

Humanities 8



Course Description

Humanities 8 incorporates the topics of social studies into the reading and writing skills of language arts. The course is project based, which means that students will use their language arts skills to learn the social studies topics, take notes, and create projects. This years' topics include:

- Medieval villages and civilizations
- Exploration, expansion, and colonization
- Early forms of trade and transportation of goods

The projects incorporate various language arts skills including research using the Pathways textbook and internet sources, paragraph writing, essay writing, poetry, oral speaking, and presentation. Students will develop and use their technological skills to design and produce documents, models, audiovisual, and presentation files using different software programs. They will also design various creative pieces for the projects, which will provide them with their mark for Arts 8 as well as Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies 8. Each unit consists of two or three lessons which include textbook readings, grammar and vocabulary quizzes (open book), oral practice and small assignments; the course ends with a final project. Students are expected to use textbook models to help with vocabulary and sentence structure. To finish the course by June, students should plan to complete one unit per month.

Start-up Assignment

Research and Note-Taking ~ Students will learn how to take notes using the 3-keyword (Cornell) method. Students will use this technique as they do research for their other projects in this course

Shorter Projects Suggested time: 4-6 weeks

Build a Medieval Village ~ Students are to build a model of a medieval village from a choice of geographic areas: Medieval Europe, Japan, or Africa. They are to research the area and society and create 3-keyword notes. Students may create their village as a 3-D model or design it digitally, representing all the information they gathered.

Poetry Five-and-Five ~ Students will create a poetry booklet, either digitally or by hand, including title page, table of contents, poems, and images. The first five poems must be 'found' poems and include the poet's name and some historical background. The remaining five poems must be original poetry written by the student and supported by images.

Novel Study ~ Students will read a novel of their choice. They then complete a variety of activities that focus on plot, character, and vocabulary. Activity choices include written assignments, artwork, drama, and audiovisual presentations.

Longer Projects Suggested time: 6-8 weeks

Silk Road Travel Log ~ Students will create a travel diary of a merchant's journey on the Silk Road. They are to select one of the characters presented, research, take notes, and describe

their travels through Middle Ages Europe, India, and China. The final project should include a descriptive and detailed journal, supporting images, and a map of the journey.

Early Explorers Expo ~ The Early Explorers Expo is a mock exposition that invites students to present at its annual travel conference. As a presenter, the student must create a visual display and oral presentation to entice travelers to visit their chosen region. Time periods and regions to choose from include the Song Period, the Elizabethan Era, and the Italian Renaissance

Course Materials

Student textbooks are available digitally within the course.

Regular internet access is required for this course.

Curriculum

The Curriculum for this course is available at:

[English 8](#)

[Social Studies 8](#)

[Arts Education 8](#)

[Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies 8](#)

Assessment & Evaluation

Item	Weight
Research and Note-Taking Assignment	5%
Proposals	15%
Projects	80%

Learners are expected to spend 90-120 hours on the course. This time includes viewing/reading lesson resources; researching the technique or focus of the assignment, planning, making, and completing coursework; submitting the assignment and reviewing feedback.

Course Activation

You will be declared active in this course upon the completion of Research and Note-Taking Assignment.

When learners are not meeting the learning outcomes/falling behind

When learners fall behind the expected pace or plan, they will be contacted via email or phone and if there is no improvement or response, parents will also be contacted. If deemed necessary, contact with the learner's home school may also occur to help determine a solution.

Learners are expected to let the course teacher know when they are struggling with course content. In response, the course teacher will provide appropriate help or strategies to support learning. The course teacher will also provide feedback on course work to support learning and help learners improve. Parents will be made aware if their child is actively working but struggling to meet the learning outcomes of the course.

Learners falling behind in a manner where it does not appear that they will complete the course within a year will be sent reminder emails. Without a response or renewed efforts in the course, the learner

may be assigned an F or withdrawn. Should they begin actively working in the course, the learner may be given an alternate completion date.

Inactivity and Communication

Learners are expected to login and submit work in their online courses on a weekly basis. EBUS teachers monitor learner participation, work submission and periods of inactivity in their courses. Learners who do not submit assignments will receive an *online gentle reminder email (OGRE)* to inquire about progress and reasons for inactivity

OGRE notice #1 - Two weeks - no assignments submitted.

OGRE notice #2 - Three weeks - no assignments submitted.

OGRE notice #3 - Four weeks - no assignments submitted.

Learners who receive an inactivity email must contact their teacher to communicate their intentions for the course and their plan to engage in the course.

If a learner has been inactive and has received three OGRE reminders and has not responded to communications from their online teacher, the learner may be withdrawn from the course.

Communication between learners and teachers is important. EBUS Academy offers a flexible learning environment, and we understand that various circumstances can arise that prevent learners from engaging in their courses. When learners anticipate being absent from their online course, they should contact their teacher in advance, whenever possible.

Integrity Policy [EBUS-Academy-Integrity-Policy-2025.pdf](#)

At EBUS, you're expected to complete your own work and use tools—including AI—responsibly. Integrity means showing what you know and giving credit when you use help or ideas from others.

Exams, Tests, and Quizzes

Complete all tests independently without notes, devices, or AI unless permitted by your teacher.

Cheating or unauthorized use of AI/internet may result in a zero, test retake under supervision, or other consequences.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using someone else's words, ideas, or AI-generated work as your own. Avoid it by writing in your own words and citing all sources (including AI tools). Use [bibme.org](#) for citations. Consequences range from warnings to zeros to redoing work under supervision.

AI Use

AI tools may only be used when explicitly permitted by your instructor. If allowed, you must include an AI Use Statement (e.g., "Used ChatGPT [May 2025] to brainstorm ideas; rewrote in my own words") and cite the tool. AI-written essays, code, or images submitted as your own work are not permitted.

Consequences

If unauthorized help or AI use is suspected, your teacher will contact you. Consequences depend on severity and may include warnings, resubmission, zeros, or withdrawal from the course.

Learner Expectations

- Adhere to the EBUS Academic Integrity Policy.
- Contact your teacher when help is needed.
- Review feedback from assignments and tests, where applicable.
- Work to complete the course in a timely manner.
- Communicate respectfully.
- Review weekly progress reports.

Reporting

There are three Written Learning Updates that are accessible from the learner dashboard. An email will go out when these are available.

The teacher will regularly send out progress reports showing the learner's progress, on weeks that EBUS Academy is in session.