

AP World History: Modern

Spring 2024



Mr. Phillips
Spring 2022

Contact Information and Communication Codes

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[AP Classroom](#) codes:

3rd period: J22ZYG

4th period: 3GZ643

Course Overview

AP World History: Modern is a college-level survey of modern world history. It investigates significant events, individuals, developments, and processes from 1200 to the present. The course focuses on cultural developments, political and economic systems, social interactions, technological innovation, and people and their environments.

Students develop and use skills used by historians, analyze sources, build arguments, make connections, and think about continuity and change over time. Students should be able to read a college-level textbook and write grammatically correct, complete sentences.

Course Credit and the AP Exam

In North Carolina, the course credit earned through successful completion of AP World History: Modern is accepted as a substitute for the World History requirement for high school graduation. A student's Quarter 3 (40%), Quarter 4 (40%), and Final Exam (20%) grades are used to calculate the final grade for the course. A student's final grade is the only score that contributes to their overall grade point average and class rank and reported on their permanent transcript which colleges consider for admissions.

This course prepares students to take the national College Board AP World History: Modern exam which will be administered on **Wednesday, May 15, 2024 at 8:00 AM**. AP exams are scored on a scale of 1 to 5. The North Carolina state university system and many other colleges and universities award college credit to students who earn a 3 or better on the exam which allows them to skip taking the equivalent course in college and potentially graduate sooner. A high school student's AP exam score does NOT directly impact their grade for the course, overall grade point average, or class rank.

Goals

1. Learn the basic chronology of major events and trends in modern World History.
2. Construct a mental map of Earth to understand the role of geography in human history.
3. Understand the six principal [themes](#) in modern World History:
 - a. **Geography** – the impact of the physical environment on human societies and of humans on the physical environment
 - b. **Culture** – the development and impact of ideas, beliefs, and religions
 - c. **Commerce** – the production, exchange, and consumption of goods and services
 - d. **Politics** – the formation, expansion, and decline of states and the ways they exercise power
 - e. **Society** – the grouping of individuals in a social order and the interactions between members of these groups
 - f. **Technology** – human innovation for increased efficiency, comfort, and security
4. Analyze and interpret historical evidence to understand the unique perspectives of people in space and time.
5. Develop historical thinking skills:
 - a. Chronological Reasoning – analyzing short- and long-term historical causes and effects and evaluating continuity and change over time
 - b. Comparison and Contextualization – evaluating historical developments within the specific circumstances of time and place and relating them to broader regional, national, or global processes
 - c. Crafting Historical Arguments from Historical Evidence – forming theories supported by relevant evidence, analyzing historical sources, and evaluating historical explanations
 - d. Historical Interpretation – analyzing the context and points of view of historical actors

Units

1. [GLOBAL REGIONS, c. 1200-1450](#)
 - [Asia](#) – Religious Traditions, East Asian Civilizations, Civilizations of Southeast Asia, Oceania, Dar al-Islam, and the Mongol Empire
 - [Africa](#) – African Civilizations
 - [Europe](#) – Judeo-Christian Traditions, Feudal Europe, and Manors & Burghers
 - [The Americas](#) – American Civilizations
 - [Regional Trade](#) – Commercial Innovations, Trade Routes, Mercantile City-States, and Travelers
2. [GLOBAL INTERACTIONS, c. 1450-1750](#)
 - [Discovery](#) – The Renaissance, the Scientific Revolution, the Reformation & European Wars of Religion, Transoceanic Travel, the Portuguese Empire, and Spanish Conquest & Empire
 - [Maritime Empires](#) – Great Britain, the Dutch Republic, Bourbon France, Ming & Qing China, Tokugawa Japan, and African Kingdoms & Diaspora
 - [Land Empires](#) – Gunpowder Empires, the Mughals, the Ottomans, the Safavids, and Russia, Prussia, & Austria
3. [GLOBAL EMPIRES, c. 1750-1900](#)
 - [Revolutions](#) – The Enlightenment, the American Revolution, the French Revolution & Napoleonic Europe, Latin American Revolutions, Nationalism, Political Ideologies, and Reform Movements
 - [Industrialization](#) –The Factory System; the Second Industrial Revolution; Transportation, Communication, and Financial Networks; and Social Class & Labor Movements
 - [Imperialism](#) – The Civilizing Mission; New Imperialism in Africa and Asia; Canadian & American Expansion; Latin American States; Migration; and Modernization in the Late Ottoman Empire, Late Romanov Russia, Late Qing China, & Meiji Japan

4. [GLOBAL CHALLENGES, c. 1900-Today](#)

