

Advanced Placement European History Summer Assignment

Welcome to AP European History! I am excited that you have decided to take part in this course. Here are some items I would like for you to consider plus your summer assignments.

1. This is a college level course and it will be challenging in many ways including the amount of time and effort that will be required outside of class. If you do not like reading, especially reading history, you may find this course exceptionally difficult.
2. The content material is to be learned and understood, not simply memorized and regurgitated. These assignments are designed to evaluate your skills and how well you will be able to complete the course. Due to the large amount of material required by the College Board, there may be some information you will need to comprehend on your own.
3. The summer assignments are mandatory and failure to complete them will result in a grade of zero which will have a significant impact on your first quarter grade. Give yourself at least three or four weeks to read and complete the assignments-budget your time wisely keeping in mind the closer to August the calendar turns, the more quickly time will go!

Part I:

1. I am giving you a series of questions that need to be answered in complete sentences; some will have quick answers, others you will need to write a longer explanation. Please skip lines in between each answer; there is NO need to rewrite the questions, only the answers!
2. The questions are based on material that I would like for you to be familiar with, from an earlier time frame from what we study in this course, in order for you to better understand the continuity of history and connect the cause and effects of historical events. Some events we will reference directly and others are to help with the broader understanding of European history and this course.
3. You may use whatever resources you feel comfortable with but please remember, not everything on the internet is true so please stick to reputable sites such as BBC, Internet Medieval Sourcebook, Decameron Web (Brown University) and Labyrinth (Georgetown University). Also don't forget about books in the public library-still an excellent source!!
4. Your answers **MUST BE HANDWRITTEN!!!** I need to be sure you are not just copying and pasting from a web site. Also I would like a citation page in MLA format (look online if you need a reminder how to do this or ask me for examples before the school year ends) which may be handwritten or typed.
5. Many of these are multiple questions written within the same number, so make sure you answer ALL parts of the question. Your textbook is set up in this manner, so you need to get used to answering multiple parts of a question.
6. You may turn your assignment into my mailbox in the office any time the office is open in the summer, turn in when schedules are passed out, or turn it in on the first day of school.

You will also need to purchase *Cracking the AP European History Exam* by Princeton Review, 2021 edition (usually comes out in July) to have with you the first week of class.

Part II:

You will need to complete the physical map of Europe so you know of the places we will be discussing throughout the year. There is a separate page to print for the map-**if you are unable to print off this page, please let me know so we can make other arrangements to get you a copy.** You need to have an awareness of where countries are located today although during the course of the year, we will fill out maps for different times in history since political boundaries are very fluid. Please use a pen to fill out the following and double check your spelling since it is part of the grade. Geography plays a very big and important role in the development of Europe as it is today, so it imperative you know the following items:

Rivers and Water

Adriatic Sea
Aegean Sea
Atlantic Ocean
Baltic Sea
Danube River
Bay of Biscay
Black Sea
Bosphorus Strait
Caspian Sea
Elbe River
English Channel
Irish Sea
Mediterranean Sea
North Sea
Po River
Rhine River
Seine River
Strait of Gibraltar
Thames River
Volga River
Dnieper River

Physical Features

The Alps
Asia Minor
Balkan Peninsula
Carpathian Mountains
Caucasus Mountains
Crimean Peninsula
Great Britain
Iberian Peninsula
Ireland
Jutland Peninsula
North European Plain
Pyrenees
Scandinavia
Ural Mountains

Islands:

Corsica
Crete
Cyprus
Sardinia
Sicily

Questions to answer:

1. Why didn't the Romans rule Germania north of the Danube River-did they ever try and what happened as a result?
2. Why didn't Rome rule Ireland and northern Britain? What happened to the British Isles after Rome left in the 4th century AD?
3. When and why was Christianity accepted as the faith of the Roman Empire? What effect did this have on the empire?
4. After the fall of Rome in AD 476, who came to be the rulers of western Europe?
5. How and why did the Byzantine Empire (Eastern Roman Empire) thrive after the fall of Western Rome? What legal significance did the Byzantine Empire leave Europe?
6. The Dark Ages (AD 500-1000) are considered a time of paradoxes-Give three examples explaining how this was "a time of endings and forgettings" and then give three examples of some major advancements made during this time.
7. Who is Charles Martel and why is the Battle of Tours (AD 793) important?
8. How did William the Conqueror become the king of England? What did the Normans contribute to England that changed its government and society as compared to the governments on the continent?
9. The Roman Catholic Church dominated all aspects of medieval society-how did the hierarchy of the church and its power enable it to become so powerful? (Start at the top and touch on all those below him as well).
10. Why did Pope Urban II call for a Crusade in 1095? Was it successful? How about the Crusades that followed?
11. What overall effect did the Crusades have on
 - a. The relationship between Eastern and Western Christendom?
 - b. The European economy?
 - c. European society overall?
12. How and why was feudalism established as a system of government in Europe?
13. What was the established system of hierarchy in feudalism?
14. Plato and Aristotle are both ancient Greek philosophers that medieval scholars studied-why did they study them, what were their conclusions on their beliefs and how did they incorporate their writings into their own?
15. The term "bourgeois or burgher" first appeared in the eleventh century as a description of townspeople-how and why did their role start in European society and what was its impact on society?
16. What was the Magna Carta and what are the circumstances surrounding its existence?
17. How did Kievan Rus develop in the 9th century and in what ways was it influenced by the Byzantine Empire instead of Western Europe?
18. What was the issue between Henry IV, Holy Roman Emperor and Pope Gregory VII in the eleventh century, how was it finally resolved and what was its effect on the region?
19. What was the relationship most Europeans had with minorities, especially Muslims and Jews? Make sure you write about different countries from Europe, not just one or two.
20. What was medieval art like at this time? What types of artwork were popular, what subject matter and how were artists perceived at this time?