



COURSE DESCRIPTION

The AP World History course surveys the history of the world from the year 1200 to the present. The regions of Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Americas are all thoroughly examined throughout the yearlong course. Special attention is paid to social, political, economic, and cultural developments that occur within and across these regions. Students are not only expected to learn about specific, often detailed world events and people, but also the larger historical processes of various time periods.

THE TYPICAL CLASS – DAY TO DAY

In any given week students may be asked (2-3 times a week) to take hand written notes from an oral / PowerPoint lecture. On other days students may be using these notes to complete graphic organizers or sketch out responses to essay prompts (ex: *Using your notes, compare and contrast imperialism in Africa to that of Asia*). From time to time, students do work in groups – from conducting historical document analysis to participating in class discussions and mini-simulations.

TYPICAL HOMEWORK

At home students are expected to read sections from their textbook that correlate with the information being discussed in class. Students may also be asked to read PowerPoint slides (at home via Schoology) that encompass both notes and video clips of the historical topic being covered in class. Graphic organizers that are often started in class are completed at home.

ASSESSMENTS

Formative and summative assessments are integrated into the AP World History course. Students are expected to take both computer based formative tests as well in class written short responses to help them, and the teacher, gauge their understanding of course material. At the close of each unit students take a 30 question multiple choice test (with a free response section) as part of their summative grade. Furthermore, three lengthy FRQ essays are given as summative assessments. One of which is a DBQ, or Document Based Question essay. Most students find these three FRQs an arduous part of the course. Unlike many standard or honors history courses, AP World History requires a great deal of writing, which is incorporated into the course's grading policy. Students who are used to getting all A's on written assessments in other classes are often taken aback at the requirements and standards for AP World History.

** The day to day lessons, homework, and assessments noted above are subject to change at the teacher and PLC discretion. The information above is put forth to help students and their families better understand the expectations of the course. Furthermore, multiple PVHS teachers teach AP World History – no student should enroll for this course with the expectation they will get any one teacher in particular.*