

2011-2012 WHRO VideoClassroom Preview

Series Title:	Ancient History
Curriculum Area:	Social Studies
Grades:	7-12
# of Programs/Length:	11/30:00 minute programs

Hosted by television personality Zay Harding, this series offers an interpretation of ancient societies that emphasizes their complex social and economic structures and cultural achievements rather than the more widely accepted militaristic interpretations that were advanced by the early archaeologists and anthropologists who viewed the ancient world through the lenses of the wars that their own societies were experiencing. Civilizations include ancient culture of the Americas; the Incas, the Mound Builders, The Anasazi and The Maya, Ancient Britain, Ancient Greece and Ancient Rome. The entire series has the same male narration, supplemented by comments and analysis from historians, anthropologists, and other experts. The visuals feature beautiful footage of the remaining sites from each culture and the artifacts that it left behind. Live-action footage is supplemented by maps, drawings, and illustrations.

1.) America's Prehistoric Civilizations: The Mound Builders

Had they been made of stone, they would have been among the greatest wonders of the ancient world. These were the pyramids and effigy earthen works by the Mound Building Cultures of the eastern half of the United States. This is the story of the 3000 year Native American tradition that culminated with the construction of cities rivaling any on the planet when Columbus landed in the New World.

2.) Ancient Britain-Stonehenge To Celtic Iron Age Forts

It was once believed that the island of Britain was shaped by continuous invasions and conquering tribes from Europe. But now we know this isn't true. Follow the incredible saga of a glorious 7000 year evolution of Ancient Britain's people - from the earliest Stone Age clans, to the builders of Stonehenge, to the formation of Bronze Age tribes and the founding of Iron Age Hill forts, all leading to the castle building kings and queens and knights that we all recognize today.

3.) Ancient Pueblo People: The Anasazi

They stand today much as their builders left them 500 years ago. These are the cities of the Anasazi, the ancient Pueblo people of the four corners region of the western United States. Their history is the history of how a civilization, against all odds, became so successful at agriculture they were able to produce a leisure society capable of not only building these incredible cities, but also producing some of the greatest pottery, rock art and trading networks the world has ever seen. How the Anasazi did this with a social organization not governed by kings or queens or other hierarchical rulers is one of the great mysteries of ancient history.

4.) Greek Accomplishments

It has been said that all western art and science is but a footnote to ancient Greek accomplishments. In this program, the story is told of how Greek thinkers laid the foundation for architecture, painting, sculpture, history, philosophy, medicine, literature, zoology, botany, mathematics, astronomy, theater, and finally, the western scientific methodology. It is a history of a series of brilliant Greek thinkers from Homer in 700 B.C. to Ptolemy in 150 A.D.

5.) The Greek City-State & Democracy

During the Golden Age of the Greek City States 2500 years ago, the ancient Greeks gave to the world something much more valuable than architectural wonders or material wealth ... It was the ideas of democracy, liberty, freedom of speech and the pursuit of truth for truth's sake. The Greek City-state and Democracy is the history of how a group of people invented self-rule based on citizenship, at a time when they were surrounded by tyrants and despots. The invention of these concepts of self rule and citizenship is the most improbable event in all of ancient history.

6.) The Incas

Six hundred years ago, in less than a century, the Inca people, located in present day Peru forged an empire equal to that of the Greeks and Romans. They built their empire, not by military conquest but by treaties, based on providing food for all the empire's citizens. In the process, The Incas built architectural wonders for all eternity. Theirs is a history of what 7 million people can accomplish when they all work toward a common goal. Today Machu Picchu stands as a glorious reminder of this once incredible empire.

7.) Rome Reexamined: The Rise of the Roman Republic (15:00 Preview Segment)

In The Rise of the Roman Republic learn how from the humblest beginnings, Rome rose up to become the first self-governing republic. By including their vanquished and allowing anyone to move up through the ranks of their unique society, Rome came to control much of the Mediterranean world.

Segments:

The Rise Of The Roman Republic
Origin And Homeland Of Rome
Roman Governing The Republic
The Aqueducts And Roads
Latin - The Spoken And Written Language Of The Roman Empire

8.) Rome Reexamined: Military Triumphs & The Death Of The Roman Republic

This program shows how in the second half of the Republic, the Romans became the greatest fighting force in the ancient world. The Romans told themselves through their myths that the gods mandated they were destined to rule the entire ancient world. However, their incredible military success would lead to civil wars as the armies of Julius Caesar and Pompey fought for control of Rome. The only solution to ending these devastating civil wars was to abandon the Republic in favor of a monarchy.

Segments:

Military Triumphs And The Death Of The Roman Republic
The Military And War
Julius Caesar And The Collapse Of The Roman Republic
Greek Influence On Rome
Greek Gods
Free Speech And Public Debate

9.) Rome Reexamined: The Rise And Fall Of The Roman Empire

Rome's first Emperor was Augustus. A series of both superior and inferior emperors ruled Rome from 27 B.C. to 476 A.D. During this time Rome assimilates all of the Mediterranean world and most of Western Europe, with the population of empire finally comprising over 10 million Roman citizens. In 312 A.D., Rome's last great Emperor, Constantine, embraces Christianity, setting the stage for Rome's last great accomplishment - making Christianity one of the world's great religions.

Segments:

The Rise And Fall Of The Roman Empire
Augustus And The Making Of The Empire
Julio - Claudian Dynasty
The Golden Age Of Imperial Rome
Christianity In The Roman Empire
Constantine And The Institutionalization Of Christianity

10.) Rome Reexamined: The Splendor Of Imperial Rome

During the Imperial period, from Augustus to Constantine, Rome itself became the most magnificent city in the ancient world. In The Splendor of Imperial Rome - from the ancient Roman Forum to one of the Seven Wonders of the World, the Coliseum - the glories and accomplishments that were once Rome are revealed in stunning High Definition.

Segments:

The Splendor Of Imperial Rome
The Forums
The Coliseum
Circus Maximus And The Palatine
The Pantheon
Baths
Roman Aqueducts
The Aurelian Wall
Roman Mosaics And Sculptures
Rome's Lasting Accomplishments

11.) The Maya

The Mayas are best known for their spectacular architecture that made up their city centers but they are also the most misunderstood of the great ancient civilizations. First, they were not the blood thirsty warrior society as they often

portrayed; and second, they were the world's first environmental farmers, creating a thriving agricultural society on poor land through advanced farming techniques and a profound sensitivity to their environment.

Segments:

Homeland And Geography

Network Of City States

Culture

Ceremonial Warfare

Art And Architecture

Grand Architecture Of Their Ceremonial Centers

Mathematics, Astronomy And Writing