

## AP Modern World HISTORY 2026-27

### SUMMER ASSIGNMENT

Welcome to AP Modern World History, a 10<sup>th</sup> grade social studies course intended for students who wish to complete college introductory courses in modern world history while in high school. The curriculum is higher level and aligned with College Board standards. Students enrolled in the course are expected to complete the national AP examination in May 2027.

Advanced Placement Modern World History is a rigorous one-year course that will provide students with an understanding of the political, diplomatic, intellectual, social, economic and cultural history of the world from the thirteenth century to the early twenty-first century. The course will also emphasize historical scholarship skills. You will be challenged to read and analyze primary and secondary sources such as documentary material, maps, statistical tables, works of art, and pictorial illustrations. Modeled after the AP exam, this course will offer DEVELOPMENTAL practice in writing analytical and interpretative essays such as document-based questions (DBQs), and thematic free responses (LEQs). *College level history is heavy on reading and writing through source analysis.*

As a student registered in this class, you are expected to complete a **SUMMER ASSIGNMENT**. Enrollment in the course is contingent on the successful completion of the summer assignment, i.e., if you do not finish the assignment by the posted deadline, you will be dropped to an honors-level world history class. There will be no exceptions.

*\*\*Please read all the way through the directions for the following assignments. If you have any questions, please send me an email as I will be regularly checking my email over the course of the summer. \*\**

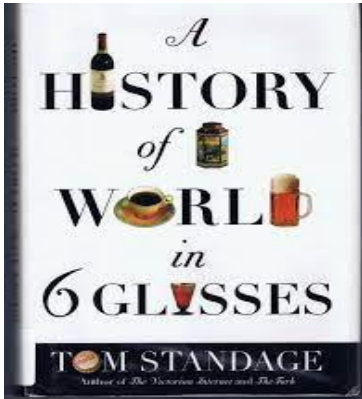
#### Assignment Overview:

1. Read A History of the World in 6 Glasses (be prepared to discuss on first day of school)
  - a. A History of the World in 6 Glasses Questions (due first day of school August 2026 )
  - b. A history of the World Written Analysis (due first day of school August 2026)

**Assignment #1** – A History of the World in 6 Glasses by Tom Standage

You are expected to acquire a copy of this book and to read and complete the required activities by the first day of school. **\*\*\*You may purchase this book as a hard copy or as an EBook – as long you will be able to have the copy in class when needed.\*\*\***

Standage, Tom (2005) *A History of the World in 6 Glasses*



**Part I: Summary of Big Ideas** – Due the first day of school (hard copy brought to class)

The concept of AP World History is to focus on the big ideas, concepts, themes, and trends of history. Instead of focusing on minor events and occurrences, we will focus on the big ideas that have shaped world history and our world today. To get your mind thinking in this direction, **as you read *A History of the World in 6 Glasses*, you will be creating a written summary of the Big Ideas, for each drink that is focused on.**

For each drink that is discussed, summarize AND explain the “big ideas.” There are six drinks discussed in the book so you must have six summaries. Each summary should be about one page – **12 font new times roman**. One way to practice getting the main idea is to verbally explain the main idea to someone after you have read each chapter. If you have made it easy for them to understand, then you have successfully identified the main idea.

<b>Rubric For Summaries (each summary scored individually)</b>	<b>Possible Points</b>
You have explained the “Big Idea” of the chapter	3
Do you provide <b>specific</b> evidence / examples to support your summary and explanation of the Big Idea.	4
Use of proper English grammar, language, punctuation, and spelling	2
Proper citations for any information gained from the book or other sources using MLA format (provide at least one brief quote that helps demonstrate the main idea of the chapter.	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	9 pts /per summary

## **Part 2: Discussion Questions** (Due in first day of school August 2026)

In addition to chapter summaries, you must answer the following discussion questions. Remember these questions are designed to stimulate discussion which means they should be detailed and written in full sentences. **One sentence or one word answers will not be accepted.** It is recommended that you answer these questions AS YOU read through the book. (You may type these out; however, MAKE SURE THAT IT IS YOUR WORK AND NOT SOMEONE ELSE'S THAT YOU BORROWED FROM / You may also handwrite to scan and submit)

1. How might beer have influenced the transition from hunting and gathering to agricultural based societies?
2. What opportunities associated with wine drinking did men have in ancient Greece that women did not?
3. Why was wine adopted as a ritual drink in Christianity, but Islam prohibited the use of alcohol?
4. Read the following quote from the book. Do you agree? Why or why not? Support your argument with specific examples. It is not enough to say "yes, I agree" or "no, I do not."  
"Distilled drinks, alongside firearms and infectious diseases, helped to reshape the modern world by helping the inhabitants of the Old World to establish themselves as rulers of the New World." Pg 129
5. Describe coffee's effect on the balance of power between various regions of the world.
6. Why was tea important to China's economy and its relationship with other countries?
7. How did tea change history in India?
8. How did coca-cola become the world's most recognized product? How does Coca-Cola affect, and how is it affected by, people's views of the United States?
9. Of the six that the author discusses, which beverage do you think has played the most significant role in history? Defend your choice. What beverages have been left out of this book that might have had an effect on society?
10. What do you think is the beverage for the next era in history? (Do you agree with the author's choice in the epilogue?) Defend your choice.

**Time Management Plan** - Take your time reading the book. DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE END OF THE SUMMER. I would suggest spacing the reading throughout the summer. Set due dates for yourself for each part of the assignment.

**Plagiarism** - Make sure that your work is exclusively your own. Any evidence of plagiarism on this assignment or any other assignment in the course will result in a grade of ZERO and disciplinary action for academic dishonesty. **Do not use Google, AI, or copy another person's work.**

**Grading: This assignment will be your first MAJOR grade! Your grade will be based on your thoughtful completion of the writing related to your reading.**

**Be prepared to also discuss the book and/or write an essay within the first few days of school!!**

**References to the book will be made throughout the year**

### **Recommendations and Suggestions for Preparing for AP Modern World**

1. Read about the classical civilizations – Greece, Rome, China and India – this will help you set the background stage for where we will start the year.
2. Watch documentaries (not movies) on the classical civilizations – China’s dynasties, the Roman Empire, Europe in the Middle Ages, the Mongols ....these are suggested topics.
3. Study the world maps – physical and political maps. Knowing the world maps will help you visualize where history is taking place. Use this link: <https://www.seterra.com/#quizzes>