- [World Wars](#) – The Mexican Revolution, The Great War, Imperial Collapse, Soviet Modernization, The Great Depression, Fascism, The Second World War, and Total War & Genocide
- [Postwar World](#) – The Iron Curtain; East Asia, South Asia, the Middle East, Africa, & Latin America since 1945; the Fall of Communism; the European Union & Russia; the Post-Cold War United States; and Global Separatist Movements
- [Globalization](#) – International Organizations, Global Networks, Modern Food Production and Human Reproduction, Modern Medicine, Energy, and Climate Change

Texts

- We will use [Traditions & Encounters: A Global Perspective on the Past, 6th Ed.](#) and primary source readings.
- Though not required to purchase, you may find supplemental study materials helpful. I recommend:
 - [Barron's AP World History: Modern Comprehensive Review](#)
 - [Barron's AP World History: Modern Flashcards 5th edition](#)
 - [Princeton Review AP World History: Modern Premium Prep 5th edition](#)

Rules and Expectations

1. **Be kind. Act interested. Follow directions.**
2. **Be engaged and participate!** This is an intense college-level course which moves quickly and deeply.
 - a. Adhere to the semester schedule. Do **NOT** fall behind.
 - b. Log into Canvas daily, follow posted directions, and complete posted assignments. Submit work only to Canvas. Assignments that are shared via email or shared through another app will not be accepted.
 - c. Lengthy readings are assigned nightly. Students should read for detail and are expected to arrive at class daily prepared to discuss.
 - d. We have a lot to cover and only enough class time for me to speak directly about a fraction of the curriculum. My job is to lecture on the basic facts to help you develop a mental framework of major historical developments, provide expert insights, direct you to resources for self-study, and coach and advise you on skills of historical analysis and effective writing. To be successful, you will need to be autodidactic (self-taught) in terms of learning the details of history. That can only happen by giving it your time and attention. Take ownership of your learning and plan to commit *at least* 45-60 minutes per night to reading, studying, and completing assignments.

In the beginning, students tend to either devote too little or too much time outside of class to this course. It may take you several weeks to find your groove to balance the demands of AP World History: Modern with your other classes, extracurriculars, work, social life, and other commitments. This is natural and common, especially for 9th graders taking their first AP course. After some trial and error, you will eventually figure out how much time you need to devote to your studies, and you will develop effective and efficient learning strategies.
 - e. Collaborate with classmates when small group work is assigned. This does NOT mean “divide and conquer” assignments. It means help one another learn. Talk with your peers. Discussing material with others helps everyone understand it better.
 - f. Check your WCPSS email daily. Answer messages within 24 hours or less.
3. **Polite, civil behavior** is expected! This includes but is not limited to:
 - a. **Using respectful language.** Profanity, racist, sexist, homophobic, transphobic, nativist, and other offensive or judgmental comments will not be tolerated. Public education is open to all members of the public, and everyone is welcome.
 - b. **Using formal academic English language** when writing, including **proper capitalization, punctuation, and spelling** to ensure your message is communicated effectively.
 - c. **Communicating with me!** Open up and share so we can build a good relationship, and so I am aware of circumstances that may impact your school performance.
4. **Sit only in your assigned seat.**
5. Food and drinks are not permitted. Finish lunch and snacks before entering the classroom.

6. Only one individual may use the restroom at a time.
 - a. Students must scan the posted QR code to sign-out.
 - b. Students must leave their phone in the classroom.
 - c. Students must return, collect their phone, and scan the posted QR code to sign-in.
7. Electronic devices must immediately be put away when the starting bell rings.
 - a. Earbuds and headphones are not permitted. I need to know you can hear me when I speak.
 - b. Electronics are to be used for academic purposes only.
 - c. Electronics will be confiscated if a student is playing games, watching videos, or using a device for any purpose other than schoolwork.

Grading Policies

Grading scale:

- A: 100-90%
- B: 89-80%
- C: 79-70%
- D: 69-60%
- F: 59-0%

Quarterly Grades:

- Exams – 50%
- Quizzes – 20%
- Essays – 15%
- Classwork – 15%

Course Grade:

- Quarter 1 – 40%
- Quarter 2 – 40%
- Final Exam – 20%

Assignments and Tests

1. Assignment submissions are timestamped digitally. All assignments are due by 11:59 PM on the due date. Work submitted past midnight is late. Late assignments are accepted for a maximum of 60% credit until the final day of each unit.
2. Be aware that I only grade late work after we complete each of the four time periods. Therefore, if you submit something late after I've already graded that assignment and have input a zero in PowerSchool and marked it missing, it could be a few weeks before I grade it, but I will get to it before progress reports and report cards go home. If you don't want to have zeroes in the gradebook pulling your grade down in the meantime, simply submit your work on time.
3. Typed assignments must conform to MLA standards: [MLA paper format](#), [MLA formatted essay example](#), and [Microsoft Word directions MLA for formatting](#).
4. Students with a score of 84% or below on a test may retest one time for a maximum test score of 85%.
5. Extra credit will not be offered.

