

West Linn–Wilsonville School District
Social Studies Department – Course Statement

Course Title: Advanced Placement (AP) European History

Length of Course: Year
Number of Credits: 2
Grade Level: 11, 12
Prerequisites: World History, Modern US History (or AP US History), Application and/or Instructor Approval
CIM Work Samples Offered in Course: Persuasive writing (research paper) work sample

Date of Description/Revision: May 2005

Course Overview

The principal purpose of Advanced Placement (AP) European History is to give the interested student an opportunity to do college-level work while in high school. The major emphasis is the comprehensive interpretive study of major events and trends from approximately 1450 to the present; that is, from the Renaissance to the Collapse of Communism and the Emergence of the European Union. Emphasis is placed on independent study and research, and term projects such as research papers and oral presentations in class. In May, students will take the Advanced Placement (AP) European History Exam. It is strongly recommended that prospective AP European History students have a strong academic background with superior reading ability, writing ability, and commitment prior to enrolling in this course.

Essential Questions

Concepts providing focus for student learning

- How and why did the modern state evolve?
- Why and how did European nations leave their imprints on the rest of the world?
- To what extent have political protests, reforms, and revolutions been successful?
- How are intellectual and cultural movements related to social values and political events?
- Why and how did industrialization and urbanization transform cultural values and social relationships?
- Why did the shift in social structures from hierarchical orders to modern social classes occur?
- How have gender roles influenced work, social structure, and interest group formation?

Proficiency Statements

- Upon completion of course, students will:
- Develop an understanding of some of the principal themes in modern European history.
 - Develop an ability to analyze and interpret historical evidence.

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General Course Topics/Units & Timeframes	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Europe in Transition B. Enlightenment and Revolution C. Toward the Modern World D. Global Conflict, Cold War, and New Directions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="text-align: right;">9 weeks <li style="text-align: right;">9 weeks <li style="text-align: right;">6 weeks <li style="text-align: right;">5 weeks
Resources	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Texts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ <i>History of Western Society</i>, McDougal Littell, 2003 ◦ <i>History of Western Society Since 1300</i>, McDougal Littell, 2003 ◦ <i>The Western Heritage (Chapters 1-31), 8th Edition</i>, Prentice Hall, 2004 • Supplemental Texts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ <i>From Dawn to Decadence: 500 Years of Western Cultural Life</i>, Barzun, Jacques, Harper Collins, 2000 ◦ <i>The Day the Universe Changed</i>, Burke, James, Back Bay Books, Reissue 1995 • Other: Selected primary source materials 	