

Name:

Period:

AP European History Summer Assignment:

Welcome to AP European History with Mr. Weaver. AP European History often called AP Euro covers the history of Europe from the beginning of the Italian Renaissance around 1450 to modern times. **You may answer all of the following questions on a google doc, or hand write the answers. Either way be prepared to submit a digital or handwritten copy to me the first day or week of class.**

The class is broken up into four distinct periods:

Period 1: 1450 - 1648

Period 2: 1648 - 1815

Period 3: 1815 - 1914

Period 4: 1914 - 2025

AP Exam Overview:

Part 1: 55 Multiple Choice Questions in 55 minutes: Multiple choice questions will be set up in sets of 3-5 questions related to some sort of document that is usually a text paragraph but can also be a picture, graph, political cartoon, and other things like that. Some questions will rely on the document to answer, other questions will be related to the document where the answers come from your knowledge of history learned throughout the course.

Part 2: 3 Short Answer Questions in 40 minutes: The SAQ (Short answer questions) There are 3 short answer questions with 3 parts each (A, B,C). Each answer is graded separately so there are 9 different responses worth 9 different points.

Part 3: Document Based Question (DBQ) in 60 minutes: The exam will give you 7 documents to respond to a DBQ Questions

Part 4: Long Essay Question (LEQ) in 40 minutes: Students will write a free response essay to an LEQ question. There are 3 different options and you only have to choose one.

Questions:

- 1.) How many periods make up this class?
- 2.) List each period with what years they cover:
- 3.) How long is the exam total?
- 4.) What part of the exam do you think will be the easiest for you and why?
- 5.) What part of the exam do you think will be the most difficult for you and why?

While there is no prior knowledge needed to take this class it does require a strong work ethic, a commitment to improving, reading a textbook, and a positive attitude along with strong reading

and writing skills. Everyone comes into the class with a different level of skills and knowledge and it is important to realize both your strengths and weaknesses in order to succeed in the class and prepare for the AP Exam in May.

Before starting the class in September this assignment will prepare you for the first day of class. The purpose of this assignment is to understand the Historical Context (Background information) of when the class starts, the structure of the exam you will take in May, and understanding the map of Europe both in 1450 when the class starts, and a current map of Modern Europe. If you have questions about the assignment or class you can reach out to me via schoology message or at SWeaver@clarenceschools.org - I will check this periodically throughout the summer. Ready?

Directions: Below are two different maps. The first map is what Europe looks like between the years of 1450 and 1500 when the class content begins. The second is a current map of Europe and a little of the Middle East which is not as important for this class. **You may answer all of these on a google doc, or hand write the answers. Either way be prepared to submit a digital or handwritten copy to me the first day or week of class.**

During the first week of classes there will be a quiz on map Number #1. You are responsible for knowing the following places on the map, and what part of Europe they are in:

Western Europe:

Scotland
Ireland
England
Portugal
Spain
France
Italian Peninsula - Naples, Papal States, and others

Central Europe:

Holy Roman Empire
Bohemia

Eastern Europe:

Muscovy (Russia)
Poland / Lithuania
Hungary
Ottoman Empire

Northern Europe (Scandinavia):

Norway
Sweden
Denmark

Map #1: Europe in 1450-1500:



Map #2: Current Map of Europe:



You are also responsible for knowing Modern Europe. Obviously there are a lot of changes, and a lot more countries. Below are a list of modern countries that I want you to be familiar with the location of, the rest you do not need to know specifics:

Western Europe:

- England
- France
- Spain
- Portugal
- Switzerland
- Belgium
- Italy
- Netherlands
- Germany

Central / Eastern Europe:

- Poland
- Austria

Hungary
Ukraine
Russia
Greece

The Balkans: On the map below is a zoomed in view of the Balkan region of Europe from the Adriatic to Black Sea, and down to Greece. You'll notice most of the countries below are not listed above in countries that you need to know the exact location of. However you should know the countries that make up this region, and that it is called the Balkans in Eastern Europe.



Questions: Based on the maps above please answer the following questions:

- 1.) Explain the change that happened to Italy from the map from 1450 to the modern one:
- 2.) Look at Germany on map 2, out of what previous empire was Germany created out of?
- 3.) What changes happened between 1450 and current times where the Ottoman Empire used to be located?
- 4.) List 4 countries whose borders do not significantly change between 1450 and current times:
- 5.) What is the current largest country by land size in Europe?
- 6.) List at least 8 different countries that make up the Modern Day Balkans:
- 7.) Who did most Modern Day Balkan countries belong to in 1450?
- 8.) What Ocean is West of Europe?
- 9.) List 5 European countries that border that Ocean:
- 10.) Just by looking at the maps above, why do you think Italy is going to be in the center of trade routes when the class begins? Take your best shot at it after looking at the maps:

Directions: Now that you understand the Geography of Europe a bit more, now it is time to focus on the history of it. Please use the reading and pictures to respond to the questions throughout the document. This is the final part of the summer assignment. Read carefully so you do not miss any questions throughout the rest of the document - attention to detail is an important skill to learn.

