

Dear AP European History Student:

Welcome into the world of Advanced Placement History, a fascinating, exciting and challenging study of the events and individuals who have shaped our world since 1450. For better and worse, Europe has been a driving force in the world for the last 500 years. Many of the most dominant ideas in the world today [democracy, industrialism, capitalism, communism, the scientific method] have their origin in modern Europe. The world is changing. By being informed, AP European History will empower you to impact that change.

The study of the past to better understand the present and prepare oneself for the future is one definition of history that we find acceptable. I challenge you to reach back into your past (brief, I know) and examine why you presently find yourself enrolled in AP European History. Obviously, you have an interest in history, and my job will be to sharpen your skills as a historian and raise that interest level! I guarantee you that if you are willing to work hard and put forth a sincere effort, you will have fun while learning in my class.

Although AP European History courses are generally designed to prepare students for the AP European History examination given every May, I will approach and present the subject to my students based on their specific goals (to pass the AP exam with a specific score, to pass the AP exam or to pass their first AP class.) Students need to be aware that actual credit and placement awarded for their AP work is determined by individual colleges, not by the College Board. Now that writing has become an integral part of the ACT, AP European history students are in an ideal course to help prepare them for the ACT. Congratulations on your choice to join my class, and I want each student to know that I am very proud of your academic development here at PCHS.

AP European History covers an extensive curriculum at an accelerated pace and provides a wonderful and challenging opportunity for great success. Therefore, students enrolled in this class will be required to complete summer assignments. There are 3 parts to your summer work that will help us to get prepared for the start of the school year in August. The first part is to read the quintessential work on European politics- "*The Prince*." I have included reflective questions that will be due on the first day of school. Part two will be to acquire our textbook (from Ms Barlow in the dean's office) "*Western Civilization: Since 1300*" by Jackson Spielvogel 8th edition. You will need to read the introduction and Chapter 11 while taking notes. Part three will be to prepare for a 50-question geography test over modern European nations. You will be given the test at the end of the first week and must reach a 90% (45/50) to get credit. You will have three opportunities to pass this test with a 90% and if you are unable to do so it will count as a zero. Be prepared for this test!

Finally, my website is a resource for you to use. I have taken great time to stock it with helpful information for the summer work and each chapter we cover. Again a reminder this work is due **the first day of school**. I will check my email throughout the summer, so if you have any questions regarding this assignment (or any questions about this year), please email me at Eric.portwood@yourcharlotteschools.net or visit our class page online: www.MrPortwood.com

Have a wonderful summer break!
Sincerely,

Mr Eric Portwood
Instructor- Advanced Placement European History

AP Euro Summer work

Part I- *The Prince* + reflection questions

Part II- Intro & Ch 11 from *Western Civ* textbook + outline notes in your binder

Part III- Prepare for the Geography of Europe Test

For more help on your summer work, building your binder or further information about AP Euro visit our class website at: www.mrportwood.com

Part I- You will read *The Prince* by Niccoli Machiavelli (123 pages; aprox. 4 hours)

As part of the AP European curriculum students are expected to read at least two "outside" reading books to supplement their text. The Prince, written in the 15th century, establishes the "guidelines" for being a great monarch. This book becomes the focus of class discussion throughout the course when students are studying the politics of European History.

The Prince, written by Niccolo Machiavelli, is one of the most influential works on political power in Western Civilization. Machiavelli's early career as a diplomat (officially the Secretary of the Second Chancery) for the powerful Republic of Florence from 1498-1512 during the politically volatile era of the Italian Renaissance allowed him to examine firsthand the multitudes of leadership styles and qualities in his dealings with the Sforzas in Milan, the Borgias in Rome, the Trastámaras of Aragon (Spain), and the Valois in France. In 1513, the republican government in Florence was overthrown by the powerful Medici family, namely Lorenzo de Medici (the Magnificent). After taking princely control of Florence, Lorenzo promptly fired Machiavelli, who after a brief imprisonment (and brutal torture), retired to his estate where he devoted the rest of his life to writing. Although his writings vary from satiric plays (The Mandrake) to poetry, his most lasting contribution to history would be his political essays and tracts, especially The Prince.

