



2018-2019 Syllabus
AP European History

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Course Description

The Advanced Placement European History course is designed to provide students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the issues and materials in European history. This course also prepares students for the AP examination. The aim of this course is to provide the student with a learning experience equivalent to that obtained in most college introductory European history courses.

Social Studies Department Mission Statement

We teach students the content knowledge, intellectual skills, and civic responsibilities necessary for fulfilling the duties of lifelong citizenship in a participatory democracy. These skills include communication, collaboration, critical thinking, creative problem solving, and capable learning.

Learning Outcomes

Your mastery of content is important, but you will also develop the skills of: 1) study and research, 2) critical reading of primary and secondary sources, 3) constructing and evaluating historical interpretations, 4) empathizing with the past, and 5) using historical knowledge as a guide to present understanding and action. Any advanced placement class requires hard work, intellectual curiosity, and a commitment to personal growth.

Materials

The reading and writing workload for this course is varied and heavy. Plan to devote approximately one hour each night to our course work.

<i>Assignments -</i>	Reading:	Approximately one textbook chapter every week and a half; additional readings of varied length.
	Writing:	Frequent essays of varied length both inside and outside of class.
	Materials:	We will use the text, <u>A History of Western Society</u> . This text will be supplemented with primary source readings and handouts on topics of historical interest.

<i>AP Examination -</i>	All students are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam in May.
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General Topic Outlines

<i>First Semester:</i>	Late Middle Ages, Renaissance, Reformation, Absolutism, Discovery & Conquest, Scientific Revolution, Enlightenment, French Revolution, the Napoleonic Age
<i>Second Semester:</i>	Aftermath of the Napoleonic Age, Industrial Revolution, Economic Developments, German and Italian Unification, Imperialism, World War I, Totalitarianism, World War II, Europe after 1945

Course Themes

The themes below will recur in different contexts throughout the course. You should use them to organize your thinking and refer to them in your writing or in discussion.

1. The growth in power of the state, the competition among these nation-states, and the resulting changes in the balance of power.
2. Individualism can act as a force for progress but can conflict with the needs of the community and social institutions.
3. Economic innovation increases prosperity but can also worsen or ignore poverty and inequality, raising important issues for governments.
4. The movement from authoritative sources of knowledge (Bible, ancients) to objective sources and the tension between these and subjective interpretations of reality.
5. The interaction of Europe with the world and the economic, political, cultural, and social effects in both directions.

Course Grading

Your grade will reflect both effort and accomplishment. The grading scale is the standard 90%-80% etc. Due to the nature of the course, our study of European History will progress quickly. Be prepared for class, as late work will not be accepted.

- Multiple Choice Quizzes & Tests = 30%
- Free Response and Document Based Question Essays = 20%
- Discussions, In-Class Projects, and Homework = 25%
- Research Papers = 25%

Make-Ups Due to Excused Absences: Any tests and quizzes that are missed due to excused absences must be made up within one week of the original test/quiz day.

Extra Credit: Over the course of the year, you may have opportunities to earn extra credit. Extra credit may be done only AFTER all class requirements have been met.

Our Responsibilities

You are responsible for your own success. You are the Seeker of Knowledge. The desire for learning must come from you. This means that you will come prepared to class, arrive on time, be ready to push yourself and others to get the knowledge you need.

As your guide, I am responsible for developing course work that will increase your knowledge and skills. In addition, I will help you find all the information you want to learn.

Ready ... Set ... Go!