Historical Context of the Italian Renaissance:

Even though this class begins in 1450 it is important to go back a little farther to understand the context of the course. What happens before an event is known as its context, or background information. The major event that happens before the Italian Renaissance is known as the Middle Ages, Medieval times, or sometimes even the Dark ages. The Middle Ages lasted about 1000 years from the fall of the Roman Empire in 476 AD to the beginning of the Italian Renaissance in 1450. Some people claimed that the Roman Empire lived on after 476 AD in Eastern Europe known as the Byzantine Empire.

Please complete the reading below and respond to the following questions or provide definitions when asked. You will be responsible for knowing this information as you come into class as well which we may quiz on in the early part of the year. If you have any questions, please reach out to me over the summer.

The Middle Ages:

After the fall of the Roman Empire in 476 AD some argue that the Roman Empire lived on in the form of the Byzantine Empire in Eastern Europe which lasted all the way to 1453 AD before being conquered by the Ottoman Empire when they took over the Byzantine capital of Constantinople. Before being taken over in 1453, the most significant ruler of the Byzantine Empire was Emperor Constantine (which is why the capital city was named Constantinople) His

most important action was to make a deathbed conversion to Christianity which established Christianity as the main religion of the Byzantine Empire in what people considered to be the “civilized” part of Europe.

In Western Europe after the fall of the Roman Empire there was no one group of people that had influence like the Byzantine Empire did in the east. Instead, Western Europe fell under control of the Catholic Church as most places in Europe were very devout Catholics throughout



the Middle Ages. Since religion was so important, it only makes sense that the Pope became

the most powerful person in Western Europe. The title of Pope is given to the leader of the Catholic Church which in the Middle Ages was the most powerful position in Europe since everyone living in Europe was Catholic and needed to follow the Pope's rules to get into heaven. This gave Popes control over not only religion, but also over politics all over Europe.

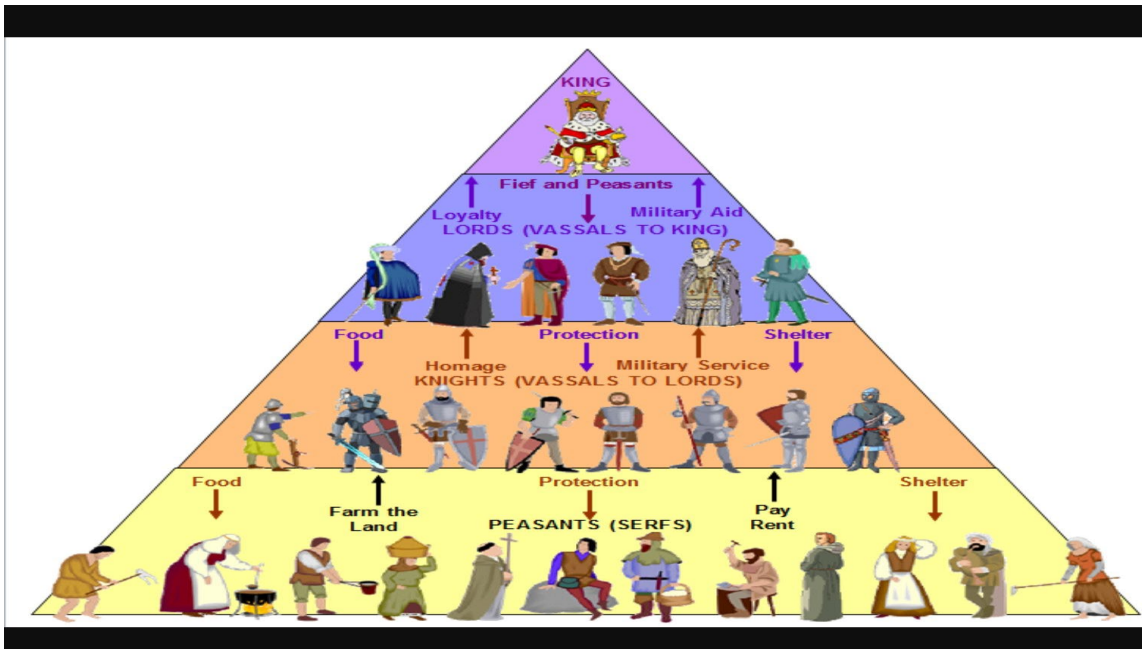
The Middle Ages was dominated by the power of the Catholic Church and after the fall of the Roman Empire Feudalism became the major economic system that existed in Europe. Feudalism is an economic system that relies on peasants known as serfs providing physical labor, especially growing food in exchange for protection, and being allowed to live on a Lord's Manor. This is a decentralized political system because even though Kings existed and gave out land to Lords in return for military service, individual lords had almost complete authority over their Manors' as long as they provided the service that was required of a King who was normally far away. Most people that lived on Feudalist manors grew food known as peasant agriculture. They had to give amounts of it to the Lord in return for the land to grow it on and protection.



