

READINESS PROFILE & COURSE EXPECTATIONS

AP World History

COURSE DESCRIPTION

AP World History develops greater understanding of the evolution of global processes and contacts, in interaction with different types of human societies. This understanding is advanced through a combination of selective factual knowledge and appropriate analytical skills. The course highlights the nature of changes in international frameworks and their causes and consequences, as well as comparisons among major societies. The course builds on an understanding of cultural, institutional, and technological precedents that, along with geography, set the human stage. The AP World History course analyzes the processes that, over time, have resulted in the knitting of the world into a tightly integrated whole. Only seniors may take this class for which they will G or elective credit for the UC and the CSU systems.

COURSE CONTENT AND EXPECTATIONS

1. Interaction between humans and the environment
 - Demography and disease
 - Migration
 - Patterns of settlement
 - Technology
2. Development and interaction of cultures
 - Religions
 - Belief systems, philosophies, and ideologies
 - Science and technology
 - The arts and architecture
3. State-building, expansion, and conflict
 - Political structures and forms of governance
 - Empires
 - Nations and nationalism
 - Revolts and revolutions
 - Regional, transregional, and global structures and organizations
4. Creation, expansion, and interaction of economic systems
 - Agricultural and pastoral production
 - Trade and commerce
 - Labor systems
 - Industrialization
 - Capitalism and socialism
5. Development and transformation of social structures
 - Gender roles and relations
 - Family and kinship
 - Racial and ethnic constructions
 - Social and economic classes

Please see syllabus for additional course rules and information

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MAJOR UNITS OF STUDY

1. Analyze the dynamics of change and continuity, and the causes and processes involved in those changes, across the world history periods covered in this course.
8000 B.C.E. – 600 C.E.
1450 E. – 1450
1450 – 1750
1750 – 1914
1914 – the present
2. Identify patterns and effects of interaction among societies and regions: trade, war, diplomacy, and international organizations.
3. Discuss the effects of technology, economics, and demography on people and the environment (population growth and decline, disease, labor systems, manufacturing, migrations, agriculture, weaponry).
4. Describe systems of social structure and gender structure (comparing major features within and among societies, and assessing change and continuity).
5. Evaluate cultural, intellectual, and religious developments, including interactions among and within societies.
6. Explore changes in functions and structures of states and in attitudes toward states and political identities (political culture), including the emergence of the nation-state (types of political organization).

STUDENT BACKGROUND

No prerequisites are required for this class. Having taken AP European History or AP U.S. History will help considerably, though. Students must be willing to work independently.

WORKLOAD EXPECTATIONS

Expectations: Most student homework consists of reading. The time necessary may vary based on the student's reading skills, but most spend about two hours a week. In addition, students will write analytical essays and document-based essays.

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