The following timelines of significant events in human history have been generously compiled and offered by these online resources:

Accessed August 31, 2016
http://www.usu.edu/markdamen/1320hist&civ/pp/slides/00westciv.pdf

The Six Major Periods of Western Civilization
BCE = Before the Common Era or BC (Before Christ) and CE = Common Era or AD (Anno Domini, in the year of Our Lord)

1. Mesopotamia, Egypt, & Hebrews (3000-500 BCE)
2. Ancient Greece (1200-200 BCE)
3. Ancient Rome (753 BCE - 476 CE)
4. The Early Middle Ages (476-1000 CE)
5. The High Middle Ages (1000-1300 CE)
6. The Late Middle Ages (1300-1500 CE)

Mesopotamia (3000-500 BCE) 3000-2000 BCE: Sumerian Civilization
Cuneiform, Sargon of Akkad
2000-1600 BCE: Old Babylonian Civilization Hammurabi, Abraham (Ur)
1600-1200 BCE: Disorder in Mesopotamia
1200-612 BCE: The Middle and New Assyrian Empire
612-539 BCE: The New Babylonian Empire
586-539 BCE: The Babylonian Captivity (Nebuchadnezzar)

Egypt (3000-500 BCE) 3000-2200 BCE: The Old Kingdom
Hieroglyphics, Pyramids
2200-2000 BCE: The First Intermediate Period
2000-1800 BCE: The Middle Kingdom
1800-1550 BCE: The Second Intermediate Period
1550-1200 BCE: The New Kingdom
Hatshepsut, Akhenaten/Nefertiti, Tutankhamun, Ramses, The Egyptian Captivity
1200-500 BCE: The Late Period

Hebrews (1800-500 BCE)
c. 1800 BCE: Abraham leaves Ur
1800-1200 BCE: The Age of the Patriarchs (any of those biblical figures regarded as fathers of the human race, especially Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, their forefathers, or the sons of Jacob)
1200-1000 BCE: The Age of the Judges
1000-920 BCE: The United Kingdom Saul, David, Solomon
920-586 BCE: The Period of the Two Kingdoms 712 BCE: The Fall of Israel to the Assyrians
586-539 BCE: The Babylonian Captivity
586 BCE: The Fall of Jerusalem to Nebuchadnezzar’s army
Ancient Greece (1200-200 BCE)
2000-1200 BCE: the Indo-European invasions ca. 1183 BCE: The Fall of Troy
1100-800 BCE: Dark Age
800-700 BCE: Homer and the Age of Greek Epic *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*, Agamemnon
700-500 BCE: the Pre-Classical Age
510-508 BCE: The Birth of Athenian Democracy
500-479 BCE: The Persian Wars
490 BCE: The First Persian War; 481-479 BCE: The Second Persian War
479-431 BCE: The Classical Age Pericles, Parthenon, Philosophy, Drama
431-404 BCE: The Peloponnesian War: Athens vs. Sparta
404-336 BCE: Civil War and the Rise of Macedon 338 BCE: The Battle of Chaeronea
336-323 BCE: Alexander the Great 323-31 BCE: The Hellenistic Age

Ancient Rome (753 BCE - 476 CE)
ca. 1200 BCE: Aeneas settles Italy
753 BCE: Romulus founds the city of Rome
753-510 BCE: Kings rule Rome
510 BCE: The Founding of the Roman Republic Age of Patriotism, Cincinnatus
264-202 BCE: The Punic Wars (Ancient Phoenician Carthage in Northern Africa)
264-241 BCE: The First Punic War
218-201 BCE: The Second Punic War (Hannibal)
201-31 BCE: Rome conquers the Mediterranean world March 15, 44 BCE: Caesar is assassinated
31 BCE - 14 CE: Augustus rules as Roman Emperor 31 BCE: The Battle of Actium
19 BCE: Vergil's *Aeneid* is published
31 BCE - 476 CE: The Roman Empire
330 CE: Constantine founds Constantinople (Istanbul)

Early Middle Ages (476-1000 CE)
476 CE: The “Fall of Rome”
31 BCE - 476 CE: The Roman Empire
476 CE: The “Fall of Rome”

