

AP EUROPEAN HISTORY

COURSE OVERVIEW

AP European History is designed to be the equivalent of a two-semester introductory college or university European history course. In AP European History students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes in four historical periods from approximately 1450 to the present. In addition to providing a basic narrative of events and movements, the goals of AP European History are to develop (a) an understanding of some of the principal themes in modern European history, (b) an ability to analyze historical evidence and historical interpretation, and (c) an ability to express historical understanding in writing.

The AP European History course is structured around six themes:

1. Interaction of Europe and the World
2. Poverty and Prosperity
3. Objective Knowledge and Subjective Vision
4. States and Other Institutions of Power
5. Individual and Society
6. National and European Identity

The course is divided into four chronological periods:

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|---------------------------|--|
| 1. c. 1405 to c. 1648 | Renaissance & Reformation |
| 2. c. 1648 to c. 1815 | Absolutism, New Ideas and Revolutions |
| 3. c. 1815 to c. 1914 | Age of "ISMS", questions and change |
| 4. c. 1914 to the Present | War: Time of Crisis, Tragedy and Triumph |

In AP European History, you'll develop the AP history disciplinary practices and reasoning skills:

- Practice 1: Analyzing historical evidence
- Practice 2: Argument development
- Skill 1: Contextualization
- Skill 2: Comparison
- Skill 3: Causation
- Skill 4: Continuity and change over time

The AP European History course:

- Is structured around six course themes and 19 key concepts in four chronological periods, from approximately 1450 to the present.
- Allows you to spend more time learning essential concepts and developing the disciplinary practices and reasoning skills necessary to explore European history by focusing on a limited number of key concepts. (These are the same practices and skills students develop in AP U.S. History and AP World History.)
- Relieves the pressure to learn all possible events and details of European history at a superficial level.
- Prepares you for the rigors of advanced college-level work in history.