

## **AP World History**

### **Advanced Placement World History Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **What is AP World History?**

Students will explore key themes of world history, including interaction with the environment, cultures, state-building, economic systems, and social structures, from approximately 8000 B.C.E. to the present.

Learn to apply historical thinking skills including the ability to craft arguments from evidence; describe, analyze and evaluate events from a chronological perspective; compare and contextualize historical developments; and analyze evidence, reasoning and context to construct and understand historical interpretations.

#### **Why should I take AP World History?**

Students who understand and are willing to accept that academic classes will become increasingly rigorous through high school and college often take AP classes to prepare themselves for these challenges. AP classes are weighted more than other classes and they look great on college applications if you're willing to put in the necessary work. The AP Exam, taken at the end of the year, offers the opportunity to earn college credit (often worth thousands of dollars in tuition) while still in high school.

#### **How much and what type of work will I be doing?**

A 90-minute class typically includes discussion of a current event for about 15 minutes and notes and lecture about a specific historical topic for about 30 minutes. The remainder of the class is usually spent doing an activity such as class debate, group work or reading discussions.

You should expect to work one-to-two hours each night. Homework typically consists of a reading assignment and a written activity, such as a first-person journal entry or writing sentences that include vocabulary words.

Here is an example of a homework assignment:

Read pages 500-520 in *World History*; create a chart comparing the technological innovations of the Sumerians and Old Kingdom Egyptians. Submit a typed page summarizing your findings.

#### **What are tests and quizzes like?**

You'll have reading quizzes and tests at the end of each unit. The test typically includes multiple choice, matching and an essay question. In mid-May, each student will take the AP Exam.

#### **What is the AP Exam?**

The AP Exam is the end-of-course test for AP World History. It is administered by the College Board. There are three parts on the AP World History exam: a 70-question multiple choice section, a document based question answered in essay format, and two standard essay questions. Students have about three hours to take the exam. Scores range from 1 to 5 and students who get a 3, 4, or 5 stand a good chance of receiving college credit for their score.

#### **Who can I talk to if I need more information?**

It's likely that some of your friends and acquaintances have taken an AP class before, and talking with them might give you an idea of what's in store. The best way would probably be to speak with Mrs. Singleton. You can email her at [valerie.singleton@nn.k12.va.us](mailto:valerie.singleton@nn.k12.va.us). You can also visit the College Board's AP World History website here: <https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/apcourse/ap-world-history>.

Information on AP courses was provided by The College Board. See [AP Courses](#) for more information.