Barbarian Invasions: Huns, Vandals, Visigoths
500-750 CE: The Dark Age in Western Europe
ca. 570-632 CE: Muhammad and the Birth of Islam Hegira, Ka’aba, Koran, Jihad, Caliphs, Shi’ites
661-750 CE: The Umayyad Dynasty
750-1250 CE: The Abbasid Dynasty
750-850 CE: The Carolingians and the Holy Roman Empire
850-1000 CE: The Viking Invasions

High Middle Ages (1000-1300 CE)
1000-1100 CE: The Rise of the Medieval Papacy Cathedrals, Chivalry
1096-1099 CE: The First Crusade
1201-1204 CE: The Fourth Crusade 1204 CE: The Sack of Constantinople

Late Middle Ages (1300-1500 CE)
1315-1317 CE: The Great Famine
1337-1453 CE: The Hundred Years' War Joan of Arc
1347-1352 CE: The Black Death
The Evolution of Hominids
(Hominid: Any of various primates of the family Hominidae, which includes orangutans, gorillas, chimpanzees, and modern humans, and their extinct relatives. The family formerly included only Homo sapiens, extinct species of Homo, and the extinct genus Australopithecus.)

5,000,000 to 25,000 BC

- 5,000,000 - 1,000,000 BC: Australopithecus
- 2,200,000 - 1,600,000 BC: Homo habilis
- 1,600,000 - 500,000 BC: Homo erectus
  - Stone artifacts and weapons
- 500,000 - 80,000 BC: Homo sapiens
- 100,000 - 33,000 BC: Homo neanderthalensis
  - Ice Ages
  - Stone tools
- 125,000: Homo sapiens sapiens

Foraging Societies from 30,000 BC

- c. 30,000 to 25,000 BC: Woman of Willendorf
- c. 27,000 to 23,000 BC: Dolni Vestonice
- 25,000 - 12,000 BC: Venus Figures
- 18,000 BC: Chauvet cave, France
- 15,000 BC: Lascaux cave paintings
- c. 14,000 to 10,000 BC: Altamira Cave Paintings
- 12,000 to 8,000 BC: The Ice Age

The Beginning of Settled Agriculture 8,000 to 6,500 BC

While it is often described as the "Agricultural Revolution," the development of settled societies took several millennia after the first discovery of agriculture. Moreover, this process occurred at different times in different parts of the world based on the domestication of different plants. If one is going to speak in terms of revolution, one might better speak in terms of "agricultural revolutions."

c. 10,000 BC: Beginnings of Settled Agriculture
10,000 BC: First agricultural villages
10,000 BC: Invention of the bow and arrow
10,000 BC: Dogs and reindeer are domesticated
10,000 BC: Beginnings of settled agriculture
10,000 BC: Earliest pottery (Japan)
c. 8,000 to 6,500 BC: Settled Agriculture in Mesopotamia
  c. 7,000: Beginning of Settled Agricultural Revolution
c. 6,500-5,650 BC: Catal Huyuk
c. 6,000 BC - c. 2,000 BC: Settled Agriculture in Africa
  6,000 BC: Beginning of Settled Agriculture in the Nile River Valley
  2,000 BC: Beginning of Settled Agriculture in the Niger River Valley
200 BC: Height of Nok culture (Ancient Nigerian)
c. 6,000 to 3,000 BC: Settled Agriculture in India
c. 5,000 to 3,000 BC: Settled Agriculture in China
10,000 to 4,000 BC: Painted Pottery Bowl (China)
5,000 to 2,700 BC: Yangshao culture
3,500 to 2,000 BC: Longshan culture
6,000 BC: Village of Ban Po in China
c. 4,000 to 1,000 BC: Settled Agriculture in Europe
c. 4000 BC: The Culture of Varna
c. 2000 BC: Stonehenge
c. 3,000 BC to AD 700: Settled Agriculture in the Americas
c. 500 BC to AD 400: Adena and Hopewell Cultures

**Primary Urban Society: 3,500 BC to AD 700**

"Primary Urbanization" refers to the first development of cities in a particular region. Generally speaking, historians believe that urban society was developed independently in at least six regions: Mesopotamia, Egypt, the Indus Valley, the Yangtze River Valley, Mesoamerica and the Andean Altiplano. From these original centers it diffused to the rest of the world.

