

AP World History (APWH) Syllabus 2020-2021

Instructor Information

Instructor

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General Information

AP World History (APWH) is designed to be the equivalent of a two-semester introductory college or university world history course. In AP World History students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes in six historical periods from approximately 1200 CE. to the present. Students develop and use the same skills, practices, and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; developing historical arguments; making historical comparisons; and utilizing reasoning about contextualization, causation, and continuity and change over time. The course provides five themes that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: interaction between humans and the environment; development and interaction of cultures; state building, expansion, and conflict; creation, expansion, and interaction of economic systems; and development and transformation of social structures.

APWH has a three-fold purpose. First, it is designed to prepare students for successful placement into higher-level college and university history courses. Second, it is designed to develop skills of analysis and thinking in order to prepare students for success in the twenty-first century. Finally, it is the intent of this class is to make the learning of world history an enjoyable experience. Students will be able to show their mastery of the course goals by taking part in the College Board AP World History Exam in May.

This course is designed to empower students to master a broad body of historical knowledge; to demonstrate an understanding of historical chronology; to use historical data to support an argument or position; understand historiography and differing schools of opinion, interpret and apply data from original documents, including cartoons, graphs; laws; and letters to name a few; to effectively use analytical tools for evaluation; to understand cause and effect; and compare and contrast.

Over the past few years, the College Board has re-evaluated and updated the AP History exams. Starting in the 2019-2020 school year, the AP World History course and exam were redesigned internationally based on teacher feedback. These changes focus on both streamlining the course and updating the exam design to allow more time and flexibility for in-depth student responses on the free-response questions. This is the fourth redesign for AP World History.

Rigorous preparation is a vital and necessary part of the AP curriculum. Extensive amounts of reading, writing, and critical thinking will be required. One of the most challenging changes for many sophomores in AP World History is the quantity of reading that will be assigned and must be completed. **It is imperative that students keep up with the reading!** There will be approximately 10-15 pages of reading per night to be done **outside of class**.

Course Materials

Course Textbook

Strayer, Robert. *Ways of the World*. 3rd ed. Updated 2017.

Additional Resources (You DO NOT need to purchase any of the following)

- Bentley, Jerry H. *Traditions and Encounters: A Global Perspective on the Past*. 6th ed. Updated. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2017.
- Christian, David. *This Fleeting World: A Short History of Humanity*. Great Barrington: Berkshire Publishing Group, 2008. (for PDF copy of book - <http://worldtracker.org/media/library/World%20History/American%20Topics/This%20Fleeting%20World.pdf>)
- Custred, Christine. *Fast Track to a 5; Preparing for the AP World History Examination*. Boston: Cengage Learning, 2017.
- Hansen, Valerie. *Voyages in World History*. Boston: Cengage Learning, 2017.
- MacGregor, Neil. *A History of the World in 100 Objects*. New York: Penguin Group, 2011.

- McNeill, J.R. *The Human Web: A Bird's Eye View of History*. New York: W.W. Norton, 2003.
- Pollard, Elizabeth. *Worlds Together Worlds Apart: From the Beginnings of Humankind to Present*. New York: W.W. Norton, 2016.
- Pomeranz, Kenneth & Topik, Steven. *World That Trade Created*. New York, M.E. Sharpe: 2nd ed., 2005.
- Reilly, Kevin. *Worlds of History, a Comparative Reader*. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's; 2nd ed., 2004.
- Stearns, Peter. *World History in Brief: Major Patterns of Change and Continuity*. White Plains: Longman Publishing; 7th ed., 2017.

Course Content

The AP World History course is structured around themes and concepts in nine units covering six different chronological periods from approximately 1200 CE to the present:

- Regional and Transregional Interactions (c. 1200 CE to c. 1450 CE)
 - Unit 1: The Global Tapestry
 - Unit 2: Networks of Exchange
- Global Interactions (c. 1450 to c. 1750 CE)
 - Unit 3: Land-Based Empires
 - Unit 4: Transoceanic Interconnections
- Industrialization and Global Integration (c. 1750 to c. 1900)
 - Unit 5: Revolutions
 - Unit 6: Consequences of Industrialization
- Accelerating Global Change and Realignments (c. 1900 to present)
 - Unit 7: Global Conflict
 - Unit 8: Cold War and Decolonization
 - Unit 9: Globalization

Within each period, key concepts organize and prioritize historical developments. Themes allow students to make connections and identify patterns and trends over time.

Course Assignments

Writing Assignments

Each unit includes writing assignments designed to develop the skills necessary for creating well-evidenced essays on historical topics highlighting clarity and precision.

- Short Answer Questions (SAQ): SAQs will directly address one or more of the thematic learning objectives for the course. All of the SAQs will require students to use AP history disciplinary practices and reasoning skills to respond to a primary source, a historian's argument, non-textual sources such as data or maps, or general propositions about world history.
- Document Based Question (DBQ): Students will analyze evidence from a variety of sources in order to develop a coherent written argument that has a thesis supported by relevant historical evidence. Students will apply multiple AP history disciplinary practices and reasoning skills as they examine a particular historical problem or question.
- Long Essay Question (LEQ): LEQs will measure the use of AP history disciplinary practices and reasoning skills to explain and analyze significant issues in world history as defined by the thematic learning objectives.

Quizzes

There will be weekly quizzes based on reading and lecture/discussions/activities.

