

# AP World History 2012-2013

Teacher: Ms. Webner

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## Introduction to AP World History

In AP World History you will develop a greater understanding of the changes of global processes and contacts over time. The course highlights the nature of changes in international frameworks and their causes and consequences, as well as comparisons among major societies. The course, which adopts the periodization approach to analyzing global events and interactions from the foundations of history around 8000 B.C.E. to the present, is designed to challenge students to become “owners” and creators of independent ideas. One goal for the course is to provide an engaging and rigorous curriculum that motivates students. The long-term objective is for students to demonstrate an understanding of how the big picture of World History assists in understanding the complexities of today’s global world. Additionally, it is expected that students will be prepared for the challenge of taking the AP Exam. We will use the following AP World History themes throughout the course to identify the broad patterns and processes that explain change and continuity over time.

### The Five AP World History Themes

1. Interactions between humans and the environment
2. Development and interaction of cultures
3. State-building, expansion, and conflict
4. Creation, expansion, and interaction of economic systems
5. Development and transformation of social structures

## Texts

### Main textbook:

- Ballew, Richard W., et al. *The Earth and Its Peoples: A Global History*. Third edition, Houghton Mifflin, 2005.

### Supplemental texts:

- Joverfield, Andrea. *The Human Record: Sources of Global History*, Volumes I & II. Fifth edition, Houghton Mifflin, 2005.
- Various other primary source materials will also be used.

## Course Requirements

1. Prepare to take the AP Exam.
2. Actively participate in class and complete all assignments thoroughly and promptly.
3. Attend every class, arriving on time and ready to begin working immediately.
4. Make up work when absent, and if possible, make prior arrangements for planned absences.
5. Keep a well-organized and complete notebook for the entire year; bring to class daily. Use lecture and reading notes in your notebook to study for tests. Ask for help if your notebook is incomplete.
6. Form a study group for tests and other large assignments.
7. Ask for help if needed.
8. Challenge yourself to work hard and maintain high standards.

## **Basic Rules of the Classroom**

1. We respect ourselves and others.
2. We are prepared and attentive.
3. We maintain a clean and orderly environment.
4. We follow school rules.

\*\*All Advanced Placement students are expected to follow basic classroom rules with ease. Failure to do so will result in consequences including but not limited to warnings, teacher-student conferences, lowering of conduct grade, parent conferences, administrative referrals, etc.

## **Grading Policy**

Your grade for each 9-week period will be based on the average of all your grades for that period, and may include tests, essays, in-class work, homework/study guides, notebook checks, and class participation.

## **Development of Essays**

As a student of this class, you will learn to develop three different types of essays, necessary for you to not only understand the world's history but to also be successful on the AP Exam. The three essays are as follows:

### **Document Based Essay**

This class focuses on the evaluation of primary sources. We will work weekly on looking at primary sources throughout history and practice grouping, organizing and analyzing them in preparation for the Document Based Essay.

### **Changes and Continuities Over Time Essay**

Regularly we will work on essay prompts that deal with either changes and continuities or comparisons. Understanding how events, decisions, and actions change history is a key element in this AP World History course.

### **Compare and Contrast Essay**

Being able to understand the similarities and differences of civilizations thousands of miles apart or thousands of years apart is the final key to understanding history. Again, this will be worked on regularly with essay writing prompts.

## Syllabus

The following is a list of units we will be studying in the course, and that will be tested on the AP Exam. Dates are provided to give an approximate time frame for when each topic will be covered in class, but are subject to adjustment as needed.

### First 9-Weeks

Intro to AP World History	8/20-8/24
Neolithic Era	8/27-9/7
Classical Era	9/10-10/25

### Second 9-Weeks

Post-Classical Era (Islam and Europe)	10/29-11/21
Post-Classical Era (Asia)	11/26-12/21
Early Modern Era	1/7-1/31

### Third 9-Weeks

Age of Revolutions	2/4-2/22
Modern Era	2/25-3/21

### Fourth 9-Weeks

Modern Era cont'd	4/1-4/30
AP Exam Review	5/1-5/15
AP Exam	5/16

### **Required Materials**

- 3-ring binder notebook
- Dividers
- Loose leaf notebook paper to fill binder
- 1 folder with pockets
- Pens (black or blue ink)

### **Recommended Materials**

- Small sticky notes for annotating text
- Colored pencils
- Ruler
- Mini pencil sharpener
- AP World History study book (Princeton Review, for example)

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I understand the course requirements and responsibilities I have as an AP student. I also understand that failure to follow classroom rules will result in consequences including warnings, teacher conference, administrative referral, and lowering of my conduct grade.

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Contact Phone / Email** \_\_\_\_\_