c. 3,500 BC: Primary Urban Societies in Western Asia
   6,000 BC: Jericho
   3,500 BC: Beginning of Sumerian city-states

c. 3,200 - 2,000 BC: Primary Urban Society in Africa
   3,100 - 2,700 BC: Old Kingdom Egypt
   200 BC: Height of Nok culture
   AD 400: Jenne-Jeno in Nigeria

c. 3,000 - 1900 BC: Primary Urban Society in India
   2,600 - 2,500 BC: Harappan Civilization at its height

c. 1,500 - 1,000 BC: Primary Urban Society in China
   1523 - 1027 BC: Xia dynasty

900 BC to 400 AD: Primary Urban Society in Central America
   900 BC: Chavins unite Peru
   800 BC: Olmecs unite Mesoamerica

While the cities of a particular region may have begun as self-governing political units, over time these city-states were brought together into a single political unit, usually by force. These larger political units are known as empires. The earliest empires were centered on river valleys where intensified agriculture had developed.

**Mesopotamian Empires: 2340 -1600 BC**

2340 BC: Sargon Akkad takes Sumer, establishing the first empire.
c. 2125-2027 BC: The Third Dynasty of Ur
1900-1600 BC: The First Babylonian Empire
c. 1900 BC: Ammorites establish Babylon
1792-1750 BC: Reign of Hammurabi

c. 1600 BC: Invasions by Hittites and Kassites destroys the empire

**Egyptian Civilization: 3100 BC - 332 BC**

3100-2686 BC: Pre-Dynastic/Archaic Period
2686-2181 BC: Old Kingdom
1991-1636 BC: Middle Kingdom
1578-1085 BC: New Kingdom
1085-332 BC: Late Dynastic Period
332 BC: Alexander the Great conquers Egypt

Harapan Civilization: 2600 -1300 BC

- 2600-2500 BC: Harapan Civilization is at its height
- 2000-1900 BC: Harapan Civilization collapses
- c. 1300 BC: Aryans migrate into the Indus Valley
- c. 1000 BC: Aryan migrate into the Ganges Valley

The Early Chinese Civilization: 2205 BC- AD 220

- 221-207 BC: Qin dynasty.
- 206 BC- AD 9: Former Han dynasty
- AD 25-220: Later Han dynasty

The Mesoamerican Civilizations: 2000 BC- AD 925

- 2000 BC-AD 925: Mayan Culture
- 2000 BC: Beginnings of Mayan culture
- AD 325-925: Mayan culture at its peak

The Andean Civilizations: 600 BC - AD 1538

- 600-800: Huari and Tiahuanaco empires
- 1438-1538: Inca Empire.

The Niger River Civilizations: 200 BC - AD 400

- c. 500 BC: Nok culture
- c. 500-450 BC: Development of iron smelting
- 500 BC - AD 500: The Bantu migrations
- 200 BC: Jenne-jeno founded
- AD 400: Height of the Niger River city-states

While empires may have originated along rivers, once the necessary military technology and the proper economic foundations were developed, empires soon expanded beyond their river valley homes. Eventually, many of the these empire would develop extensive trade and cultural contacts.

Cosmopolitan Empires in the Eastern Mediterranean: 550 BC-AD 1453

- 550-323 BC: Persian Empire
- 250 BC-AD 225: Parthian Empire
- 323-146 BC: Hellenistic Kingdoms
- 146 BC-AD 1453: Rome and Byzantium
- AD 226-642: Sassanid Persia

Eastern Mediterranean: 550 BC to AD 642

- 550-323 BC: Persian Empire
550: Cyrus the Great of Persia conquers the Medes
546: Cyrus conquers Asia Minor.
525: Cambyses conquers Egypt.
490: Battle of Marathon.
480: Xerxes invades Greece.

