

WHAT IS BIG HISTORY?

A social studies course covering 13.7B years of shared history.

Big history looks at the history of the Universe, from the Big Bang to modernity, and explores common themes and patterns that can help us better understand people, civilizations and the world we live in.

OUR GOAL

By sharing "the big picture" and challenging students to explore the relationship between key events over time, Big History Project helps students learn how to synthesize complex information, develop key critical thinking skills and enhance their reading, writing, presentation, and research skills.

These skills and the perspective big history fosters is vital not only to more discipline-specific work in the sciences and humanities, but helps students understand and evaluate individual and societal impact – and potential.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Total course covers 13.7 billion years of history

Split into 2 main sections

- 1. <u>Formations and early life</u>: theories and evidence of origins of the Universe, planet formation, elements, and life.
- 2. <u>Humans</u>: the development of humans, civilizations and key milestones in our progress.



BIG HISTORY

Students are required to read and write critically, as the class is heavily focused on analyzing and interpreting primary and secondary sources, verbally and in writing. Students who are interested in taking the class should have:

- strong interest and academic performance in social studies <u>AND SCIENCE</u>
- strong written communication skills
- excellent study skills and conscientious with due dates
- mature, self-motivated attitude
- consistent access to online resources