

# Careers throughout history



Length  
35-40 minutes

## About this lesson

Students will participate in a classroom discussion about careers that have been central to a period of time in history, and why they are important in order to have a fuller understanding of events throughout history. They will then investigate different career options within social studies that align with their current social studies objectives.

## Objectives

By the end of this lesson, students will:

- Explore career and societal roles during a time period in history
- Explain contributing factors that drove career and societal roles that time period and whether they still contribute to related careers today

## Inquiry prompts

- How do different types of careers change throughout history?
- How have careers or societal roles been central to different historical events?

## Before you begin

1. Identify the present-day careers in Xello that align with the time period/content standards you are covering in class. Ideally, students can complete this lesson while fulfilling the objectives of whatever time period in history the class is currently studying. For example, if you are currently studying the Industrial Revolution, related careers might include Entrepreneur, Industrial Engineer, Machinist, etc. Take some time to explore **Careers in Explore Options** and create a list of related careers for students to research.
2. Ensure that you are able to play the [Social studies and your future success](#) video. This video is also available in [Spanish](#).
3. Ensure that you are able to log into your student demo account and can access **Explore Options**.
4. Ensure that students are able to log into their accounts and access **Explore Options**.
5. Decide whether to take discussion/brainstorming notes with your class via a slide deck and project for students to view, or on a whiteboard in the physical classroom.

## Teaching strategies

- 1 As a class, recap the historical time period or event the class is currently covering. Identify a list of careers that made key contributions to the events (see Before You Begin for examples).
- 2 Show students the [Social studies and your future success](#) video. This video is also available in [Spanish](#). When the video is over, ask students if they can

### Xello entry point

Students can dive right in!

### Materials required

- [Social studies and your future success](#) video. This video is also available in [Spanish](#).
- Computers or tablets with Internet access
- Whiteboard and whiteboard markers (optional)

### Artifacts

Students:

- Save and reflect on career articles in **Explore Options**

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draw connections between the careers referenced in the video.

- 3 Next, share the list of relevant careers in Xello. Ask students to brainstorm any additional careers that they think should be on the list.
- 4 Now, tell students that they will be exploring careers related to what they are currently studying in class. Remind them of the list of related careers you reviewed as a class. Ask them why it might be important to examine these careers.
- 5 Have students log in to their accounts. In your student demo account, under **Explore Options**, click on **Careers** and direct students to do the same. Then enter one of the careers from your list into the search bar and select the career that appears. Scroll down to read through the job description as a class, and then click on one of the interviews with a professional in the field to read as a class.
- 6 Once you finish reading through the description and interview, answer the following questions as a class:
  - How is this career important to the time period you're studying?
  - How has this career evolved over time, from that time period to present day?
  - What factors contributed to the way this career has changed or evolved?
- 7 Direct students to follow the same process with a career of their choosing from the list. Once they have finished reading through the description and the interviews, have them save the career. The related career **Investigate** card will show. Direct students to select the emoji that represents how they feel about the career. Then have them click on the **Helpful Articles** section. They will now find 2-3 articles about or related to professionals in this career. Allow students 15-20 minutes to complete this task. Students should save the articles to the **Helpful Articles** section of the career card. As they save each article, they will be prompted to add the title of the article and reflect on why the article is important. In the space for reflection, direct them to answer the three questions from the previous step.
- 8 Once students have finished saving their articles, answer the following discussion questions as a class:
  - How does learning about careers related to an event in history deepen our understanding of that event?
  - How have careers or societal roles shaped events throughout history?