323-146 BC: Hellenistic Kingdoms

323: Ptolemy becomes ruler of Egypt (Ptolemaic Kingdom)
306: Seleucus founds the Seleucid Kingdom
276: Antigonus founds the Antigonid (Macedonia) Kingdom
c. 250 BC to AD 225: Parthian Empire
146 BC to AD 1453: Rome and Byzantium
509-31 BC: The Roman Republic
27 BC: AD 312: The Roman Empire
312-1453: The Byzantine Empire
226-642: Sassanid Persia

Indian Empires: 322 BC-AD 540

c. 322-185 BC: Mauryan Empire
AD 320-540: Gupta Empire

The Classical Imperial China: AD 25-AD 1279

AD 25-220: Later Han dynasty
581-618: Sui Dynasty
618-907: Tang Dynasty
960-1126: Northern Song Dynasty
1127-1279: Southern Song Dynasty

African Kingdoms and Empires: AD 300-1500

300-700: The Kingdom of Axum
c. 900: Beginnings of the Sudanese kingdoms.
c. 900-1100: The Kingdom of Ghana
c. 1200-1450: The Kingdom of Mali.
900s-1400s: Great Zimbabwe
c. 1450: Oyo Empire is founded.
1460-1591: Songhai Empire.

Unification and Interaction in the Eurasian Ecumene: 130 BC to AD 200

c. 130 BC: Expansion of Han China to the Parthian Empire
c. 130 BC: Rome establishes its dominance in the Mediterranean
140-87 BC: Han China at its largest territorial extent under the Emperor Wu Ti.
98-117: Roman Empire at its largest territorial extent under the Emperor Trajan.
180-284: Crisis of Third Century Rome
220: End of the Han Dynasty
Barbarian Invasions and Internal Turmoil: 200-630

220-265: Three Kingdoms Period in China
ca. AD 200-370: Roman Empire invaded by the Goths
370: The Huns invade Eastern Europe.
558: Avars invade the Byzantine Empire.
711-715: Moslem conquest of Spain.
732: Battle of Tours
756-1031: Umayyad Dynasty of Cordova
c. 1126-1198: ibn Rushd (Averroes)
768-814: Reign of Charlemagne
800-900: Viking raids against European mainland
907-960: Collapse of Central Government in China

The Age of Islamic Expansion: 630 to 1250

The First Period of Islamic Expansion
Expansion under the Orthodox Caliphate, the Umayyads and Abbasids: 630-1258

630-640: Conquest of the Near East and Egypt
690-710: Conquest of North Africa and Spain
717-718: Attempt to conquer Constantinople.
750: The Abbasid Dynasty is established.
751: Battle of Talas
750-850: The Four orthodox schools of law are established.
768-814: Reign of Charlemagne
800-900: Viking raids against European mainland

The Age of Mongol Dominance: 1200 to 1350

1206: Temujin is proclaimed "Jenghiz Khan"
1258: Baghdad is sacked
1260-1368: Yuan Dynasty governs China
1275-1292: Marco Polo travels in China

The Second Age of Islamic Expansion: 1350 to 1700

1350: Rise of Ottoman Turks
1352: ibn Battuta travels in Africa
1453: Ottoman Turks capture Constantinople.
1492: End of the Reconquista in Spain.
1526: Battle of Mohacs
1529: First Siege of Vienna
1571: Battle of Lepanto
1683: Final Siege of Vienna
Integration and Unification of the Hemispheres: 1500-1800

1400-1650: Voyages of Discovery and European Expansion

Chinese Treasure Fleet: 1405-1424

1405-1407: Zheng He's first voyage Ming Dynasty
1412-1415: Zheng He's third voyage reaches Hormuz
1421-1422: Zheng He's fifth voyage reaches Mogadishu

Portuguese explorers seek a route to India and China: 1415-1510

1415: The Portuguese capture Ceuta.
1433: Cape Bojador is rounded by Gil Eannes.
1482: Elmina Castle is built.
1484: Diogo Cao discovers the Congo estuary.
1488: Bartolomeu Dias rounds the Cape of Good Hope.
1494: Treaty of Tordesillas.
1497-1498: Vasco da Gama sails to India.
1500: Pedro Cabral discovers Brazil.
1510: The Portuguese capture Goa.

The Spanish colonization of Central and South America: 1492-1540

1492: Christopher Columbus discovers islands in the Caribbean.
1513: Nunez de Balboa is the first European to see the Pacific Ocean from the Americas.
1519-1538: Hernan Cortes conquers Mexico.

British and French colonization of North America: 1497-1600

1497: John Cabot makes his voyage to North America.
1534-1535: Jacques Cartier explores the Gulf of Saint Lawrence.
1585: The First English colony in North America is established on Roanoke Island.
1600: The English East India Company is founded.

