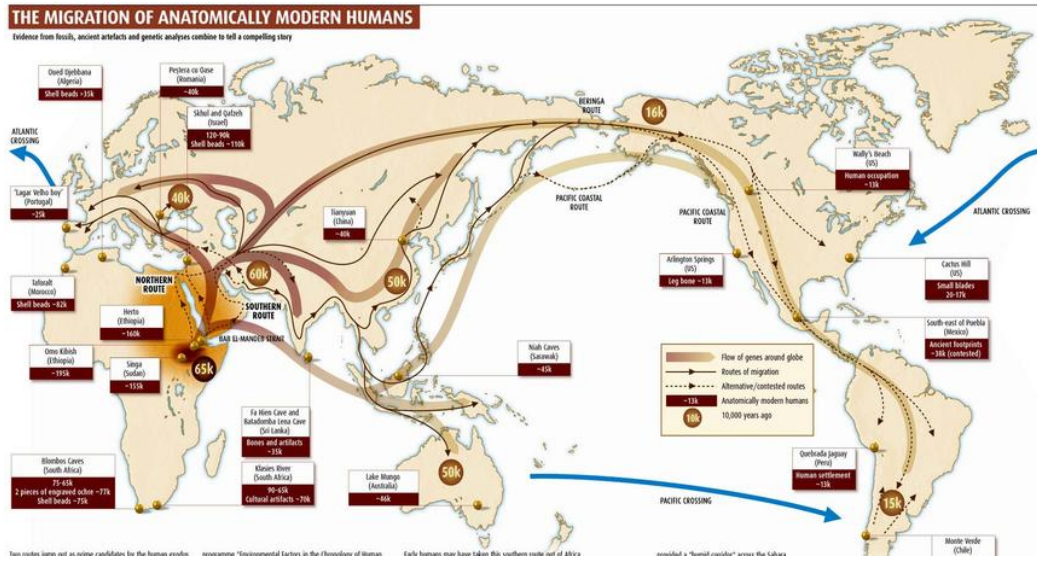
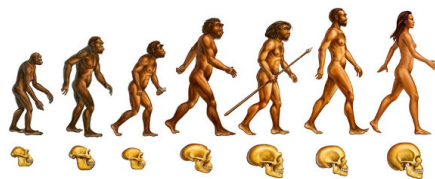


# Unit 1: 10,000-500 BCE



	Hunter-Gatherers:	Nomadic Herders:	Sedentary Societies:
Social Systems	-relative equality between genders -lived in small nomadic groups	-relative equality between genders	-insurgence of patriarchy in nearly all sedentary societies
Political Systems	-small nomadic groups without political structure	-tribal leaders such as the Khans of the Mongols	-Cities with social hierarchy (divine kinds at top)
Interaction with Environment	-lived off the land	-lived off herded animals, traveled to feed them	-Modified the environment for agriculture (irrigation)
Culture	-usually animism as main religion	-animism as main religion	-Divine Right
Economic Systems	-small scale trade of resources between different groups	-High mobility allows them to act as trade intermediaries for settled societies	-Agricultural surplus lead to job specialization which lead to higher amounts of trade



Major events: Humans develop stone tools and begin to develop a more upright stance (Paleolithic Age), then develop means of communication via language. Later, in the Neolithic Age, they begin growing crops in settled locations developing over time to the first sedentary cities, agricultural surplus, specialization of labor and an increase in population. Not everyone adopted agriculture, some remained nomads and others became nomadic herders. Metallurgy emerged around 4,000 BCE (copper smelting), which later evolved into the Bronze Age and the Iron Age. Finally, those sedentary agricultural societies grew into large-scale civilizations.

Changes: In agricultural societies, more people lived in advanced, settled cultures, the status of women declined, and class inequality rose.

Continuities: Conflict between nomads and settled people remained constant, as well as cultural hearths, irrigation-centered societies, and various religious beliefs.

Stearns, Peter N. World Civilizations: The Global Experience.  
2015.

	Mesopotamia	Indus River Valley	China	Egypt
Social Systems	Classes: Elites (king, priests, nobles), normal citizens, and slaves (slavery was very common) Women were able to hold positions of power	Classes: Priests (rulers), commoners, laborers	Classes: Kings, leaders, artisans, peasants Soldiers to keep peace	Royal class Men took lead in labor, but overall men and women were equals, and women had more opportunities.
Political Systems	City-states with very defined boundaries Government chose religion Court system Kings held military power King Hammurabi and the Code of Hammurabi	Priest class as rulers that held strong power Grid-like cities made out of kiln-dried brick (lots of labor required)	Highly organized state Regulated irrigation Monarchic/Empirical Bureaucracy served the king, and vassal retainers governed the artisans/peasants	Monarchy, kings regulated the economy and irrigation projects Unified state Women could be leaders Theocratic (religion in tandem with politics)
Interaction with Environment	Complex and widespread agriculture (in the Fertile Crescent) City-states and their very careful boundaries	Used Indus River to irrigate Very unpredictable land (odd flooding patterns of the Indus River, earthquakes) lead to a sporadic nature of the people Deforestation Plumbing systems	Careful irrigation (as the river was prone to flooding) widespread agriculture (very fertile land)	Regular flooding of the Nile River to irrigate crops
Culture	<b>Writing:</b> Cuneiform writing system Symbols, then shaped that represented sounds 2000 symbols cut down to 300 Clay tablets with styluses <b>Religion:</b> Polytheistic with 3000+ gods Cities had patron gods Ziggurats (towers) Afterlife (Hell) Gods judged agriculture	<b>Writing:</b> Complex, indecipherable writing system <b>Religion:</b> Polytheistic Priests that acted as intermediaries between the gods and the people Citadels	<b>Writing:</b> Initially pictographic with 3-8000 characters Oracle bones Cracks in these bones were interpreted and became characters <b>Religion:</b> Ancestor worship P'an Ku as The Ancestor Shangdi as the Supreme being, with the Shang king as an intermediary Oracles who could interpret the messages of the ancestors	<b>Writing:</b> Not as complex as the Mesopotamians <b>Religion:</b> Polytheistic Art pictured a lavish afterlife
Economic Systems	Silver as currency Avid traders with the Indus people Business class	Trade with other Indus cities, China, and Mesopotamia Complex agricultural system	Trade with India and the Middle East Bronze and Iron metallurgy	More government-directed than the Mesopotamians Less open to trade