Advice from past students

- "It's the first day of class and as Mr. Phillips talks about the class and past students' advice, you're feeling super anxious and like you just made a huge mistake. That's how I felt on the first day and I believe it's important to remember that you are capable and feeling overwhelmed is literally how everyone else is feeling. So take a deep breath and listen to this very useful advice that I wish I'd known when I started:
 - THE READING IS IMPORTANT!! So please do it if you want a decent grade. While you're reading, I would recommend not taking notes, but instead writing your future self questions that you can look over and answer to help review.
 - For map quizzes, print out a couple blank maps you can practice labeling.
 - The tests are really hard, but you can always retake to get an 85%, so don't freak out if you get a super low score. Be sure to review the past tests so you can learn from them.
 - BE FRIENDLY with other people and help each other out since it's probably most people's first AP class. Because of this class I've made friends with similar experiences and even met my best friend."
- "Make sure you read."
- "Read the whole textbook."
- "Use his website! It helps a lot."

- “Make sure you are studying the material and try to purchase one of the help books on Mr. Phillips’ website because they are a good review of the material and have good practice tests and questions.”
- “Doing well on your vocab quizzes is important. Use the sources he gives you because they usually have the exact information you’re looking for. Become friends with your classmates.”

Past students on procrastination

- “Stay focused, work hard, don’t procrastinate, and have fun!”
- “Procrastination might have worked in the past for you, it won’t now.”
- “Just be ready for the course to move quickly, and don’t procrastinate.”
- “Be wise with your time so you don’t fall behind because it sucks to try and get caught up again.”
- “Do NOT get behind on your vocab and assignments. Once you get behind it will be like a wave of work falling on top of you. If you stay caught up then you will be fine.”
- “Try to keep up with the work the best you can and start practicing for the exam at least a week in advance.”
- “Turn your work in on time, do not procrastinate because the works adds up quickly, and go over the vocabulary at least once.”
- “Make the time to finish the work. The work is in depth so putting it off to the last minute is not a good idea.”

Things I Wish I Knew Freshman Year

- “Bad influences are everywhere and it’s very easy to get distracted in high school. Stay away from drugs (including alcohol, nicotine, etc.), people who don’t have your best interests at heart, and focus on what you came to school for – an education!”
- “Join or find as many extracurricular activities as possible! Community service clubs and clubs where you hold a leadership position look amazing to colleges. However, make sure you find activities you actually enjoy!”
- “Get used to failure and rejection. From romantic relationships to applying for jobs and to college, rejection/failure is inevitable and the sooner you get used to it the better. The key to overcoming any obstacle is learning from your mistakes and growing from them.”
- “Find and develop a good support system. High school and being a teenager in general can be hard and it’s important to have people you can confide in. For the sake of your mental health, put yourself out there and make some friends!”
- “It’s ok to be yourself. Any mistakes you make or embarrassing moments you have will be forgotten about the next day.”
- “Be nice to others. It’s not cool to make fun of other students, especially considering you never know what’s happening behind the scenes. Sit with the lonely kid at lunch, go out of your way to talk to the more antisocial people, and be there for others. Good karma is a thing!”
- “HAVE FUN! Make friends, go out, and don’t take life too seriously.”

WCPSS Honor Code Policy

Honor Code Policy (4310) states: “Academic honesty is essential to excellence in education and is directly related to the Board’s educational objectives for students to promote integrity and self-discipline in students. As all schoolwork is a measure of student performance, academic honesty facilitates an accurate measurement of student learning.

Each student, parent, family and staff member has a responsibility to promote a culture that respects and fosters integrity and honesty. Academic integrity and honesty requires that all stakeholders share responsibility in the fulfillment of this policy.

In fulfilling these responsibilities:

- students will collaborate with their peers to foster a culture of academic integrity; refrain from participating, either directly or indirectly, in any form of cheating or plagiarism; and adhere to the honor code;
- parents and family will actively support the honor code by encouraging their child(ren) to foster and uphold a culture of academic integrity;
- staff will establish and annually teach expectations regarding academic integrity and honesty; and promote the honor code.