

SACHEM H.S. EAST

2020—2021

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*"Grit is that extra something that separates the most successful people from the rest. It's the passion, perseverance, and stamina that we must channel in order to stick with our dreams until they become a reality."*

# AP World History: MODERN

## Welcome to AP World History: Modern!

This year's course is devoted to the studying of Periodizations V and VI of the curriculum starting in 1750 and continuing up to the current time.

This is an often a fast paced and intense course that will require a **serious commitment** on your part if you are going to meet with success. **There are no shortcuts!**

*Remember, "It's supposed to be hard. If it wasn't hard, everyone would do it. The "hard" is what makes it great!"*



In no particular order, these are the things you can expect to be working on this year to become a more successful AP student (or to continue with the success you have already enjoyed!):

- Becoming a more efficient outliner and notetaker
- Handling sophisticated primary source material—to understand and interpret and to be able to examine for context, point of view, and bias. To understand not only what is being said but why?
- Making comparisons within and among societies—being able to see and understand the “big picture.”
- WRITING! Being able to write clear, coherent, persuasive and analytical essays about historical issues and events.
- Being able to speak publicly. Having an opinion and being able to defend and support it. Being able to debate and converse. It's not always easy, but ... you need to start “being comfortable with being Uncomfortable.”
- Maximizing your score on the AP World History Exam! It would be a shame to have put in two years of time and work for this course and get the best possible score. Remember, for college credit, over the last few years, “4 is the new 3!”

*“Humans are creatures of habit, if you quit when things get tough, it gets that much easier to quit the next time. One the other hand, if you force yourself to push through it, the grit begins to grow in you.”*

## GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION:

- **Materials:** Your textbook should stay home and in a safe place until it is collected in June. A 3-ring binder of some kind will be most helpful for notes and the large number of handouts that there will be throughout the year. With that said, do what works best for you! A Review Book will need to be purchased in the spring.
- **Grading Policy:** Quarter grades are based on the cumulative points that are accrued out of the total possible for that quarter. This allows for maximum flexibility in the value and type of assessments that are assigned. Simple example: 340 total points for the quarter, you earn 318 points, grade equals a 94%
- There are **quarterly assessments** near the end of the 1st and 3rd quarters that will count as 100 point tests for those quarters and a **Midterm exam** near the end of January that will count as 5% of the course grade.
- The **AP Exam** in May does not count as any grade for this course (results not released until early July) but the Regents Exam counts as 15% of your course grade

*"Are the HABITS you have today, on par with the DREAMS you have for tomorrow?"*

## COURSE EXPECTATIONS:

- Be on time and be prepared. Make sure you arrive everyday with homework, readings and/or outlines completed and done well.
  - Take pride in your work! Quality and thoughtfulness is expected.
  - Take responsibility for your own learning. As you already know, the AP World History curriculum is both broad and detailed. This puts an extra burden on you to keep up with the material especially when much of what you are asked to prepared is not going to be graded in the traditional sense. This takes maturity and commitment!
  - TIME MANAGE and STAY ORGANIZED!
  - Missed work must be made up! Although late work will be penalized, it is imperative that you do the assignments. I realize that things come up and sometimes work simply cannot be completed—occasionally this is not a problem—habitually it will be! Be proactive and see me. Let me know that you don't have something or couldn't complete it.
  - Be respectful of other students and their opinions and points of view.
  - Be respectful of the classroom.
  - A word about **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY!** Unfortunately this has become an increasingly growing problem over the last few years. Because of that I have a zero-tolerance policy toward copying and/or plagiarism of any kind. Should this occur both the copier and the copy-ee will receive grades of zero for the assignment in question. Take pride in your own work!
  - A word about , shall we say, **TECHNOLOGY.** I love it, you love it, but it has its place. This is where I am old school. Once you are in the classroom, please no headphones/ear buds, phones, etc.
- CHARACTER:** "What you do or say when no one else is looking."

