

**May 6, 2024**

**Dear AP European History Students,**

Welcome to AP European History! The AP Program allows highly motivated students the opportunity to complete rigorous course material that is equivalent to a freshmen college course. AP European History covers the period from the Renaissance (ca. 1450 AD) to the present and stresses the value of higher level thinking skills, effective essay preparation, writing, and source document analysis.

**The Purpose of the AP European Summer Assignment**

We must cover nearly 600 years of European History in nine months, so it is imperative that we have a “spring-board” that helps us delve more quickly into this dense course material. Your summer assignments will give you the opportunity to sharpen your knowledge of European geography and demonstrate your reading and writing skills while you build context for the course. If you have any questions pertaining to the Summer Assignment or any other questions about the course, feel free to email me at [greg.koziuk@bvhs.org](mailto:greg.koziuk@bvhs.org). I normally respond within 24 hours.

Finally, remember that this course is the equivalent of a college-level survey course in European History. The amount of work and expectations are congruent with a college-level course. Although challenging, this course is not impossible! If you put in the effort and have a positive attitude about learning, you will be successful!

When you confront challenges this year, just remember the words of St. Francis of Assisi, “Start by doing what’s necessary; then do what’s possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible.”

I look forward to meeting you in August and reading your summer assignments!

Yours in Christ,

Mr. Koziuk

## AP European History Summer Assignments

**Assignment #1 European Geography:** Learn the locations of the countries and physical features of Europe. Practice the Europe [Countries Map Quiz](#) and the [Physical Features Map Quiz](#) on Seterra. You will take both of these quizzes for a grade during the first week of school.

**Assignment #2 The Later Middle Ages:** Read the [Outline for Chapter 11: The Later Middle Ages](#) from McKay, *A History of Western Society* (12th Edition). Write a paragraph in response to each question:

1. How did climate change shape the late Middle Ages?
2. How did the plague reshape European society?
3. What were the causes, course, and consequences of the Hundred Years' War?
4. Why did the church come under increasing criticism?
5. What explains the social unrest of the late Middle Ages?

**Assignment #3 Contextualizing Renaissance and Discovery:** Watch the video [Contextualizing Renaissance and Age of Discovery](#). Apply what you learned about the Late Middle Ages to write a paragraph explaining the context in which the Renaissance and Age of Discovery developed. Use the acronym Geo-SPRITE to come up with at least three examples from the Late Middle Ages for your contextualization paragraph. This is an example of how one student used Geo-SPRITE to write a context paragraph for a prompt about Germany and World War II:

Geo-SPRITE	
<b>Geography</b> Place, physical, human	The Second World War in Europe took place with Germany at the forefront of events.
<b>Social</b> Gender, ethnicity, class	The Nazi party spewed racist and anti-Semitic propaganda as part of their social agenda.
<b>Political</b> Authority, diplomacy, law	The German Nazi party, led by Hitler, came to power by taking advantage of a dire economic situation resulting from the Great Depression.  When in power, the Nazis announced they would no longer abide by the disarmament clauses of the Treaty of Versailles and quickly established a military draft.
<b>Religious</b> Beliefs, influences, practices	
<b>Intellectual</b> Learning, literature, arts	
<b>Technology</b> Science, machinges, medicine	The Nazis put scientists and engineers to work refining weapons and using the newest technologies to further their social and diplomatic agendas.
<b>Economic</b> Trade, policies, finance	

**Example Context Paragraph:** The second world war in Europe took place with Germany at the forefront of events. The German Nazi party, led by Hitler, came to power by taking advantage of a dire economic situation resulting from the Great Depression. The Nazi party also spewed racist and anti-Semitic propaganda as part of their social agenda. When in power, the Nazis announced they would no longer abide by the disarmament clauses of the Treaty of Versailles and quickly established a military draft. The Nazis put scientists and engineers to work refining weapons and using the newest technologies to further their social and diplomatic agendas.

Write your responses for Assignments #2 and #3 in Notability and be prepared to turn in on Canvas the first day of class.