY SKILLS REQUIRED

Use of concepts relevant to the selected historical context, analysis of written and visual materials, synthesising evidence to draw conclusions, research skills and essay writing skills.

#### ASSESSED TASKS

Short answer tests, essays, image and document analysis, case studies and an end of semester written examination.