



EAGLE MOUNTAIN SAGINAW ISD

Fostering a Culture of Excellence

Dear Parent or Guardian,

The World History: Modern AP course content is structured around the investigation of six course themes and 19 key concepts in six different chronological periods, from approximately 8000 B.C.E. to the present. The AP World History: Modern course develops students' capacity and ability to think and reason in a deeper, more systematic way, better preparing them for subsequent college courses. This course will use a college-level textbook and supplemental readings, documents, essays, and books on specific topics and themes.

The skills, course themes, periodization, and key concepts follow the AP curriculum framework:

THEME 1: HUMANS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

THEME 2: CULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS AND INTERACTIONS

THEME 3: GOVERNANCE

THEME 4: ECONOMIC SYSTEMS

THEME 5: SOCIAL INTERACTIONS AND ORGANIZATION

THEME 6: TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

The themes and key concepts are intended to provide foundational knowledge for future college-level course work in history. Extra time is required on the part of AP students for class preparation, outside reading, and completion of assignments. AP courses provide students with a learning experience equivalent to that obtained in most college introductory courses. Students who take World History AP are expected to take the Advanced Placement Exam in the spring.

For the 1st 6 weeks grading period, students will be engaged in course work over the following units of study:

Unit 1: Historical Foundations

The Historical Foundations unit primarily focuses on the Agricultural Revolution and the emergence of sedentary civilizations. In addition, an introduction to world belief systems and their role in government. Lastly, the growth of empires like Rome, Han China, and the Abbasids.

Unit 2: The Global Tapestry

State formation and development demonstrated continuity, innovation, and diversity in various regions. As the Abbasid Caliphate fragmented, new Islamic political entities emerged, most of which were dominated by Turkic peoples. Empires and states in Afro-Eurasia and the Americas demonstrated continuity, innovation, and diversity in the 13th century. This included the Song Dynasty of China, which utilized traditional methods of Confucianism and an imperial bureaucracy to maintain and justify its rule. As well as, new Hindu and Buddhist states that emerged in South and Southeast Asia and in the Americas. In Afro-Eurasia, state systems demonstrated continuity, innovation, and diversity, and expanded in scope and reach.

Celebrate Freedom Week (During September)

Student Assessment

Throughout the 1st 6 weeks grading period, student knowledge and understanding will be assessed in a variety of ways, such as:

- Thinking Maps and Graphic Organizers
- Collaborative Small and Large Group Discussions (Paideia, Socratic)
- Document Analysis of Primary and Secondary Sources (Historiography)
- Analysis of Causation and Periodization
- Comparison and Contextualization
- Critical Listening and Note Taking/Summarizing
- Critical Questioning
- Historical Argumentation (as foundation toward DBQ & FRQ Writing Assignments)
- Synthesis and Historical Interpretation (Revisionist History)
- Mental Mapping – geographical awareness
- Formative and Summative Assessments
- Thesis Development
- Short Answer Questions
- Comparative Essays
- Project based research/projects

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns regarding your student. We look forward to working with you and your child to ensure academic success.

Respectfully,

AP World History Teachers