

# AP World History

## Summer Assignment 2025-2026

### COMMUNICATION/INFORMATION

- **Teacher Contact:**  
Mr. Burt → [jeffrey\\_burt@charleston.k12.sc.us](mailto:jeffrey_burt@charleston.k12.sc.us)  
Mrs. Hogrefe (formerly Orcutt) → [jessica\\_orcutt@charleston.k12.sc.us](mailto:jessica_orcutt@charleston.k12.sc.us)
- **Rationale:** Welcome to AP World History! This is an amazing, interesting, and challenging course. In AP World we will be investigating significant events, individuals, and processes from 1200 to present day. You will develop and use the same skills, practices, and methods used by real historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources, developing historical arguments, and making historical connections. The course provides six themes that you will explore throughout the school year in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: humans and the environment, cultural developments and interactions, governance, economic systems, social interactions and organization, and technology/innovation.  
\*Your summer assignment is designed to provide you with a solid foundation so that you can start the school year with the necessary historical context. It will focus on major world events prior to 1200, and will set the scene for when this class starts.
- **Timeline:** This assignment should take about 8-12 hours to complete. That timing can easily be spread over a week or two depending on time management. Please be sure to enjoy your summer!!

### MATERIALS & EXPECTATIONS

- **Chapter Readings are linked below...however you will need a copy of the AMSCO review book for the course. You may either use the [provided PDF copy](#), or you may choose to purchase your own physical copy.**
- **Materials: AMSCO AP World History Textbook**
  - Available for purchase on Amazon
  - Please search the [Perfection Learning Website](#) if you cannot find it on Amazon or if it is too pricey! You can get the electronic version and hard copy for \$25!
  - **Suggested:** It is recommended that you get an AP review book such as the [Princeton Review](#) or [Barron's Review](#).
- **Due Date:** Summer assignments will be due in class on Friday, August 15. In-class progress checks will be conducted on Wednesday, August 13.
- **Reading Check:** Part of your Summer Assignment grade will be a Reading Check (assessment) on the assigned AMSCO readings AND on the structure of the AP Exam.  
**This assessment will be open-note. You will ONLY be permitted to use hard copy, hand-written notes from your readings. You will submit your notes after you complete your assessment.**  
**The Reading Check will be on Friday, August 15, 2025.**
- **NOTES:** Notes must be done individually and in your own words, and MUST be hand-written. You will submit your notes in person on Friday, August 15.

## SUMMER WORK INFO

### Overview

- AMSCO:** Read all of the Introduction (pg. xviii-xxxix)
  - Take notes on how the exam is set up

- AMSCO:** Read all of the Prologue, Parts 1-3 (pg. xli-lxii)
  - Complete Key Terms →
  - Respond to “Reflect on the Prologue” →

\*This work will take time! Please pace yourself throughout the summer. DO NOT leave all your work for the day before school starts.

\*You will present your summer work to your teacher on Wednesday, August 13 for a progress check.

\*Your Reading Check (quiz) on Friday, August 15 will include questions on the following:

- 1) How the exam is set up
- 2) Key Terms
- 3) Questions from “Reflect on Prologue”

Follow the directions on the right to complete your work properly. Please email either Mrs. Hogrefe or Mr. Burt with any questions!

### Assignment Details

**\*all responses must be *handwritten*\***

#### **AMSCO:**

- List of Key Terms** (pg. lxii)
  - \*Do not define the Theme (Culture, Society, Environment, Economy, Government). Define the terms below each theme!

Include the following for each key term:

- Definition
- Explanation (include key details)

Example: Hinduism - *Hinduism is a religion predominantly practiced in India, starting roughly 3,500 years ago. The religion includes concepts such as karma, reincarnation, and the caste system.*

**\*\*Your definitions and supporting information MUST come from the AMSCO textbook.** Do not use the internet or AI. We will know if you do, and you will receive a zero for all of your summer work and for the quiz.

- “Reflect on the Prologue”** (pg. lxii)
  - Each response should be at least a paragraph (4-6 sentences) in length and should include the following, using the A.C.E. method:
    - **A**nswer the question
    - **C**ite specific examples from the text (this doesn't mean cite with a page number, it means provide specific examples)
    - **E**xplain how your examples support your original answer to the question