

Advanced Placement European History: 1450-Present 2009-2010 Polzinetti

AP European History is a challenging and fast-paced class focused on political, economic, religious, social, intellectual and artistic aspects of life in Europe from the end of the Middle Ages to the present. The College Board considers this class as college level and high performance on the exam the first week of May can earn you credit at a university.

The summer assignment will establish a common ground for the beginning of the first semester. A working knowledge of Europe's geography will also be crucial in our study of cultural and political movements, battles and even economic trends. Therefore, the summer assignment will focus on Europe's physical and political geography as well as the early years our course will cover, namely the late Middle Ages, Renaissance, Religious Wars, Science and Exploration. Please take this seriously; use this opportunity to gain a solid background for the course and to ignite your interest. Your enthusiasm will help make this course invigorating and engaging.

If you decide not to complete the summer assignment, please make arrangements to drop the class when you return in August.

Contact me with questions:

apolzinetti@wayne-local.com or via Moodle (see below).

In the fall, I will be asking you to purchase a study book. It will be available at the school bookstore and it will be at a reduced cost of \$25.00. The cost of the official AP exam will be included in your school fees. You will also be receiving a hard-back text book to use throughout the year. **If you want this text book as a reference over the summer, please contact me as soon as you can.**

This course tends to be more difficult during the first semester because much of the information covered is new or something you haven't studied in several years. Once we hit the Industrial Revolution, the course will seem more like review. If you have the chance and the inclination to do so, brush up on the Enlightenment, the French Revolution and Napoleon on your own. There may be some good documentaries on the History or Discover channel. There is also increasingly more historical fiction available; just remember that it is historical *fiction*. ☺

It's also a great idea to follow current events – national and international – over the summer. In this way, names of people and places become familiar to you. Plus, being informed just makes you a better citizen!

You may also find this assignment (plus other resources) on Moodle
– go to www.wayne-local.net/moodle
and use your school login and password to get in.
Then go to the AP European page.

The Assignment

There are two parts to your summer assignment, equaling 80 points.

I. To refresh you on pre-industrial Europe, please read through the photocopied chapters (18-20 of a middle school text). Prove to me you read by doing one of the following:

Actively read -- this means you should write main points in the margins, underline key names, points or trends, and record any related information you already know. For example, when the book covers Renaissance artists, you might add some names you know that aren't listed in the text.

OR

Write 30 IDs (maybe 4 from Ch. 18 and the rest split evenly between Chs. 19 & 20)

For your identifications, tell me who/what/when/where as well as why/how/why it is important. You might want to make a chart like this:

Identify (who/ what/ where)	Significance (consequences, how/why, effect of, indicative of)
ex. Joan of Arc = French peasant who led the army against England	ex. Breaking the gender barrier led the English to burn her as a witch, but her success also secured the French king's safety

Turn these in on the first day of school for **30 points**. I will return these to you soon thereafter so you may study these notes for upcoming quizzes.

AND

II. There will be a **map test** on the first day of class. Be able to locate the following:

Salt Water

Adriatic Sea
Aegean Sea
Baltic
Black
English Channel
Mediterranean Sea
North Sea
Norwegian Sea

Rivers

Danube
Elbe
Loire
Rhine
Seine
Thames
Vistula
Volga

Mountains

Alps
Apennines
Carpathian
Pyrenees

Islands

Corsica
Crete
Cyprus
Iceland
Ireland
Sardinia
Sicily

Cities

Amsterdam	Florence	Madrid	Oslo
Berlin	Helsinki	Moscow	Rome
Budapest	Istanbul	Naples	Stockholm
Dublin	London	Paris	Vienna
			Warsaw

Peninsulas

Balkan
Denmark
Iberian
Italian



Consider how you will answer the following question on the quiz:

Why is important to know geography when studying history?

I will expect specific examples, not simply a general statement. As you are reading Chapters 1-2, note occasions when geography was important culturally, economically or politically.