Global Exploration: 1500-1650

1519-1522: The first circumnavigation of the globe is begun under the leadership of Ferdinand Magellan and completed by Sebastian del Cano.
1553: Richard Chancellor sails to Archangel seeking a Northeast Passage.
1576-1578: Martin Frobisher sails in search of a Northwest Passage.
1596: Willem Barents sails to Novaya Zemlya.
1606: Willem Janszoon discovers Australia.
1642: Abel Tasman discovers Tasmania and New Zealand.
Later Imperial China: 1280-1911

Yuan dynasty: 1280-1367

1167-1227: Genghis Khan.
1215-1294: Kublai Khan
1300-1368: White Lotus Society, White Cloud Society and Red Turbans lead rebellions against Mongol rule.

Ming dynasty: 1368-1644

1368-1398: Zhu Yuanzhang, Hung Wu emperor, reigns.
1405: The first voyage of Zheng He's Treasure Fleet.
1549: Francis Xavier, Jesuit missionary, attempts to enter China.
1628: Famine; rebellion led by Li Zicheng.

Qing (Manchu) dynasty: 1644-1911

1644: Li Zicheng captures Beijing; Li Zicheng is defeated by the Manzhou under Wu Sangui.
1661-1722: Reign of Kang Xi.
1699: The British East India Company establishes a trading post in Canton.
1723-1736: Reign of Yong Zheng.
1736-1795: Reign of Qian Long.
1816: Lord Amherst of England's embassy is unsuccessful.
1839-1842: The First Opium War.
1851-1862: Hong Xiuchuan leads the Taiping Rebellion.
1862-1875: Tong Zhi Restoration.
1898-1900: Boxer Rebellion.

Age of Chinese Dominance: 1500-1800

The Height of Chinese Culture under the Ming and Qing: 1368-1911
1514: The Portuguese arrive in South China
1661-1722: Reign of Kangxi
1736-1795: Reign of Qianlong

Competing Muslim Empires: 1450-1757

The Ottoman Empire: 1350-1918 (1450-1550: Height of Ottoman Power)

ca. 1243: Turkish nomads settle in Asia Minor
1299-1326: Osman I
1301: Osman declares himself sultan and establishes the Ottoman Empire
1345: Seljuk Turks first cross the Bosporus
1389: Ottomans defeat Serbs at Kosovo
1402: Tamerlane defeats Ottomans at Ankara
1451-1481: Mohammed the Conqueror
1453: Constantinople is conquered.
1520-1566: Sulayman II the Magnificent
1526: Battle of Mohacs
1529: First Siege of Vienna
1571: The Battle of Lepanto
1641-1687: Reign of Mohammad IV
The devshirme (The devshirme system began in the late 14th century; Christian boys were recruited by force to serve the Ottoman government) is abolished.
1656-1676: Reforms of the Korprulu viziers
1683: Second siege of Vienna
1703-1730: Cultural revival under Ahmed III
1774: Treaty of Kucuk Kaynarca
1792: Treaty of Jassy
1793: Selim III proclaims the "New Order"
1798-1799: Napoleon attempts to conquer Egypt.
1804: First Serbian Uprising.
1815: Second Serbian Uprising.
1822-1830: Greek War of Independence
1826: Massacre of Janissaries; Ottoman fleet is sunk at Navarino
1829: Treaty of Adrianople
1839: Hatt-i Serif of Gulhane; the Tanzimat Period begins.
1841: The Straits Convention
1853-1856: The Crimean War
1876: The Ottoman Constitution is proclaimed.
1878: Congress of Berlin: Serbia and Montenegro are granted independence. Bulgaria is granted broad autonomy.
1908: The Committee of Union and Progress (The Young Turks) is formed.
The Ottoman Constitution is restored.
1912-1913: The First Balkan War
1913: The Second Balkan War
1914: The Ottoman Empire enters World War I as one of the Central Powers.
1915: The Armenian Massacre
1919-1924: End of the Ottoman Empire
1919: Mustafa Kemal (Atatürk) lands at Samsun
1923: The sultanate is abolished and Turkey is declared a republic
1924: The office of caliph is abolished

