

AP World History

Course Design: The AP World History course is an academic, year- long course with an emphasis on non-Western history. The course relies heavily on college-level texts, primary source documents, and outside readings. A special emphasis will be given to historical writing through essay and document based questions (DBQ).

Course Themes:

1. Interaction between humans and the environment
 - Demography and disease
 - Migration
 - Patterns and 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

Units

Unit 1- Technological and Environmental Transformations, to c. 600 BCE

Unit 2: Organization and Reorganization of Human Societies, 600 BCE to 600 CE

Unit 3 - Regional and Trans-Regional Interactions, 600 CE – 1450 CE

Unit 4 - Global Interactions, 1450 CE -1750 CE

Unit 5 – Industrialization and Global Integration, 1750 CE - 1914 CE

Unit 6 – Accelerating Global Change and Realignments, 1900 CE – Present

Skills Building Throughout Course:

- Thesis construction
- Document deconstruction including identification of point of view
- Application of AP World History themes to compare/contrast societies
- Timeline development to identify continuities and changes over time by AP World History themes
- Application of AP rubrics to completed essays
- Chart and graph analysis techniques
- Reading for understanding – techniques for taking notes
- Conduct seminars and debates to analyze and evaluate primary source documents
- Create document based questions by compiling segments from primary source documents
- Thematic map analysis

Assessments:

- Weekly – map recognition, identification of terms, periodization (chronology), primary source analysis relating to textbook readings
- Weekly – free response practice activities including thesis development, essay outlines, analytical questions
- For each of 6 units – completion grade for review guide
- For each of 6 (units 1 and 2 combined) units – 70 multiple choice questions, 2 or 3 free response or DBQ essays written under timed conditions during class
- Mid-term exam – multiple choice questions, components of free response
- Course final