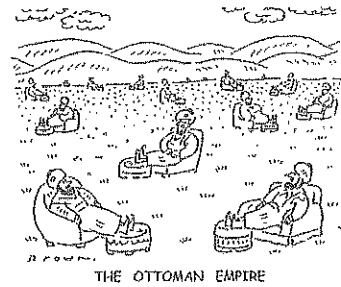


**AP European History**  
**Course Description**

*Everything you wanted to know about European History*  
*or*  
*Is it too late to change my schedule?*



Please check the following list-

- I am taking AP because my parents want me to.
- I am taking AP because it has weighted grades and I can build up my GPA.
- I hate history but I heard this class can get you easy college credits.
- I am taking AP because all of my friends are in it.
- I am taking AP because it looks good on your college resume.
- I am taking AP because I only have four other honors courses and I need to take a full load.

If these are the ONLY reasons you are here... then you may want to reconsider. If you are only in it for “easy credits”, for someone else, or for the “reputation” of an honors course, it is going to be a long year. I would suggest having a little conference with me about your future in this course. If some of these sound a little familiar... but you also like history a bit and are interested in the challenge of a college course... then please read on!

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AP European History is a course designed to give the opportunity to earn college credit while you are still in high school. The course is taught in such a way to prepare you for the national AP exam given each May. For the most part, this course is taught much like courses required of college freshmen or sophomores. As a result, it will be different from the courses with which you have become familiar in the past. It is this difference that gives an AP course its credibility.

Expect homework every night. If you do not have a written or reading assignment to complete, you are expected to review the material covered in class. Only by heeding such instructions can you expect to succeed in an AP history class. Even then, an ‘A’ may not prove attainable. If you have doubts about your abilities, speak to me. In either case, you will receive an honest evaluation.

1. Overview: Please do not expect the stereotypical high school history class routines of worksheets, film festivals, group work, and projects. This is a content course: there are masses of material for which you will be responsible and must be able to interpret, analyze, and use - not just memorize.
2. Notes: Note-taking is your responsibility. Use whatever style you prefer, but stress details and factual support. Use unit outlines for your organization.
3. Primary Text: Your text, McKay's A History of Western Society, 11<sup>th</sup> ed., is an excellent text used by many colleges and AP classes. The text covers political, diplomatic, and intellectual history very well. It also covers cultural and social history, but not as thoroughly as the other themes. We will supplement the weaker areas of the text with outside sources. You are required to bring the text to class daily.
4. Other Readings: You will want to buy a three ring binder (at least one inch rings) to hold supplemental materials. There is a lot of information covered in this class and much of it will be derived from outside sources and primary documents. Bring this folder to class daily.
5. Assignments: Daily assignments will not be given. This is one of those situations where your maturity and time-management skills will be important. Your reading assignments will be pre-assigned. When you read this material is your choice: a) read in advance to keep up with class discussions, or b) cram the night before a test – it is your neck and your grade. I will not harass you on this point, but don't complain when there is material on a test that only comes from the text that you did not read well enough!
6. Tests: There will be one test per unit. These tests will cover any information related to the current unit as well as information covered in previous units. Tests are all cumulative. Tests may either be multiple choice or essay. They will reflect the type of questions you will have to answer on the national AP exam at the end of the year.

7. Grades: All essays (DBQ's and LEQ's) count almost as much as your tests. Homework, class work, and other various assignments will count far less than tests and essays. Our priority is the ability to succeed on tests and write good essays, not filling out tedious worksheets.

I will not accept late essays without severe penalties (one letter grade per day late). All homework, class work, and assorted assignments that are late will be half credit for one day late and no credit beyond that.

Term Grade				
90-100	=	A	Tests/quizzes	= 50 %
80-89	=	B	Essays	= 40 %
70-79	=	C	Assignments	= 10 %
65-69	=	D		
0-64	=	F		

FINAL GRADE

Term Grade = 80 %

Final Exam Grade = 20 %

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This is a BYOT course.

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**"YOUR MOTHER AND I FOUND OUT YOU'VE BEEN BLOGGING.  
WE DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS, BUT WE'D LIKE YOU TO STOP."**

## Course Description

### Content:

Four Time Periods:	Course Themes:
1450-1648 1648-1815 1815-1914 1914-Current	1. Interaction of Europe and the World 2. Poverty and Prosperity 3. Objective Knowledge and Subjective Visions 4. States and Other Institutions of Power 5. Individual and Society

### Skills:

Skill	Historical Skill
1. Chronological Reasoning	1. Historical Causation 2. Patterns of Continuity and Change 3. Periodization
2. Comparison and Contextualization	4. Comparison 5. Contextualization
3. Crafting Historical Arguments from Historical Evidence	6. Historical Argumentation 7. Appropriate Use of Relevant Historical Evidence
4. Historical Interpretation and Synthesis	8. Interpretation 9. Synthesis

### AP Exam Format:

Multiple Choice 40%	Short Answer 20%	Document Based 25%	Long Essay 15%
55 Questions	4 Questions with multiple parts	1 Question	Choice 1 out of 2
55 Minutes	50 Minutes	55 Minutes inc 15 min reading	35 Minutes
Stimulus based sets of questions (2 – 5 per stimulus)	2 Stimulus Based 1 (min) Secondary Source	5 – 7 Documents	Standard Essay
Historical Thinking Skills (Causation and Contextualization)	Broad Processes and Connections	Document Analysis (HIPPO)	Historical Thinking Skills Both choices will assess the same skill