

AP WORLD HISTORY

ABRIDGED COURSE SYLLABUS

Teacher: Mr. Peyton

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Texts: *World Civilizations* by Stearns, et al., 6th Ed.; selections from *The Global Experience* by Riley, et al., 4th Ed. Vols. 1&2; as well as a variety of other primary, secondary, video, and visual sources, including the Holy Bible.

Course Summary: This is a **rigorous**, advanced-level survey course which examines world history from a “big picture” standpoint. As the official AP World History course description reads, “The course’s organization around a limited number of key concepts instead of a perceived list of facts, events, and dates makes [learning] each historical period more manageable. The three to four key concepts per period define what is most essential to know about each period based upon the most current historical research in world history. This approach enables students to spend less time on factual recall, more time on learning essential concepts, and helps them develop historical thinking skills necessary to explore the broad trends and global processes involved in their study of AP World History.” This class will follow these directions and organizing principles. In addition, this class will prepare students to take and be successful on the **AP World History exam**, held on **May 14th, 2015**.

Periodization – To provide a temporal framework for the course, world history is “chunked” as follows:

- Period 1: Technological and Environmental Transformations (c. 8,000 BC to c. 600 BC)
- Period 2: Organization and Reorganization of Human Societies (c. 600 BC to c. AD 600)
- Period 3: Regional and Transregional Interactions (c. AD 600 to c. AD 1450)
- Period 4: Global Interactions (c. AD 1450 to c. AD 1750)
- Period 5: Industrialization and Global Integration (c. AD 1750 to c. AD 1900)
- Period 6: Accelerating Global Change and Realignments (c. AD 1900 to present)

Themes - These aspects of world history will be examined during each period, where applicable:

- Theme 1: Interaction Between Humans and the Environment
- Theme 2: Development and Interaction of Cultures
- Theme 3: State-Building, Expansion, and Conflict
- Theme 4: Creation, Expansion, and Interaction of Economic Systems
- Theme 5: Development and Transformation of Social Structures

Expectations:

- There will be a **great deal of reading** homework in this course – both from the textbook as well as additional sources. Students must keep up with the readings in order to get the most out of the course. There will be a “pop” reading quiz each week to provide incentive for keeping pace, with the exception of weeks with an exam.
- There will also be a **great deal of writing** in this course. Students will be expected to respond to study questions with each textbook chapter and reading assignment, complete a take-home essay for each exam, and compose and critique essays to prepare for the AP exam’s FRQ (“Free Response Question”) section.
- Students should **be prepared** to participate and engage in whole-class as well as group and paired activities and discussions. This means students must be up-to-date on their readings, well-organized, with all their supplies.
- Forming a **study group** will be extremely beneficial along the way, allowing students to “divide and conquer” the chapter homeworks, among other uses. This is highly encouraged.
- Students should **ask for help**, if needed! Mr. Peyton does not bite, and wants his students to succeed!

Supplies: Each student will need to supply the following items:

- **1 2-inch, 3-ring binder with tab dividers** (See the “Organization Guidelines” handout for details.)
- **Filler paper or spiral notebook** (Sufficient to take notes on readings and in-class presentations)

Grades:

There are four grading periods for this class (nine weeks each). Grades will be assigned according to the MCS Grading and Grade Point Scale. Below is an approximate breakdown of grades by category for each grading period:

- **Chapter Homeworks: 15%** (*Important terms and select short-essay questions from each chapter in the textbook.*)
- **Reading Quizzes: 10%** (*Given on a random day every week, except when there is an exam.*)
- **Exams: 30%** (*Two every nine weeks – composed of a multiple choice section and a take-home essay.*)
- **Reading Assignments: 15%** (*Analysis of supplemental readings, usually primary sources.*)
- **In-Class Assignments: 10%** (*Mapwork assignments, SPRITE/Belief System charts, etc.*)
- **Exam Preparation Assignments: 10%** (*Essays intended to hone student skill for FRQs on the AP Exam.*)
- **Binders: 10%** (*Collected at end of semesters – must be organized and complete.*)

Disclaimer: As the course instructor, Mr. Peyton reserves the right to modify the parameters of this course (including topic items and their order, grade distribution and categories, etc.) as necessary to meet the needs of the class and/or respond to unforeseen events (snow days, etc.).

Abridged History Of The World

