

AP World History



Contact Information

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About the AP World History Course

AP World History is designed to be the equivalent of a two-semester introductory college or university world history course. In AP World History students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes in six historical periods from approximately 8000 B.C.E. to the present. Students develop and use the same skills, practices, and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; developing historical arguments; making historical comparisons; and utilizing reasoning about contextualization, causation, and continuity and change over time. The course provides five themes that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: interaction between humans and the environment; development and interaction of cultures; state building, expansion, and conflict; creation, expansion, and interaction of economic systems; and development and transformation of social structures.

Prerequisites: None

Cost: There is a \$95 fee to take the test and you will need to buy the Textbook which is \$18.95.

Benefits to taking AP World History: Improve writing and thinking skills. Also, if you score a 3 or above most universities will award college credit.

AP History Disciplinary Practices

Practice 1: Analyzing Historical Evidence	Practice 2: Argument Development
Students will be assessed on their ability to ...	
<p>Primary Sources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe historically relevant information and/or arguments within a source. Explain how a source provides information about the broader historical setting within which it was created. Explain how a source's point of view, purpose, historical situation, and/or audience might affect a source's meaning. Explain the relative historical significance of a source's point of view, purpose, historical situation, and/or audience. Evaluate a source's credibility and/or limitations. <p>Secondary Sources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe the claim or argument of a secondary source, as well as the evidence used. Describe a pattern or trend in quantitative data in non-text-based sources. Explain how a historian's claim or argument is supported with evidence. Explain how a historian's context influences the claim or argument. Analyze patterns and trends in quantitative data in non-text-based sources. Evaluate the effectiveness of a historical claim or argument. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make a historically defensible claim in the form of an evaluative thesis. Support an argument using specific and relevant evidence. Use historical reasoning to explain relationships among pieces of historical evidence. Consider ways that diverse or alternative evidence could be used to qualify or modify an argument.

AP History Reasoning Skills

Skill 1: Contextualization	Skill 2: Comparison	Skill 3: Causation	Skill 4: Continuity and Change over Time
Describe an accurate historical context for a specific historical development or process.	Describe similarities and/or differences between different historical developments or processes.	Describe causes or effects of a specific historical development or process.	Describe patterns of continuity and/or change over time.
Explain how a relevant context influenced a specific historical development or process.	Explain relevant similarities and/or differences between specific historical developments and processes.	Explain the relationship between causes and effects of a specific historical development or process. Explain the difference between primary and secondary causes and between short- and long-term effects.	Explain patterns of continuity and/or change over time.
Use context to explain the relative historical significance of a specific historical development or process.	Explain the relative historical significance of similarities and/or differences between different historical developments or processes.	Explain the relative historical significance of different causes and/or effects.	Explain the relative historical significance of specific historical developments in relation to a larger pattern of continuity and/or change.

II. Thematic Learning Objectives

The thematic learning objectives describe, at a high level, the knowledge colleges expect students to develop in the AP World History course in order to be qualified for credit and placement. In order to help students develop this knowledge, teachers will need to anchor their locally developed AP syllabi in historical content and skills. The learning objectives are grouped into five themes typically included in college-level world history courses:

- Interaction Between Humans and the Environment (ENV)
- Development and Interaction of Cultures (CUL)
- State Building, Expansion, and Conflict (SB)
- Creation, Expansion, and Interaction of Economic Systems (ECON)
- Development and Transformation of Social Structures (SOC)

These themes focus on major historical issues and developments, helping students connect the historical content they study to broad trends and processes that have emerged over centuries. Each theme is presented with its description and a table that outlines the learning objectives for that theme.

The tables of thematic learning objectives serve as an index to the concept outline (contained in Section IV) by indicating where content related to each learning objective can be found in the outline. These tables help to highlight the relationship between specific historical content and broader historical developments.

Historical Periods

The historical periods, from approximately 8000 B.C.E. to the present, provide a temporal framework for the course.

The instructional importance and assessment weighting for each period varies.

Period	Period Title	Date Range	Weight
1	Technological and Environmental Transformations	to c. 600 B.C.E.	5%
2	Organization and Reorganization of Human Societies	c. 600 B.C.E. to c. 600 C.E.	15%
3	Regional and Interregional Interactions	c. 600 C.E. to c. 1450	20%
4	Global Interactions	c. 1450 to c. 1750	20%
5	Industrialization and Global Integration	c. 1750 to c. 1900	20%
6	Accelerating Global Change and Realignments	c. 1900 to the Present	20%