

Students/Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the world of Advanced Placement (AP) studies. The AP World History-Modern course (c. 1200 C.E. – Present) will be unlike any other history course that you have likely been involved in. You will not simply memorize history; you will complete historical studies using the crafts of historians. You will dissect primary and secondary sources as you discover what must be done when sources differ regarding the same historical development, process or event. Think of this class as participating in a historical laboratory.

You will be attempting to earn up to six college credit hours on Monday May 10, 2021. In anticipation, work will be needed daily, especially with active reading/note taking. Reading comprehension and writing skills are essential for success. If your middle school experience did not include homework, or very little of it, you will have to embrace this transformation as you enter the Pre-International Baccalaureate program. This program is not for everyone - it is a four-year dedication and your resolution to succeed will be tested over time. The encouraging news is that this task is doable. It requires a sense of purpose and dedication to the task at hand on a weekly, if not daily basis. Anything short of this is likely to lead to frustration. The benefit though is that actively participating in this course and the International Baccalaureate program will build your skills to learn and think critically, construct solid arguments, and see many sides of an issues—skills that will prepare you for college and beyond.

Enjoy your summer and be ready to put forth an efficient school year in Advanced Placement World History (Modern) 1200 C.E – Present. I look forward to seeing you in August, my thirty-third year as an AP, IB, and/or AICE instructor!

Summer Assignment 2020

This assignment will enable you to become familiar with the actual AP World course, lay down a historical framework as to what happened prior to the c. 1200 C.E. mark, and ready yourself with the first two sub-units for the course.

The assignment will be a two-hundred-point formative assignment that will be due by the end of the first week of school. You will need to purchase the following:

- **The 2020 edition** of the **Perfection Learning/AMSCO AP World History-Modern book**: (Softback Edition)

(<https://www.perfectionlearning.com/social-studies/advanced-placement/world-history-ap-exam/amsco-advanced-placement-world-history-modern-1200-present-97591.html>)

If you are going to try and purchase a used copy, **make sure it is the 2020 edition** (or later if applicable). Editions prior to 2020 preclude the significant changes (the course use to start at c. 8,000 B.C.E.) that occurred with the course prior to the 2019 academic year. In addition to its summer use, this book will be used extensively for the entire year.

The Summer 2020 assignment will be broken into four parts, all of which will use the AMSCO text mentioned above, as the major reference source.

- **Part 1:** Guided reading questions from the text's 'Introduction,' offering insight into the actual make-up of the course;
- **Part 2:** Guided reading questions from the text's 'Prologue,' offering insight into important historical developments, processes, and events that occurred prior to the starting point of our course, c. 1200 C.E., and
- **Parts 3 & 4:** Guided readings for the first two sub-units (1.1 & 1.2) for Unit One: The Global Tapestry.

Note: I am also able to provide a pdf copy for the early readings to get you to August as part of an AMSCO sample.

When school begins, we will spend the first few days involving ourselves with rituals, routines and the Prologue before testing at the end of week one. The second week we will begin to delve into Unit One: The Global Tapestry, and we will be off and running with content, writing templates and skills development that the course demands.

If you are the type that tends to procrastinate, be forewarned you will enter this course at a disadvantage if you choose to not do or put very little effort into the assignment. Time management will be a key throughout your high school career, so please start early. Additionally, we will be on a bloc schedule this coming year so I will not be seeing you daily, and when I do it will be for approximately ninety minutes. Time management will be essential.

Mr. Sacerdote, M. Ed.

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