June 2026

Dear Future AP European History Student,

As we prepare for another school year we are so excited to present you with a fascinating and engaging course that will provide you with a strong foundation of knowledge; not only in history, but in politics, religion, philosophy, art and economics. The AP European History curriculum not only allows you the opportunity to earn college credit, but will prepare you for many of your future college courses. As the content covers the detailed history of an entire continent over the course of six centuries, it is essential that you begin your preparation of the material over the summer. Our first unit examines the Renaissance and the concept of "Rebirth." Because of the accelerated pace, you must come into class prepared with an understanding of both the Middle Ages and the Renaissance. The foundational ideas that will be studied and discussed in our Renaissance unit will provide context and focus for the rest of the course.

TASK:

1. Read **Chapters 1 and 2 in your textbook**: A History of Western Society; McKay, Crowson, Wiesner-Hanks, and Perry. Fourteenth Edition. You will be getting a **timed assessment during the first session of the course**. You will be able to use notes on this test, so we suggest you take careful notes on the reading that will be useful and functional as you will be limited in time.

*Please make sure to have a ***printed copy*** of your notes with you on the first day of class. If your notes are not printed you will not be eligible to use them.*

SUGGESTED READING: If you like to read, we encourage you to add the following books to your summer list in order to help you get excited for our course curriculum, and add to your learning of essential content that will be covered during the year. These are *totally optional*, but are two books that touch on many of the concepts we will study.

Inferno by Dan Brown & *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr

We look forward to seeing you in class next year. Have a great summer!

Sincerely,

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