The Safavid Empire: 1501-1723

1501: Ismail becomes shah of Persia, founding the Safavid Empire
1508: Ismail conquers Baghdad and defeats the Uzbeks
1555: Ottoman-Safavid peace
1587-1629: Reign of Shah Abbas I
1638: Truce between Safavids and Ottomans
1723: Safavid Empire collapses
1483-1757: The Mughal Empire
The Mughal Empire: 1483-1757

1483-1530: Babur founds the Mughal Empire
1526-1530: Reign of Babur
1526: Babur captures Delhi
1556-1605: Reign of Akbar
1580: First Jesuit missionary arrives in Agra
1600: British East India Company is chartered
1605-1627: Reign of Jahangir
1608: English arrive at Surat
1628-1658: Reign of Shah Jahan
1639: English build fort at Madras
1658-1707: Reign of Aurangzeb
1661: Bombay is ceded to England
1744-1748: War between French and British
1746: French capture Madras
1757: Battle of Plassey

The Development of Modern Western Civilization: 1712-1914

The Development of the Nation-State: 1789-1914

The French Revolution: 1789-1815
1789: The Estates General meets
1792: The Monarchy is abolished
1793: Louis XVI is executed
1795: The Directory is Established

The First Industrial Revolution: Textiles and Steam: 1712-1830

1712: The Newcomen steam engine.
1733: John Kay invents the flying shuttle.
1764: James Hargreaves invents the spinning jenny.
1769: Richard Arkwright patents the water frame.
1779: Samuel Crompton perfects the spinning mule.
1785: Edmund Cartwright patents a power loom.
1793: Eli Whitney patents the cotton gin.
1807: Robert Fulton begins steamboat service on the Hudson River.
1830: George Stephenson begins rail service between Liverpool and London.

The Spread of the Industrial Revolution: 1830-1875

1840: Samuel Cunard begins transatlantic steamship service.
1856: Henry Bessemer develops the Bessemer converter.
1859: The first commercial oil well is drilled in Pennsylvania.
1866: The Siemens brothers improve steelmaking by developing the open hearth furnace.
The Second Industrial Revolution: Electricity and Chemicals: 1875-1905

1836: Samuel F. B. Morse invents the telegraph.
1866: Cyrus Field lays the first successful transatlantic cable.
1876: Alexander Graham Bell invents the telephone.
1879: Thomas Edison invents the incandescent light bulb.
1892: Rudolf Diesel patents the diesel engine.
1899: Guglielmo Marconi invents the wireless.
1903: The Wright Brothers make the first successful airplane flight.

An Age of Revolution: 1815-1848

1814-1815: The Congress of Vienna
1819: The Carlsbad Decrees
1825: Decembrist Revolt in Russia
1848: The Revolutions of 1848

The Consolidation of Nation-States: 1848-1871

1852-1864: The Unification of Italy
1862-1871: The Unification of Germany

The Development of Scientific Culture: 1800-1914

Physics and Chemistry

1819: Oersted discovers electromagnetism
1847: Hermann von Helmholtz formulates the law of the conservation of energy
1869: Dmitri Mendeleev publishes the Periodic Table of the Elements
1873: James Clerk Maxwell publishes his equations on electromagnetism
1895: Wilhelm Roentgen discovers x-rays
1900: Max Planck develops quantum physics
1905: Einstein publishes his special theory of relativity
1916: Einstein publishes his general theory of relativity
1927: Werner Heisenberg develops the Uncertainty Principle

The Theory of Evolution

1832-1834: Charles Lyell publishes his Principles of Geology
1831-1836: Darwin serves as naturalist aboard H.M.S. Beagle
1809-1882: Charles Darwin
1859: On the Origin of Species is published
1871: Darwin publishes The Descent of Man
1822-1884: Gregor Mendel discovers principles of heredity
1894: T. H. Huxley: Evolution and Ethics

Social Science

1851: Herbert Spencer: Social Statics
1851: Auguste Comte: System of Positive Politics
1859: John Stuart Mill: On Liberty
1867: Karl Marx publishes the first volume of Das Kapital
1869: John Stuart Mill: The Subjection of Women
1832-1920: Wilhelm Wundt
1849-1936: Ivan Pavlov
1858-1917: Emile Durkheim
1859-1939: Sigmund Freud
1857-1911: Alfred Binet

