

AP World History
Summer Assignment
2022/2023 Academic Year



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Welcome to AP World History! This is a rigorous, college-level course designed to explore human history from 1200 C.E. to the present. The course is broken up into four time periods with a focus on examining six themes central to the development of the modern world. There will be an emphasis on the analytical and writing skills necessary for success at the collegiate level. The course devotes considerable time to the critical evaluation of primary and secondary sources, analysis of historiography (the principles, theories, or methodology of scholarly historical research and presentation) and inquiry into global connections that have shaped our present world.

As this course covers a substantial amount of historical material spanning almost a millennium (accompanied by many themes and concepts), it is imperative that we hit the ground running in September. As such, the following assignments are designed to ensure that you are familiar with both the rigor and pace of the course.

So, what are the assignments? You will complete two parts in which you will read key books concerning the development and understanding of World History. Each part comprises essays relating to both the required books.

These assignments must be completed by the deadline listed below and submitted via email to me (plawlor@cbury.org). Once they are completed, we will begin with the Renaissance period and drive forward thereafter.

Final checklist before day 1:

Here is a checklist for the first day of the semester:

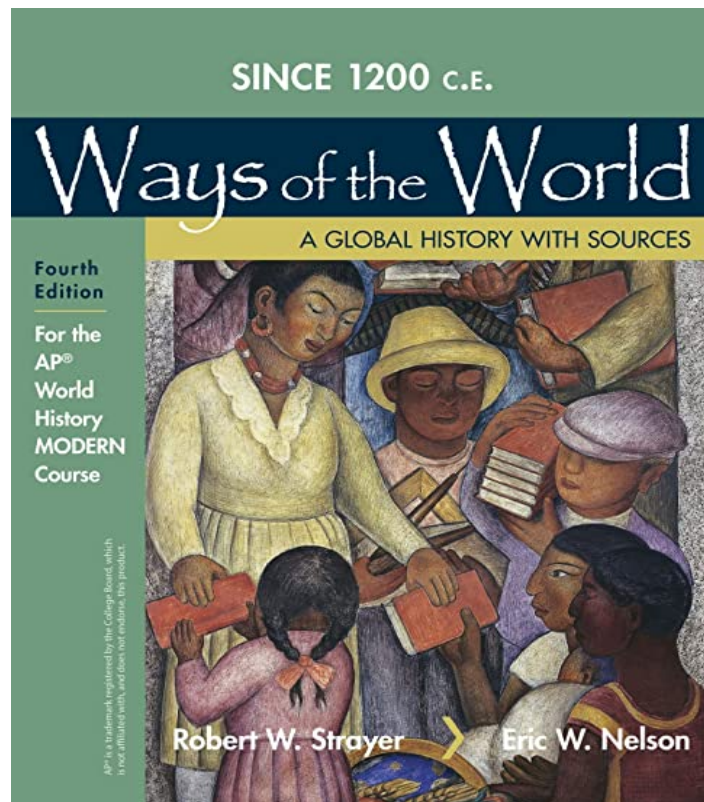
- Purchase our textbook: [Robert Strayer and Eric Nelson, *Ways of the World: A Global History with Sources: 4th edition, for the AP World History MODERN course \(SINCE 1200 C.E.\)* Bedford, Freeman & Worth, 2020. ISBN: 978-1-319-23657-1.](#)
- Complete Summer Assignment Part 1, **DEADLINE: July 15th, 2022**
- Complete Summer Assignment Part 2, **DEADLINE: September 7th, 2022**
- Breathe! - see you soon!

Do not hesitate to reach out via email if you have any questions as you work through this Summer Assignment. Go n-éiri leat!

- Dr. Lawlor

PART I: Course Textbook

Robert W. Strayer and Eric W. Nelson, *Ways of the World: A Global History with Sources: 4th edition, for the AP World History Modern Course (Since 1200 C.E.)*. Bedford, Freeman & Worth, 2020. ISBN: 978-1-319-23657-1.



