

AP World History 2019-2020 Syllabus, Mr. Waddell



Contact Information

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Welcome!

I'm excited to welcome you to AP World History for the 2019-2020 school year!

Please keep these things in mind as we start out the year:

- **This is a college-level reading and writing class.** Students will be expected to complete all class readings at home and will be expected to write regular essays and reflections based on their readings in class. As a college course would, this class emphasizes the intelligent discussion of ideas over the memorization of random facts. However, you will be expected to do a little bit of both to be successful. **Only by reading the assigned work, being able to express yourself in writing and speech, and keeping up with the discussion can one expect an "A" in this course.** You will leave this class a changed student and I know you will gain valuable skills regardless of your AP exam score.
- **The AP Exam** is an assessment you will study for throughout the year. It is not easy and is not meant to be easy – but we will work together throughout the year to prepare you to pass it and gain the college credit and earn the recognition that comes with such an achievement. **It will occur on Thursday, May 14, 2020 at 8:00am.**
- **I expect students to show initiative and attention to their own learning.** While I am always willing to assist, I expect students to meet me halfway in terms of hard work and dedication.
- **It is impossible for me to cover everything in the book.** You will be responsible for your reading as the AP exam can be over anything the book covers.

Required Materials

- ✓ 2-3 blue or black ink pens for daily writing assignments and reading notes
- ✓ 2-3 pencils with erasers for class notes and multiple-choice tests
- ✓ 1-2 composition notebooks for reading notes (I will not accept reading notes on loose-leaf paper)

Course Description from the College Board:

AP World History: Modern is an introductory college-level modern world history course. Students cultivate their understanding of world history from c. 1200 CE to the present through analyzing historical sources and learning to make connections and craft historical arguments as they explore concepts like humans and the environment, cultural developments and interactions, governance, economic systems, social interactions and organization, and technology and innovation.

Required Textbook (School Provided)

There will also be several other required readings which will be provided by the teacher.

Stearns, Peter N., *World Civilizations: The Global Experience* (Boston: Pearson, 2017).

Classroom Expectations

Discipline: this is an AP class. Students are expected to set an example for the rest of the school, so I have high standards:

- Be prompt and arrive to class early or on time.
- Be prepared to begin class on time.
- Be polite to the rest of the class by not rudely interrupting or using rude language.
- No electronic devices without prior teacher approval. This also applies to headphones.
- 10/10 Rule: Students may not leave class during the first 10 minutes or last 10 minutes per MPHS policy.
- No food or drink is permitted without special permission, however water is fine. (Cockroaches? Mice? Ants? No.)
- ABSOLUTELY NO OUTSIDE CLASS WORK IS PERMITTED. When found, it will be confiscated and the teacher whose class it is for may be notified. Plagiarism will be reported if I find you copying your friend's work.

Academic Honesty

Please review the Mountain Pointe High School Cheating/Plagiarism policy in the student handbook. Academic dishonesty will be dealt with swiftly with the grade being recorded as a "0," the students' parents being notified, and possible other consequences being applied based on the nature of the assignment in question. For all tests, the student will be written up and evidence presented to document the case.

If you are caught cheating in my class, you risk putting future letters of recommendation, NHS membership, and your reputation in danger. Don't make me remember you for the wrong reasons.

The following are considered cheating:

- Plagiarism
- Copying answers (multiple versions of tests are given)
- Having a "cheat/crib sheet" (students will only need a pen and pencil for their tests)
- Using past students' notes
- Using anything other than handwritten notes during a reading quiz (notes will be checked and initialed to prevent sharing)
- Having a phone out during a test for any reason – including checking the time.
- Having a smart watch on your wrist. Analog or digital watches are fine, even during the AP exam.
- Discussing a test after you take it with your classmates – wait until the teacher gives the all clear to do this. Tests will be given with different key versions for each class period to avoid problems with this issue. **Short answer question and essay prompts may change between classes.**

Remember: if AP were easy, it wouldn't be worth signing up for. My goal as a teacher is to help you prepare for the AP exam and challenge you academically in ways you have never experienced. You will not grow in this class without doing the required work.

Grading Policies and Grade Descriptions

Student grades will be based on the following:

- Quizzes** which will cover one chapter at time and may be announced or not
- Homework** due the next class period at the beginning of class.
- Essays** which seek to help students improve writing and thinking skills (SAQ/DBQ/LEQ)
- Unit Exams** will mirror the AP Exam in style. There are 3 per semester

Grading Policy (Continued)

- **As per TUHSD policy**, there will be a 80-20 split for grades. 80% of your grade comes from major grades (essays, tests, projects) plus from daily grades (quizzes, daily work) and 20% from Final Exam.
- **All tests will be timed in order to reflect the AP test.**
- **Late work will not be accepted.**
- **Final grades** will be calculated according to district policies: term grades: 80% of semester grade, semester exams: 20% of semester grade

The AP Exam

The AP Exam consists of two sections:

Section I

- 55 multiple-choice questions (55 minutes; 40% of exam score)
- Three short-answer questions (50 minutes; 20% of exam score)

Section II

- One document-based question (60 minutes, which includes a 15-minute reading period; 25% of exam score)
- One long-essay question, chosen from three (40 minutes; 15% of exam score)

Scores given by the Readers on the free-response questions are combined with the multiple-choice results. This is then converted to a 5-point scale:

5: Extremely Well Qualified
4: Well Qualified
3: Qualified
2: Possibly Qualified
1: No Recommendation

2016: 6.5% of students
2016: 15.5% of students
2016: 29.2% of students
2016: 28.9% of students
2016: 19.9% of students

Most colleges will accept a 3 or higher for credit. We will discuss in class how you can be aware of what your “dream college” is expecting. Note that some colleges accept the score for credit while others might acknowledge it as part of admissions without giving equivalent course credit.

At the end of the day, the fact that you challenged yourself and prepared yourself for college should be your end goal in taking this course.

AP World History: Modern Scope (1200 CE to Present)

The 9 units provide a general outline to our course. They are listed below to provide you with an idea of the scope of what we will cover. In addition, we will be spending the first six weeks of class covering material that comes before in order to help us better understand what the world looked like in 1200 CE.

Unit 1: The Global Tapestry	8%–10%	Unit 2: Networks of Exchange	8%–10%
Unit 3: Land-Based Empires	12%–15%	Unit 4: Transoceanic Interconnections	12%–15%
Unit 5: Revolutions	12%–15%	Unit 6: Consequences of Industrialization	12%–15%
Unit 7: Global Conflict	8%–10%	Unit 8: Cold War and Decolonization	8%–10%
Unit 9: Globalization	8%–10%		