

## **Grade 12 (A.P. European History) Curriculum Overview**

### **Description (including primary objectives and outcomes):**

The purpose of this course is to improve students' understanding of major themes in European History from the early Renaissance to modern times. The AP curriculum develops the reading, writing, critical thinking and speaking skills of the students. At the completion of the course students will have developed a better concept of the working world.

The advanced Placement Course in European History is a full-year course which is designed to provide students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in European History. The program, which covers the period of the high Renaissance (1450) to the present, prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands on them equivalent to those of full-year introductory college courses. Students should learn to assess historical materials-their relevance to a given interpretive problem, their reliability, and their importance-and to weigh the evidence and interpretations presented in historical scholarship. This course should develop the skills necessary to arrive at conclusions on the basis of informed judgment and to present reasons and evidence clearly and persuasively in essay format. Significant emphasis is given to questions in intellectual, cultural, social-economic history, as well as to those in the more traditional political-diplomatic sphere.

### **Learning Experiences:**

Students will understand key elements of European History in relation to the PRIMES (Politics, Religion, Intellectual, Military, Economics & Society)

Students will use a variety of texts to examine key events in European History

Students will examine and understand the nature of primary source documents with regards to the author's Point of View (who wrote it, why did they write it, etc.)

Students will appreciate reoccurring themes in the study of European History

Student will examine the nature of power and how it impacts history

### **Content Outline:**

Unit 1 The Renaissance

Unit 2 Age of Exploration  
Unit 3 Age of Absolutism  
Unit 4 Age of Empires  
Unit 5 The Struggle for Colonial Empires  
Unit 6 Age of Science and Enlightenment  
Unit 7 The French Revolution and Napoleon  
Unit 8 Reaction and Power  
Unit 9 Revolution and Order  
Unit 10 Consolidation of Large Nation States  
Unit 11 Europe Before WWI  
Unit 12 Imperialism and Colonialism  
Unit 13 WWI  
Unit 14 The Russian Revolution and Soviet Union  
Unit 15 The Versailles Treaty  
Unit 16 Background of WWII  
Unit 17 WWII  
Unit 18 Post-War Era: Age of Superpowers  
Unit 19 Empires into Nations

**Resources Used:**

*A History of the Modern World 8th Edition* (Palmer & Colton)

*Western Civilization: Images and Interpretations* (Sherman)

Internet pages, newspaper & magazine articles

AP European History Workbooks- The Center for Learning

As of (3/20/12)