You may obtain a digital version of this textbook by purchasing **Launchpad for Ways of the World**. The ISBN for the 1 use LaunchPad is 9781319282554 "1200 Update LaunchPad for Ways of the World with Sources for the AP® Modern Course (One-Use Online)"

If you do choose to purchase and use Launchpad, you will need to access the course through the following link:

To enroll, please go to:

<https://www.highschool.bfwpub.com/launchpad/strayermodern4e/19427323>

Assignment:

Guidelines: You will be required to read different chapters from the “Ways of the World: A Global History with Sources” text and provide a follow up essay (3 total) based on a selected topic.

Format: All of your essays must feature an introduction with a strong thesis statement followed by at least four paragraphs that contain numerous facts and details that support your thesis statement. Your essays should be at least two pages in length, double-spaced with 12-point font. You must type your essays.

Essay 1

- ❑ Read pp.12-40 from Chapter 1, **Before 1200: Patterns in World History**. Write an essay that answers the following question:

Why have human cultural traditions, such as religions, generally outlasted the political systems in which they were born? (BIG PICTURE QUESTION on p.41). Please provide specific examples from the different religions and cultural traditions discussed in this chapter.

Essay 2

- ❑ Read chapter 2, **Varieties of Civilizations: Eurasia and the Americas, 1200-1450**. Write an essay that answers the following question:

What similarities and differences can you identify between the civilizations examined in this chapter? (BIG PICTURE QUESTION on p.94).

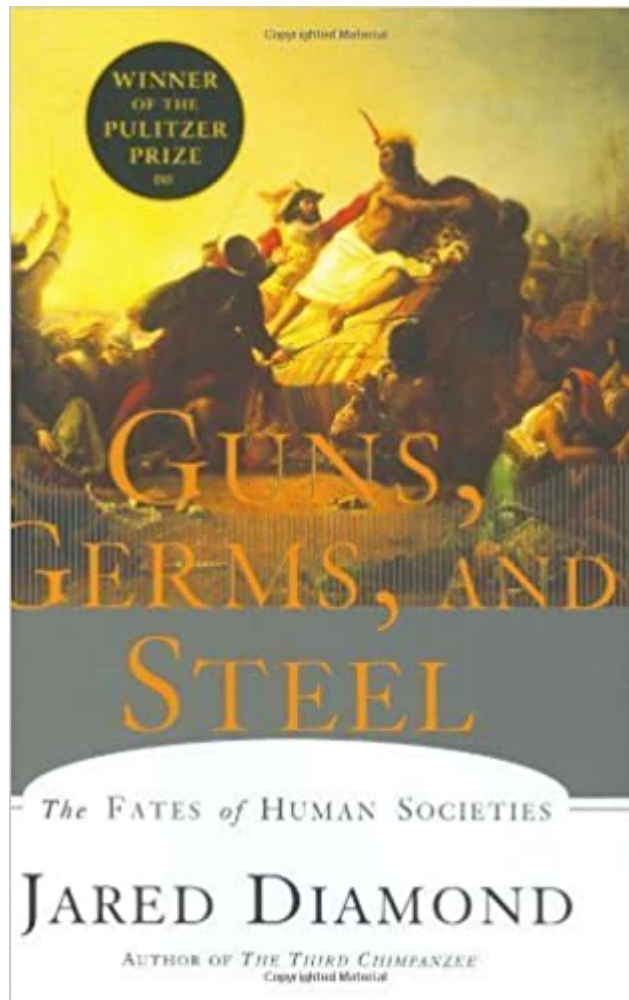
Essay 3

- ❑ Read chapter 3, **Connections and Interactions, 1200-1450** and complete an essay that answers the following question:

What motivated and sustained the long-distance commerce of the Silk Roads, Sea Roads and Sand Roads? (BIG PICTURE QUESTION ON p. 138).

PART II

Read: [Jared Diamond's *Guns, Germs and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies*](#).



Response Question

After reading the book, write a double-spaced response in which you discuss how guns, germs, and steel changed human history. Your response should be at least three pages in length (12-point font, double spaced) and should answer the following question:

- In your opinion, which of these three (guns, germs, and steel) had the greatest influence on the course of human history? WHY? You must support your answer with details from the book.*

-End-