Medicine

1822-1895: Louis Pasteur

The Development of Mass Society: 1789-1914

1793: The Revolutionary government in France issues the 
    lévee en masse—a “requisition” of all able-bodied,
    unmarried men between the ages of 18 and 25.
1819: The Carlsbad Decrees disband the Burschenschaften.
1832: The Great Reform Bill reorganizes Parliament in Great Britain
1872: Bismarck, the Chancellor of the German Empire, begins the Kulturkampf
1884: The Third French Republic legalizes trade unions
1889: The Boulanger Affair begins in France
1892: James Keir Hardie, a Scottish Miner, sits in the House of Commons
1894: The Dreyfus Affair begins in France
1896: Theodor Herzl publishes The Jewish State beginning the Zionist Movement
1913: Britain’s Trade Union Act grants unions certain legal rights

1795-1914: The New Imperialism

1795: The Dutch abolish slave trade in Africa
1798: Napoleon invades Egypt
1808: Great Britain abolishes the slave trade
1820s: British-Ashanti War
1830: The Great Trek of the Boers begins
1835: English is adopted as the official language of Indian law courts
1840: The Sultan of Omar establishes his capital at Zanzibar
1841: David Livingstone begins his missionary work in Africa
1853: First railway line is built in India
1857-1858: The "Sepoy Mutiny" or "Great Rebellion" in Northern India
1858: The British Parliament takes control of India from the British East India Company
1863: The United States abolishes slavery
1869: The Suez Canal is completed
1873: Zanzibar closes its slave market
1874: Britain establishes Gold Coast colony
1881: Britain establishes a protectorate over Egypt
1884: The Berlin Conference on Africa
1885: Charles Gordon is killed at Khartoum
1885: The India National Congress Party is founded
1898: Showdown between Britain and France at Fashoda
1899-1902: The Boer War
1910: Union of South Africa is formed
The World Wars: 1900-1989

The Road to War: 1900-1914

1898: Germany begins its naval buildup
1905: First Moroccan crisis
1912: The First Balkan War

World War I: 1914-1918

1914: The Battle of the Marne
1916: The Battle of Verdun
1917: The United States enters the war
1917: The Russian Revolution

The Interwar Years: 1918-1936

1919: The Treaty of Versailles
1929: The Great Depression begins
1933: The Nazis take power in Germany

World War II: 1931-1945

1931: Japan invades Manchuria
1939: Germany invades Poland
1941: Pearl Harbor is attacked
1943: The Battle of Stalingrad

The Cold War: 1945-1989

1945-1961: The Yalta System Breaks Down
1947: The Truman Doctrine.
1949: NATO Treaty signed.
1949: Communists take power in China; Nationalists retreat to Taiwan
1950: Korean War begins.
1953: Armistice ends fighting in the Korean War.
1955: Warsaw Pact is formed
1961: Bay of Pigs invasion.

1956-1975: Toward Peaceful Coexistence
1962: Cuban Missile Crisis.
1964: Gulf of Tonkin Resolution. Vietnam War Chronology
1965: President Johnson begins escalation of US role in Vietnamese Civil War.
1972: SALT Treaty signed
1972: Nixon visits China
1975-1989: The End of the Soviet System
1979: The Soviet Union invades Afghanistan
1985: Gorbachev begins policy of "Perestroika"
1989: The Fall of the Berlin Wall; The Cold War ends.
1989: Tiananmen Square Massacre in China
Decolonization: 1917-1970

Decolonization in Asia

1931: Gandhi leads Salt March
1935: Government of India Act
1942: Quit India movements begin
1947: India and Pakistan are independent of Great Britain

Decolonization in Africa

1948: First apartheid legislation in South Africa
1957: Ghana is first independent African nation
1960: Congo is granted independence from Belgium
1962: Algeria gains independence from France
1963: Organization for African Unity is formed

Decolonization in the Middle East

1917: Balfour Declaration
1922: Britain receives League of Nations mandate for Palestine
1936-1939: Arab uprisings in Palestine
1948: Partition of Palestine and First Arab-Israeli War
1952: King Farouk is overthrown in Egypt
1956: Egypt nationalizes the Suez Canal
1958: United Arab Republic is formed
1964: The Palestine Liberation Organization is formed.

After the Cold War: 1989:

1989: The means of transmitting AIDS is discovered.