Quickwrites

Students will be asked to summarize readings, historical concepts, and/or primary sources via short writing assignments at the beginning (bellringer) and/or at the end of each class period (exit ticket). Quick Writes should be 3-5 sentences long, should always include a thesis, and should answer the prompt completely.

Analyzing Primary Source Documents

A very important part of this AP course will be analyzing primary documents including photographs essays, letters, cartoons, texts and more

Homework

Homework generally consists of (1) reading assignments from the textbook (checked with weekly reading quizzes in class), and/or additional text material as well as (2) completing vocabulary. Summarizing readings and lecture notes in graphic organizers and/or reading notes (to be placed in your notebook – may also be expected. Essays will also be assigned as homework when necessary. Again, there will be a lot of reading, students must keep up. Be prepared for 30 minutes of homework at night (or more.)

Projects

There will be some projects throughout the course. Rubrics will be provided.

In Class Examinations

At least one test will given for each unit and time period, but will also always include previous learning. Exams will consist of twenty-five to fifty stimulus-based multiple choice questions and free-response questions. There is also a mid-term in December and a final project (EOY) in May. This will prepare you for the AP Exam in May, 2021.

The AP Examination

The AP World History Exam will be given on May 10, 2021 at 8:00 a.m. The exam itself is just over 3 hours and includes Multiple Choice, Short Answer Questions and 2 Essays.

Course Expectations

Responsibility

You are expected to complete college level work on a consistent basis. The AP course and exam is very challenging. Class activities will be designed to prepare students to think critically. Attending class, in addition to good organizational and writing skills, are important for success.

- **Late Work:** Work not turned in on time is considered late! Late work is not acceptable nor up to AP standards. Late work will be accepted for partial credit; the number of points taken off will be equal to the number of days the assignment is late, including weekends.
- **Absences/Field Trips:** The reality is when you miss a 50-minute class; you miss an abundance of information and learning experiences that likely cannot be completely made up. If you are not here for an excused absence, you are responsible for looking on the teacher connection site/Google Classroom and making up ALL missed work within 2 days (school days **not** class days.) Students should see me for any clarifications necessary. Any assignments or tests scheduled on a field trip day must be handed in and/or made up before the trip. Students who fail to follow these guidelines will receive a grade of zero
- **After-School Support:** Once the school year starts, I will be offering after-school support. This will be posted on my teacher connection page/Google Classroom. If you need to see me at another time, just let me know. Please don't hesitate to come see me!
- **Reading:** Students will be required to spend a substantial amount of time each week reading from their course text, along with a large number of additional primary and secondary sources, and formally discuss these readings in class on a weekly basis as part of their overall grade. Readings **MUST** be completed as scheduled so students can participate in class discussions and activities.
- **Writing:** Students will be required to analyze readings and write essays and notes each week as part of their homework grade. Due to the volume of written work, commentary will be restricted to a rubric. Some essays will be discussed individually in class.
- **Analysis:** Students will utilize various thinking maps (graphic organizers) each week to thematically organize and compare cultures, civilizations, nations, and empires. Additionally, students will be expected to analyze large amounts of historical information in a comparative and thematically organized way.
- **Evaluate:** Students will be expected to evaluate bias and perspective in all source material.
- **Integrity:** Students are expected to abide by the Villages High School student code of conduct. **Plagiarism of any kind will automatically result in a zero for the student who copied the work from another student as well as the student who gave material to be copied. Please remember this may result in an administrative referral.**

Plagiarism: "The unauthorized use of someone else's material, which is then presented as being the result of the plagiarist's own primary research, creative impulse or insight. Plagiarism technically encompasses the borrowing of ideas of others, as well as their exact words...." Laurie Henry, The Fiction Dictionary, p. 219.

- **Respect:** Class discussions are an integral part of this course. Respect the free flow of ideas and opinions of your classmates **at all times**. Be critical of ideas, not people.

Materials

Required Supplies (these will be used in class every day)

- Fully-charged Chromebook
- 1 inch 3-ring binder
- Pens (black or blue ink only)
- #2 pencils
- Loose Leaf College Ruled Paper

Grading Policy

Students and parents should not be discouraged if grades seem low at first. This is normal as students adjust to the rigors and demands of college-level work. The key to success in AP World History is consistent effort and improvement. Several factors are used to determine the points of each assignment, including quality of work, quantity of work, originality, and reasoning demonstrated. Student's grade will be determined by the number of points earned on the following:

- Quizzes/Tests: 5-100 points
- Writing/Essays: 10-100 points
- Study Guides: 100-200 points
- Bell Ringers/Exit Tickets: 5-100 points

AP World History Exam

It is school policy that all students are required to take the AP World History Exam in May. The AP World History Exam is approximately three hours and fifteen minutes long and includes:

<i>Section</i>	<i>Question Type</i>	<i>Number of Questions</i>	<i>Timing</i>	<i>Percentage of Total Exam Score</i>
I	Part A: Multiple Choice Questions	55 questions	55 minutes	40%
	Part B: Short Answer Questions	3 Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Required - Question 1: Secondary Stimulus • Required - Question 2: Primary Source Stimulus • Choose Between <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Question 3: No Stimulus OR ○ Question 4: No Stimulus 	40 minutes	20%
II	Part A: Document-based Question	1 question	60 Minutes (includes 15-minute reading period)	25%
	Part B: Long Essay Question	1 question, chosen from three options on the same theme.	40 minutes	15%