



# Metropolitan Network



## Frames in Unit 3

This period saw massive changes in the ways we organized ourselves into communities, with the development of more complex societies in the form of villages, cities, and the first states.



<p><b>0:05</b> <b>Frames In Unit 3</b></p>	
<p><b>0:08</b> <i>Image of houses. Bob Bain, PhD speaking to the camera, in front of a blue background.</i></p> <p><i>Image of an ancient village, an ancient city, an ancient palace with soldiers in a courtyard, and an ancient religious building underneath a starscape.</i></p>	<p>In this course, we use the Communities Frame to describe the ways that humans organize themselves.</p> <p>They include the village, the city, the state, and the congregational religion.</p>
<p><b>0:20</b> <i>Bob Bain speaking in front of a blue background.</i></p> <p><i>Photograph of the remains of an ancient village.</i> <i>Photograph of a person in rice fields.</i> <i>Two more photographs of the remains of different ancient villages.</i></p>	<p>A village is made up of a group of people who live together, usually staying in one place year-round or for most of the year.</p> <p>In many places these settled communities were only possible because of farming, although some foragers also lived in settled villages. Villages were different from early organizations because their ways of governing themselves were more complex. Nomadic groups moved around, broke apart, and reformed. But villagers had to deal with each other constantly. They shared duties like protecting crops and animals, or building and maintaining communal structures.</p>
<p><b>0:54</b> <i>Bob Bain speaking in front of a blue background.</i> <i>Photograph of ancient ruins of two cities in the midst of modern cities.</i></p>	<p>Village life spread across much of the world. In some of those places cities developed. Cities were larger, and more densely populated than villages, and they could support people who were specialists and who didn't produce food at all. Cities needed more governance than villages for two reasons: first, most people did not know or had little reason to trust each other, and second: food had to be distributed from farmers and herders to those who had other jobs.</p>
<p><b>1:24</b> <b>States</b> <i>Bob Bain speaking in front of a blue background.</i></p>	<p>In some places groups of cities and villages came together to form states. A state is an even more developed form of community, one that has many more people and more layers of government.</p>



<p><i>Photograph of ancient sculpture of politician/leader advising.</i></p> <p><i>Bob Bain speaking in front of a blue background.</i></p> <p><i>Photograph of an ancient stone writing tablet.</i></p>	<p>States face the particular problem of ruling large groups of people, spread across distances, often in challenging situations.</p> <p>Over time these communities develop strategies for keeping everyone together and in agreement.</p> <p>Sometimes, they convince people that they had a shared interest in identity, sometimes they convince people that the government had a right to rule them, and sometimes they ruled by force.</p>
<p><b>2:03</b></p> <p><b>Family</b></p> <p><i>Bob Bain speaking in front of a blue background.</i></p> <p><b>Religion</b></p> <p><i>Bob Bain speaking in front of a blue background.</i></p>	<p>But not all communities were states or were controlled by governments. For example: the family, often extended families, was still a powerful force for shaping how people acted.</p> <p>Religion was also an important form of community. Until Era 3, religion was generally closely tied to the family and to one location.</p>
<p><b>2:24</b></p> <p><i>Two ancient photographs of people traveling in boats.</i> <i>Icon of people networking shows above photographs.</i></p> <p><b>Village Network</b></p> <p><i>Image of villages connected together by thin lines.</i></p> <p><b>Metropolitan Network</b></p> <p><i>Image of city at the center connected to villages, farms, and nomads by thin lines.</i></p> <p><i>Image showing multiple cities connected by thin lines.</i></p>	<p>Networks also grew as people traveled, made contact with each other, and shared ideas.</p> <p>Villages gave rise to village networks, which connected villages with each other in relationships of rough equality.</p> <p>The emergence of cities led to the rise of metropolitan networks that connected cities to the villages, farms, and nomadic people around them. These networks were often less equal, with rulers of the cities dominating the surrounding communities, although this was not always so.</p> <p>There were also thinner, less populated, and slower long distance networks that conducted ideas between and among communities.</p>
<p><b>3:05</b></p> <p><i>Icon of factory.</i></p> <p><i>Bob Bain speaking in front of a blue background.</i> <i>2 photographs of a maps.</i></p>	<p>Production and distribution also increased in this era.</p> <p>New techniques were developed for making things, and some very long trade routes and lots of smaller ones emerged in many parts of the world. Webs of long distance trade developed in several regions, although most people still made things mainly for themselves or for the wealthy elites in their local cities</p>

**3:27**

*Icon of factory, icon of housing community, icon of people networking.*

By the end of this Era, change was accelerating as reflected in all three frames. The abundance of new and larger communities meant more ideas and things, and large networks meant that ideas could flow more extensively between different communities and regions. Increased production and distribution meant that more people had access to more goods and services.

*Bob Bain speaking in front of a blue background.*

Now was this true for everyone? Would this always be true? You will be able to judge the answer to these questions for yourself in this Era and beyond.



OER Project aims to empower teachers by offering free and fully supported history courses for middle- and high-school students. Your account is the key to accessing our standards-aligned courses that are designed with built-in supports like leveled readings, audio recordings of texts, video transcripts, and more. Offerings include a variety of materials, from full-year, standards-based courses to shorter course extensions, all of which build upon foundational historical thinking skills in preparation for AP, college, and beyond.

To learn more about The OER Project, visit [www.oerproject.com](http://www.oerproject.com)