
PETERS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL

COURSE SYLLABUS: AP EUROPEAN HISTORY

Course Overview and Essential Skills

This blended course will be a study of European history from 1450 (the Renaissance) to the present. An emphasis will be placed upon the intellectual/cultural, political/diplomatic, and social /economic history of Europe. The course includes extensive instruction in analysis and interpretation of a wide variety of primary sources, such as documentary material, maps, statistical tables, works of art, and pictorial and graphic material. Students will have extensive required reading, analytic writing and research assignments, plus formal assessments in a seminar classroom setting. Students who successfully complete the course are encouraged to take the Advanced Placement Examination, (at their own expense), administered in May of each school year.

Course Textbook and Required Materials

- Textbook: *The Western Heritage Since 1300, 11th Edition*, Kagan, Ozment, Turner, Frank, c. 2016; ISBN: 0-13-405022-3
- District Provided Blackboard Account
- Writing Utensils and Preferred Organizational Tools

Course Outline of Material Covered:

Unit or Topic	Concepts/Skills/Resources	Timeframe
<u>Introduction:</u> The West Before 1300 (Introduction Chapter)	Concepts Covered: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Describe the major events and civilizations in the west before 1300• Discuss the role of Ancient Rome and Greece in the development of Europe post 1450• Describe Europe during the Middle Ages• Evaluate the role of the Roman Catholic Church prior to 1450 Skills Taught: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Historical Causation• Patterns of Continuity and Change• Periodization• Comparison	Two Weeks
<u>Unit 1:</u> Europe in Transition (Ch. 1-4)	Concepts Covered: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trace the Social and Political breakdown of the Late Middle Ages• Analyze the Rise and Fall of the Renaissance in both Italy and Northern Countries• Compare the Northern and Italian Renaissance• Analyze how Europe Change with the Age of Discovery• Analyze the Causes and Implication of the Age of Reformation on all aspects of European Life• Interpret the causes of Religious separation and conflict• Analyze the cause and implication of the Age of Religious Wars in England, France, Spain, and the Holy Roman Empire	Six Weeks

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate the impact of Religious and Social upheaval on both Society and Politics Pattern the Continuity and Change of European Economics throughout this time of change and conflict <p>Skills Taught:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historical Causation Patterns of Continuity and Change over Time Periodization Comparison Contextualization Historical Argumentation Appropriate Use of Relevant Historical Evidence Interpretation Synthesis <p>Resources Used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PBS Documentary: <i>Driven to Defiance; Reluctant Revolutionary</i> Primary Sources: <i>Documents in Western Civilization; Volume II, Since 1648</i> 	
<u>Unit 2:</u> New Direction in Thought and the Establishment of the Old Regime (Ch. 5-8)	<p>Concepts Taught:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trace the paths to Constitutionalism and Absolutism in 17th Century England and France Put in to Context the rise of strong centralized governments in the major Countries of Europe Identify the new directions in thought and culture in 16th and 17th century Europe Describe the transformation of Eastern Europe as it becomes more Westernized with Industrialization Describe the society and economy under the Old Regime in the 18th Century across Europe Survey the Birth of Industrialization and the changing Family Economy Analyze the transatlantic economy and trace the development of trade wars and colonial rebellion <p>Skills Taught:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historical Causation Patterns of Continuity and Change over Time Periodization Comparison Contextualization Historical Argumentation Appropriate Use of Relevant Historical Evidence Interpretation Synthesis <p>Resources Used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BBC: <i>Why the industrial Revolution Happened Here</i> Primary Sources: <i>Documents in Western Civilization; Volume II, Since 1648</i> 	Five Weeks
<u>Unit 3:</u> Enlightenment and Revolution (Ch 9-13)	<p>Concepts Taught:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze the writings of philosophes and their impact on societies and nations 	Six Weeks

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss the causes, events, leaders, and results of the French Revolution • Analyze the events during the Age of Napoleon and the triumph of Romanticism • Describe the Conservative Order and the challenges of reform • Identify the economic development and the resulting social unrest in mid-nineteenth century Europe • Pattern the Continuity and Changes of the Early 19th century and how they shaped the geo-political and socio-economic aspects of Modern Europe <p>Skills Taught:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical Causation • Patterns of Continuity and Change over Time • Periodization • Comparison • Contextualization • Historical Argumentation • Appropriate Use of Relevant Historical Evidence • Interpretation • Synthesis <p>Resources Used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary Sources: <i>Documents in Western Civilization; Volume II, Since 1648</i> 	
<p><u>Unit 4:</u> Toward the Modern World (Ch. 14-19)</p>	<p>Concepts Taught:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trace the movement for the unification of modern Italy and Germany during the Age of Nation-States. • Analyze the factors that led to Europe's world supremacy at the beginning of the twentieth century. • Describe the birth of modern European thought. • Analyze the causes, events, and results of imperialism, the alliance system, and the First World War. • Analyze the causes and impacts of the Global Great Depression • Describe the political experiments of the 1920s. • Discuss economic, social, and political developments in Europe during the Great Depression. <p>Skills Taught:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical Causation • Patterns of Continuity and Change over Time • Periodization • Comparison • Contextualization • Historical Argumentation • Appropriate Use of Relevant Historical Evidence • Interpretation • Synthesis <p>Resources Used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PBS: <i>The Great War</i> 	Seven Weeks

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Choices Program: <i>Weimar Germany and the Rise of Hitler</i> • Primary Sources: <i>Documents in Western Civilization; Volume II, Since 1648</i> 	
<u>Unit 5:</u> Global Conflict, Cold War, and New Directions (Ch. 20-22)	<p>Content Taught</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the economic, social, and political factors that caused the Second World War • Describe the Cold War Era and the emergence of new Europe • Analyze the social, political, and economic characteristics of Europe at the outset of the twenty-first century <p>Skills Taught:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical Causation • Patterns of Continuity and Change over Time • Periodization • Comparison • Contextualization • Historical Argumentation • Appropriate Use of Relevant Historical Evidence • Interpretation • Synthesis <p>Resources Used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary Sources: <i>Documents in Western Civilization; Volume II, Since 1648</i> 	Five Weeks

****Depending on the needs of the class or changes in the school year, the course outline is subject to change.***

AP Focus Areas

Key Historical Thinking Skills

This AP European History course is designed to teach and/or strengthen the following concepts and skills for all students:

- Chronological Reasoning
 1. Historical Causation
 2. Patterns of Continuity and Change over Time
 3. Periodization
- Comparison and Contextualization
 4. Comparison
 5. Contextualization
- Crafting Historical Arguments and from Historical Evidence
 6. Historical Argumentation
 7. Appropriate Use of Relevant Historical Evidence
- Historical Interpretation and Synthesis
 8. Interpretation
 9. Synthesis

Developing Good Writing Skills

Throughout this course students will be assigned a large number of writing assignments ranging from short answer to research papers and Document Based Questions. This will require students to develop strong writing skills specific to success in this course. These skills include:

- Recognition of what is being asked and how to answer the specific question

- How to formulate a clear thesis that answers the specific questions being asked
- How to effectively construct a thematic essay and DBQ answer according to College Board Guidelines
- How to write and construct an original thesis typical of the historians profession

Thematic Learning Objectives

During the AP European Course content and instruction will focus on the following seven content areas:

- Interaction of Europe and the World
- Poverty and Prosperity
- Objective Knowledge and Subjective Visions
- States and Other Institutions of Power
- Individual and Society