Serfs were bound to the land, and not allowed to leave, or marry without permission of their lord. There was also common land where animals were allowed to graze, people were allowed to hunt, and other activities. While this land did not belong to the people, they were allowed to use the common land and became a major part of their life and culture.



List the different parts of the Manor shown above with a brief description of why it was needed to survive in the Middle Ages:

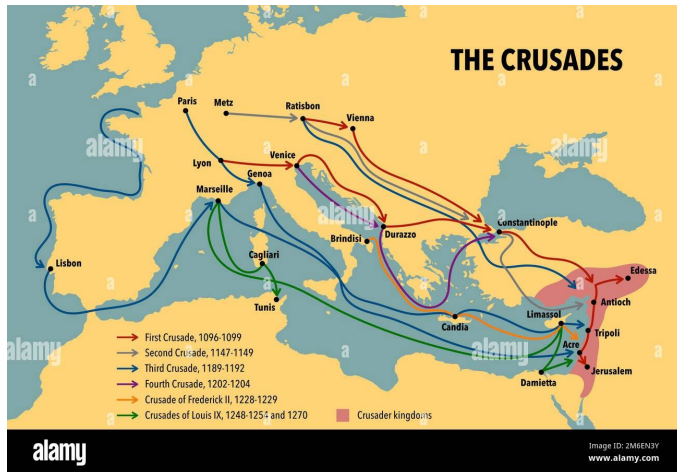


Explain the Feudalist Structure shown above that was used during the Middle Ages, include the roles of each group of people and what their role was during the Middle Ages:

The Middle Ages was dominated by the Catholic Church and Feudalism for hundreds of years by the time the Italian Renaissance began in the 1400s. Now that we have an understanding of what the Middle Ages were like we will discuss a few specific events of the late Middle Ages and how it leads to the beginning of the Renaissance:

The Crusades (1095 – 1291): The Catholic Church began to authorize military expeditions, or Crusades, to expel Muslim from the Holy Land (Jerusalem) and reclaim Christian areas that fell to various Muslim civilizations. The Muslim world during this time was more advanced than Europe. The Islamic Golden age led to advances in technology, trade, math and science among Muslim Empires. Even though the Crusades pitted European Christians against Middle Eastern Muslims because of their travels and contacts they had with each other, Europeans were exposed to new ideas about medicine, astronomy, philosophy, mathematics, and ancient literature which helped lead to the Renaissance. In addition, Muslim societies were somewhat inclusive and welcomed the contributions of Christian and Jewish scholars. This helped stimulate cultural diffusion and increase trade as demand grew for things like spices, silk, satin, and other luxurious items Europeans wanted to buy and bring back to Europe with them. This increase in trade starts to build wealth in the Italian City States due to their geographical location in the

Mediterranean Sea which made them the center of trade. People then began using extra money to hire painters, sculptors, and writers to create masterpieces for them...Again, first in Italy.



The Bubonic Plague (1348-1350): Also known as the Black Death hit Europe hard from 1348-1350. It originated in Asia and spread through trade routes along the silk road into Europe. It was carried by fleas living on mice and rats that spread to people. It is estimated to have killed about 25 million people which is over 1/3d of the entire population of Europe. Cities were hit the worst, and some communities lost upwards of 80% of their inhabitants.

The Catholic Church could not fix the problem and were victims of it themselves. People thought God was punishing them, and some lost faith and became skeptical (a questioning attitude) of the Catholic Church because they could not help the people. With the Black Death peasants became important on an individual level for maybe the first time. Due to the severe population losses farm laborers were in high demand and therefore demanded higher wages because it was hard to find people available to workers. Life actually improved for most common people that survived the plague...if they were able to shake off many of their friends, family, and neighbors dying. This increase in wages for workers started to bring an end to Feudalism in Western Europe. It is also important to note that there were many peasant uprisings during the 1300-1500s all over Europe when peasants were refused to be treated properly by the elite upper class of society.

