

AP European History COURSE SYLLABUS
2014

Course Description: This course teaches students relevant, factual knowledge about European History from 1450 through 2001. The areas of concentration include historical, political, and economic history coupled with an intense study of cultural and intellectual institutions and their development. For much of the course political topics (internal to specific countries) will receive somewhat more attention than diplomatic (international relations) topics. However, connections can be made between domestic and international politics: e.g., the international nature of conservatism in the early 19th century, and of Socialist and Communist movements in the 19th and 20th centuries. Students will explore social history with an emphasis on the experiences of different social classes, genders, and religious/ethnic groups, of which economic activity is one part. These areas will be studied from a variety of perspectives with the hope of providing a balanced view of history. **This course is taught at the college level.** The major difference between a high school and college history course is the amount of reading and depth of focus. Thus, the student will be required to frequently analyze, synthesize, and evaluate primary and secondary historical sources in addition to memorizing, comprehending, and applying facts. STAY POSITIVE! Although this course can be challenging, you must believe in yourself and your abilities! There may be a few setbacks along the way but you must accept them, make adjustments, and try again. You will grow academically and personally as a result. The prize at the end is worth it!

Grading Scale and Percentages:		A = 93-100%
Essay Exams/Multiple Choice	50%	B = 85-92%
Notebook/Reading Assessments	30%	C = 78-84%
Participation	20%	D = 70-77%
		F = 0-69%

Text and Resources:

Kagan, Donald, Steven Ozment, and Frank Turner. The Western Heritage. 9th. Upper Saddle River, NJ:Pearson Education, Inc., 2007. Print. ISBN: 0-13-195068-1

Spielvogel, Jackson J. Western Civilization. 6th. Canada: Thomas Wadsworth, 2006. Print ISBN-13: 978-0-534-64602-6

Exams: There will be a test at the end of each unit. Each exam will consist of multiple choice questions with a free response essay AND/OR document based essay to be completed in class. Tests will be rigorous as they are intended to challenge the student at the Advanced Placement level. As well each test will provide students will invaluable and frequent experience with the types of multiple choice and essay questions they will encounter on the AP European History exam. The essay topics will come directly from previous AP exams, experienced AP instructors, and supplemental AP materials.

Review Notebook: Students are expected to keep a well-organized digital notebook consisting of their class notes as well as additional reading analysis questions listed on our Weebly website under the class materials page. These notebooks should be created as a Google Doc and shared with the teacher by the end of the first week of school. Each section should be labeled with a title/date at the top of the page to help students search more efficiently for needed materials throughout the semester. As well students should expect to add additional charts, maps, and in class activities to each unit's section. This notebook will serve as the homework assignment for students throughout the semester and each section is due the day of the test on that unit. All required elements are weighted equally. Late sections will be accepted one day late with a penalty of 25 points.

Participation: Students are expected to contribute to class discussions, mock trials, historical role- playing, imovies, etc. Those who do not contribute positively, are not prepared for class/ group work, etc. will be docked points for that assignment. Falling asleep for any length of time WILL NOT be tolerated and will equal a zero for the assignment.

Class Blog: Our class blog can be found on our Weebly website. Students will be expected to sign up for a unit (or two based on class numbers) & update the blog with review materials from that unit. In order to receive full credit resources posted to the blog must cover half of the assigned vocabulary terms and must also include something that reviews the main idea(s) of the unit. All students must comment on the blog resources posted with each unit. Comments should cover one term that was not discussed in the posted resources. First come first served. If the vocabulary terms have all already been taken then students may post a main idea that was not covered in the original posting.

Missed Exams: Students are expected to make up a missed exam **on the day that they return to class**. If more than one exam has been missed then an appointment will have to be made for after school. Any exams that are not made up by the end of the nine weeks will result in a zero.

ALL SCHOOL RULES AND POLICIES WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED!