



Project X FAQ

What is Project X?

Project X is meant to help students understand and evaluate data that they encounter and to use data in their own arguments. Project X can be taught as a standalone four-week course or as a progression within the WHP Origins and 1750 courses.

We've designed materials to guide students step-by-step through how to read charts, evaluate data, and make predictions. Project X has three main components:

1. Data Explorations
2. Three Close Reads for Data, an approach to “reading” charts and other means of displaying data
3. Activities that lead to the final project

What are Data Explorations?

At the core of Project X are 10 exercises we call Data Explorations. These explorations are organized thematically around significant topics of world history. Each Data Exploration includes two elements:

- **Articles**—Every Data Exploration begins with an introductory article that introduces students to the charts included in that exploration and provides historical context. These articles are written by Max Roser and the team at Our World in Data (OWID). (Learn more about OWID here: <https://ourworldindata.org/>.)
- **Charts**—Each Data Exploration centers around a selection of thematic charts from the OWID website. Students should spend the bulk of their time during Data Explorations “reading” the charts.



What grade level is Project X appropriate for?

Project X can be used with students at a variety of age levels. It was designed specifically to work for tenth-grade classrooms.

What is a “course extension”?

Big History Project and World History Project are intended to be full-year or semester-length courses. Our course extensions, like Project X, are designed for teachers who wish to use some of our materials as part of their existing curriculum. Project X can be taught as a standalone four-week module at any point in the school year, which would allow you to take advantage of the same lessons on reading data that are included in our World History Project course.

Our [Project X Guide](#) gives some useful pacing suggestions and a brief walkthrough of our teaching methodology.

Can I use Project X with BHP/WHP?

The materials in Project X are already embedded in WHP, so there’s no need to mix and match. While the Project X materials are not as easily aligned with the BHP curriculum, teachers are more than welcome to incorporate any elements they find useful!

Whom should I reach out to if I have questions about Project X?

You can email us at help@oerproject.com if you have any further questions! We’ll make sure you get the information you need.