**UNIT 2 Organization and Reorganization of Human Societies – STUDY GUIDE**

**(600 BCE – 600 CE)**

**General Study Questions**

What were the primary changes from Unit 1 to Unit 2? (SPRITE)

What are the most significant continuities in this time period?

What are the primary functions of government in this time period?

What factors caused empires to collapse by the end of this time period?

What types of interaction exist in this time period? What are the primary impacts of those interactions?

**Persia (7)**

What geographic areas did Persia encompass?

How did Persians administrate their vast, multi-cultural empire?

What role did geography play in the historical development of Persia?

What is the significance Darius leadership? Xerxes?

What factors caused the demise of the Persian Empires?

**Unification of China (8)**

How did China’s geography shape its historical development?

What are the major continuities we see in China? How was this period different?

What are the major beliefs/practices of Confucianism? Daoism?

What are the dominant features of Chinese government?

How did the powerful Han Dynasty come to an end?

**State, Society and the Quest for Salvation in India (9)**

How did the geography of India impact the region?

What are the economic strengths of ancient India?

How did the Caste system shape Indian life and culture?

What are the major changes and continuities in India?

What role did Buddhism play in influencing Indian society?

What are the achievements of the Maurya and Gupta empires? Compare the two.

**Mediterranean Society: The Greek Phase**

How did the geography of Greece impact the region?

How did Greek civilization evolve over time?

What are the major beliefs of Greek religion? How did it impact Greek culture?

What type of interactions did the Greeks have in the Mediterranean? Pros/Cons.

What internal conflicts did the Greeks experience? Why?

**Mediterranean Society: The Roman Phase**

How did the geography of Rome impact the region?

How did Roman government evolve over time?

What are the major beliefs of Roman religion? How did it change over time?

What type of interactions did the Romans have in the Mediterranean?

What are the most significant achievements of the Roman Empire?

What internal conflicts did the Romans experience? Why?

What factors caused the Roman Empire to fall?

**Cross Cultural Exchanges on the Silk Roads**

What types of interactions took place along the silk roads? What ideas/goods were exchanged?

What was China like after Han decay?

What was Rome like as the Empire came to an end?

**Comparisons**

Roman Empire/Han Dynasty

Maurya and Gupta

Athens and Sparta

Persia and Rome

Confucianism and Daoism

Hinduism and Buddhism