Problems with the Catholic Church: This new skeptical attitude of the church was exasperated (made worse) by the Great Schism (division) in the Church from 1378 – 1417. The French King captured the Pope, and when he died, elected their own. Rome then elected their own too, resulting in two Popes, and then even a 3rd for a time. This was not the first time there was a separation of the Catholic Church. In 1054 there were disagreements about what type of bread should be used for communion, the wording of certain church ideas and creeds, and other small religious matters. When an agreement couldn't be met the **Eastern Orthodox** became separate from the Roman Catholic Church excommunicating (kicking someone out of the church) each other in the process and leading to two different versions of Christianity. While they are very similar, they have differences even to this day, though now they are on more friendly terms. This is why in Eastern Europe in places like Ukraine and Russia Eastern Orthodox is the most popular religion, but back in Western Europe in Italy it is Catholicism.

The next split of the Church in 1517 with Martin Luther's 95 Theses will create an even bigger divide among Christians. Over the coming centuries many people will die because they interpret the Bible slightly differently from each other....More on this when we get there.

Due to the Crusades, one could now make a living as a Mercenary, and saw other opportunities as traders, artisans, and merchants selling things in different parts of the world. During the late Middle Ages / Early Renaissance Kings began creating their own personal professional standing armies which created even more opportunity. This also decreased a need for the feudal structure as Kings had their own armies and no longer needed to rely on Vassals or Knights for protection.

One of these examples of a New Monarch, or sometimes called a Centralizing Monarch is Charles VII of France who ruled from 1422-1461 and is known for the first standing army in Europe in almost 1000 years. These types of Kings were called Centralizing or “New Monarchs”.

This contrasted the decentralized Middle Ages and led to Kings becoming more powerful in the 1400-1500s. Increases in taxes were needed to fund these new types of Kings.

Gunpowder was introduced to Europe around the year 1300 leading to new types of warfare. The most significant of these Wars was the Hundred Years War fought from 1337-1453 between the British and French over who should be the next King of France. The English longbow devastated the French Infantry, while French Cannons on naval ships helped them win battles at sea. It looked dark for the French until Joan of Arc said God spoke to her in a dream, she united the French Armies under Charles VII and helped chase out the English. She was eventually captured by the British and burned to death but France remained under a French King.

All of the things mentioned above help bring a slow end to Feudalism across Western Europe (France, England, Spain, etc.) by the 1600s though it lived on in some places in Eastern and Central Europe into the late 1800s. One important thing to remember for this class is that Western Europe modernizes a lot faster than Eastern Europe which is where we will start in our class. The first topic is the Italian Renaissance which will focus more on the individual, and human ability much more than the Middle Ages did.

Questions:

- 1.) What is Historical Context?
- 2.) Who was the leader of the Catholic Church throughout the Middle Ages?(Still is today)
- 3.) What was the dominant economic system during the Middle Ages, and explain how it worked:
- 4.) What was the dominant religion in Europe throughout the Middle Ages?
- 5.) What was the Capital of the Byzantine Empire that was eventually captured in 1453, and who captured it?
- 6.) Explain what the Crusades were and how they helped lead to the Italian Renaissance?
- 7.) Explain the causes and effects of the Bubonic Plague on Europe:
- 8.) Why did people begin to question the Catholic Church?

- 9.) Explain the causes and effects of the Great Schism that happened in the Catholic Church?
- 10.) What religion is most popular in Eastern Europe in places like Ukraine and Russia?
- 11.) What did New or Centralizing Monarchs begin to do and provide an example:
- 12.) Why did Italy become the center of trade in the late middle ages?
- 13.) What effect did being the center of trade have on Italy?
- 14.) Who fought during the 100 Years War and why?
- 15.) What technological advantage did the English have?
- 16.) What was the outcome of the war, and why did it end that way?
- 17.) What part of Europe tends to be more modern?

Provide definitions for the following terms in your own words:

Feudalism:

Manors:

Serf:

Vassale:

Centralized Government:

Decentralized Government:

Pope:

Skepticism:

Middle Ages:

Crusades:

Bubonic Plague:

You are responsible for knowing all of the information in this document when you come into the class, and have a copy of your responses ready to submit on paper or digitally. It is not as daunting as it may seem, we will not test on the first day, and I will help you with what you need. This is just meant to prepare you with information you need to know before the class begins. You should know most of this from your global class last year as well. Good luck, and remember to reach out with any questions. Using AI, copying from Google or a friend is not a good way to get off on the right foot. I am here to help with anything you need. See you in September!

- Mr. Weaver