

Course: AP World History

Scope: 8000 BCE to present

Length of Course: One Year

Credits: 5 units per semester

Instructor: Mr. Justus Grate

Grade Level: 10

Course Description:

AP World History is a college-level course taking global view of historical processes and contacts between people in different societies over a time span of 10,000 years. The course will be rigorous and fast-paced, as is not for the faint of heart. Students will be expected to learn and display knowledge of a large body of historical fact, and interpret both primary historical evidence and secondary sources. Themes will be employed throughout the course, though the basic approach will be chronological. Specific attention will be paid to change and continuity within cultures over time, and comparison and contrast between different cultures at the same point in time. The main body of factual knowledge must come from the student diligently working through their textbook, while classroom lectures will provide "anchor points" and advance-level background theory to further understanding. Critical thinking will be emphasized in all work. Great attention will be given to preparing students with the writing skills necessary to engage the AP World History Examination given in May 2012.

The Five AP World History Themes

1. Interaction Between Humans the Environment: Demography and disease; Migration; Patterns of settlement; Technology.
2. Development and Interaction of Cultures: Religions; Belief systems, philosophies, and ideologies; Science and technology; The arts and architecture.
3. State Building, Expansion and Conflict: Political structures and forms of government; Empires; Nations and nationalism; Revolts and revolutions; Regional, trans-regional, and global structures and organizations.
4. Creation, Expansion and Interaction of Economic Systems: Agricultural and pastoral production; Trade and commerce; Labor systems; Industrialization; Capitalism and socialism.
5. Development and Transformation of Social Structures: Gender roles and relations; Family and kinship; Racial and ethnic constructions; Social and economic classes.

Course Outline

- Unit 1: The Neolithic and Ancient Eras: Beginnings to 600CE

Reading: Textbook chapters 1-3; Supplemental Reading Packets

Key Concepts: Big Geography and the Peopling of the Earth; The Neolithic Revolution and Early Agricultural Societies; The Development and Interactions of Early Agricultural, Pastoral and Urban Societies

- Unit 2: The Classical Era: 600BCE to 600CE

Reading: Textbook chapters 4-7; Supplemental Reading Packets

Key Concepts: The Development and Codification of Religious and Cultural Traditions; The Development of States and Empires; Emergence of Transregional Networks of Communication and Exchange

- Unit 3: The Post-Classical Era: 600 to 1450

Reading: Textbook chapters 8-13; Supplemental Reading Packets

Key Concepts: Expansion and Intensification of Communication and Exchange Networks; Continuity and Innovation of State Forms and Their Interactions; Increased Economic Productive Capacity and Its Consequences

- Unit 4: The Early Modern Era: 1450-1750

Reading: Textbook chapters 14-16; Supplemental Reading Packets

Key Concepts: Globalizing Networks of Communication and Exchange; New Forms of Social Organization and Modes of Production; State Consolidation and Imperial Expansion

- Unit 5: The "Long" 19th Century: 1750-1900

Reading: Textbook chapters 17-20; Supplemental Reading Packets

Key Concepts: Industrialization and Global Capitalism; Imperialism and Nation-State Formation; Nationalism, Revolution and Reform; Global Migration

- Unit 6: The 20th and 21st Century: 1900-Present

Reading: Textbook chapters 21-24; Supplemental Reading Packets

Key Concepts: Science and the Environment; Global Conflicts and Their Consequences; New Conceptualizations of Global Economy, Society and Culture