

AP World History  
Mr. Caltagirone  
Room 2620  
2021-22

Welcome to AP World History. This class will not only acquaint you with the trends, similarities, and differences concerning 10,000 years of world history, but this class will also help improve your academic skills. This combination of class content and skills will culminate in your taking the AP World History exam at the end of the school year and this class is designed to prepare you for that exam.

This course is organized by chronological units, but should be thought of in three different ways:

### **Chronological Units: Historical Periods and Specific Content**

Pre-Unit: Origins: The World up to 1200

1. The Global Tapestry and Exchange: 1200 -1450
2. Empires and Transoceanic Interconnections: 1450 - 1750
3. Revolution and Industrialization: 1750 - 1900
4. Modernity: 1900 - Present

### **Course Themes: Big Picture Ideas**

1. Social Interaction and Organization (**S**ocial)
2. Governance (**P**olitical)
3. Humans and the Environment (Interaction with Environment)
4. Cultural Development and Interaction (**C**ulture)
5. Creation, Expansion, and Interaction of Economic Systems (**E**conomic)
6. Technology and Innovation (**T**ech)

### **Historical Thinking Skills: Ways of Thinking About Both the Periods and the Themes**

Almost everything you will do involves making a **historical argument** by interpreting historical evidence.

You will make arguments about:

1. Historical **causation**
2. Historical **comparison**
3. Historical **change and continuity over time**.

No matter what type of argument you will make, you will always need to provide the **context** for the argument.

### **Materials Needed:**

- Writing Utensil
- Loose Leaf Paper
- Folder or Binder Space - **DEVOTED TO AP WORLD HISTORY ONLY**
- Textbook - Ways of the World 4th Ed. by Robert W. Strayer

**Grades:**

Grades will be based on two categories:

**Assessments (80%)** – This category includes all quizzes, papers, exams, and projects. Retakes will be offered, and I will include some forms of grade improvement moving from quizzes to tests.<sup>1</sup>

**Ongoing Project (20%)** – This category is based on your “intellectual toolbox,” which will be an ongoing portfolio style project designed to act as a working study guide for the AP exam.

- A 90%-100%
- B 80%-89%
- C 70%-79%
- D 60%-69%
- F 50%-59%

**Attendance:**

I expect you to be in class. If you are not, **it is your responsibility** to find out what you missed and to make up the work.

**Contact Information:** Nick Caltagirone (630) 876-6452 [ncaltagirone@d94.org](mailto:ncaltagirone@d94.org)

I encourage students and parents/guardians to contact me regarding any questions or concerns. E-mail is my preferred method of communication, but I do check voicemail on a daily basis as well. Also, I encourage students and parents to use Google Classroom and PowerSchool in order to check grades and see due dates for larger assignments and quizzes/tests.

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<sup>1</sup> This year I am a part of a pilot program exploring some new grading ideas with the aim of making grading more equitable for all students. Since this is a pilot program, I may need to make some slight adjustments along the way. Please be assured that I will provide many safety nets along the way and will do everything I can to make sure your grade is fair and accurately reflects your performance in class.