Directions: The Prince is not exactly an obscure work, so it should be relatively easy to find. My advice would be to go to MrPortwood.com and purchase **the translated version a linked there. It is by Tim Parks.** With the majority of the paperback copies of the work found, The Prince is generally joined by several essays by Machiavelli—these will not be required for the assignment. Answer the following questions in as much detail as possible (and please no typed work and of course, in complete sentences). Responses should be well organized and your analysis should use evidence from the book. This will be due **the first day of school.** I will check my email throughout the summer, so if you have any questions regarding this assignment (or any questions about this year), please email me at Eric.portwood@yourcharlotteschools.net

The Prince questions need to have a Claim, Evidence and Argument for each answer.

1. Describe Machiavelli's life and the political climate in Italy while this book was being written.
2. Identify and discuss three major themes in The Prince (look at chapter titles).
3. What were the five "errors" committed by Louis XII of France described by Machiavelli in Chapters 3? How did the ancient Romans and Alexander the Great avoid some of these mistakes?
4. Explain why Machiavelli, in Chapter 5, insists so much on destruction.
5. In Chapters 6 and 7 which vices are considered useful and advisable? Why does Machiavelli recommend them?
6. Describe Francisco Sforza and Cesare Borgia, as they are discussed in Chapter 7. Why does Machiavelli dedicate almost the entirety of the chapter to Cesare Borgia?
7. Describe the role of armies according to Machiavelli in Chapters 12-14. Pay specific attention to why they must be strong, different types of troops and the value of them, and military duty of the prince.
8. What does Machiavelli say in regards to a prince being either feared or loved? Which, in Machiavelli's opinion, is more important? Is it possible for a ruler to be both? Explain.
9. In regards to the concept of a ruler being feared and loved, explain Machiavelli's discussion of the Carthaginian General Hannibal of the Roman General Scipio Africanus.
10. What is the significance of the Myth of Chiron in Chapter 18? What are the qualities symbolized by the fox and the lion?
11. What is the course a prince should follow in choosing his advisors? What is the best method in recognizing a good minister?
12. Discuss Machiavelli's views on religion.

Part II- For the next part, you will have to get the current AP European History textbook from the Ms Barlow in the Dean's Office (Western Civilization, by Jackson Spielvogel, 8th edition). Read the following sections from the textbook. As you are reading these sections, you will need to build your binder and begin a chapter of notes in outline form. Your **three-ring binder** that will contain all of your notes, handouts, primary sources and essays. This binder must be organized chronologically so **dividers** will be used to separate each chapter. For more information on building your binder, please see my website.

1. "Introduction to Students of Western Civilization" and "Western Civilization to 1300" on pages xxi (21)-xxvi (26)
2. Chapter 11: "The Latter Middle Ages: Crisis and Disintegration in the Fourteenth Century"

Part III- Part three will be to prepare for a 50-question geography test over modern European nations. You will be given the test at the end of the first week and must reach a 90% (45/50) to get credit. You will have three opportunities to pass this test with a 90% and if you are unable to do so it will count as a zero. On a blank map you must label these 50 European nations. **I have posted practice tests that you can print from my website** or use online quizzes to prepare. Be prepared for this test!

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|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Albania | 18. Germany | 35. Norway |
| 2. Andorra | 19. Greece | 36. Poland |
| 3. Armenia | 20. Hungary | 37. Portugal |
| 4. Austria | 21. Iceland | 38. Romania |
| 5. Azerbaijan | 22. Ireland | 39. Russia |
| 6. Belarus | 23. Italy | 40. San Marino |
| 7. Belgium | 24. Kazakhstan | 41. Serbia |
| 8. Bosnia-Herzegovina | 25. Latvia | 42. Slovakia |
| 9. Bulgaria | 26. Liechtenstein | 43. Slovenia |
| 10. Croatia | 27. Lithuania | 44. Spain |
| 11. Cyprus | 28. Luxembourg | 45. Sweden |
| 12. Czech Republic | 29. Macedonia | 46. Switzerland |
| 13. Denmark | 30. Malta | 47. Turkey |
| 14. Estonia | 31. Moldova | 48. Ukraine |
| 15. Finland | 32. Monaco | 49. United Kingdom |
| 16. France | 33. Montenegro | 50. Vatican City |
| 17. Georgia | 34. Netherlands | |