

AP European History
Summer Assignments
Mr. Spencer

Dear students, I hope you are having and or have had a wonderful summer. Please read these instructions carefully. We will discuss these assignments in our first classes of the year.

1. Download and review the [AP European Course description](#). Pay particular attention to the curricular objectives, course content pages and the themes.(pages 20-35) We will discuss these when we return.
2. Reading Assignment #1:[Platonism and Its relations with Humanism and Scholasticism, Paul Oskar Kristellar](#). Be sure to read this article and be prepared to respond to a prompt in class.
3. Reading Assignment #2:[The Cave and the Light, Plato vs. Aristotle and the Struggle for the Soul of Western Civilization, Arthur Herman](#). Read the Prologue, pages xvii -xxiii and answer the following questions. **These are due our first class.**
 - a. Compare and contrast the World views of Plato and Aristotle presented by the author. Cite specific examples in the text. Be sure to use relevant page numbers.
 - b. Provide a contemporary example which supports the Platonic vs. the Aristotelian worldview as presented by the author. Cite any outside sources used for your examples.
 - c. According to the author, how has the struggle between Plato and Aristotle formed Western Civilization?