

**APWH Notes | Classical China (Pairs with AMSCO 5)**

**Missed Something?** [www.myhaikuclass.com/mswardo/apwh](http://www.myhaikuclass.com/mswardo/apwh)

**Outcomes:** At the conclusion of this section, students will have:

- Compared main characteristics of the Qin and Han dynasties of Classical China
- Traced the development of politics, technology, and economy in Classical China

**Big Idea**

In Classical China, one would have often heard the term “Middle Kingdom” used as a description of the land, implying that it was the center of the earth. It was also thought, by many in China, to be the most sophisticated and modern land in existence. In some ways they were correct. Many of the innovations and ideas that first began in Classical China have reverberated throughout time and other areas.

Ideas about laws and government, technological innovations, and economic practices have filtered out of China for thousands of years and come to other regions by way of the Silk Roads, one of the most famous and important trade routes in history. Classical China is an important part in our understanding of how the world has grown and interacted throughout time.

**KEY VOCABULARY**

Pax Sinica  
Shi Huangdi

Han Dynasty  
Civil Service Examination

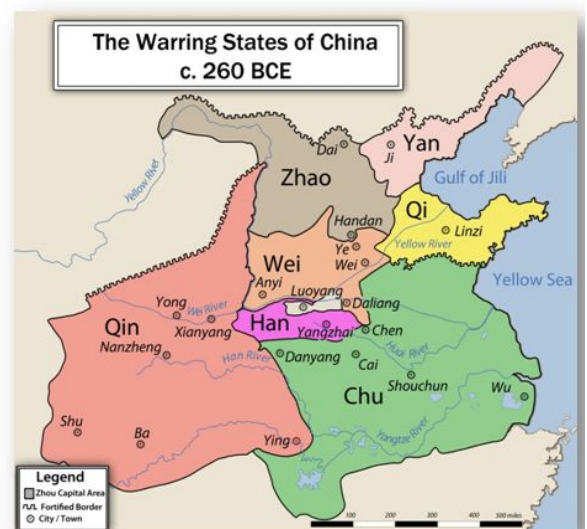
Great Wall  
Confucius

Qin Dynasty  
Silk Roads


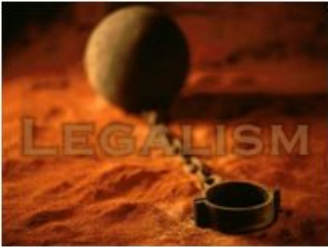

**Main Ideas:**

Zhou (Era of Warring States) Dynasty

A. 402 -201 BCE was the “Era of Warring States” - why?



Qin Dynasty	Han Dynasty
<p>A. Which dynasty took over the others during the 'Era of Warring States'?</p> <p>B. _____, First Emperor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accomplishments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○</li> <li>○</li> <li>○</li> <li>○</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>C. Innovations - what four important innovations occurred under Shi Huangdi?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> <li>•</li> <li>•</li> <li>•</li> </ul> <p>D. Many describe Shi Huangdi's leadership style and character as: _____</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• _____: to prevent criticism/opposing ways of thinking</li> <li>• _____: harsh punishments for breaking laws</li> <li>• _____: led to peasant revolts and end of dynasty</li> </ul>	<p>A. After Shi Huangdi's death, what led to a new dynasty?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Politically, what stayed the same:</li> <li>Politically, what changed:</li> </ul> <p>B. How else did the Han Dynasty continue the legacy of the Qin, and how did they change it? As you write each development circle if it is a CONTINUITY or a CHANGE.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• _____, made population happier due to paying less. CONTINUITY      or      CHANGE</li> <li>• _____, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Further standardized writing</li> <li>○ Confucian education centers</li> <li>○ Exam system for better leaders</li> </ul> CONTINUITY      and/or      CHANGE </li> <li>• _____, to central Asia, Korea, southeastern Asia. CONTINUITY      or      CHANGE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How could this expansion hurt the dynasty?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	Zhou Dynasty	Qin Dynasty	Han Dynasty
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overall, Classical China was the largest political system in the world. You'll see in this section clear evolution of political thought through the dynasties, including long lasting traditions. For example: judicial system for enforcing laws, organized and centralized military, scientific research (ushers in iron), and record keeping.</li> </ul>		
Politics			

Economy	Technology

## Belief Systems of China

**Confucianism:**

**Legalism:**

**Daoism:**