

A.P. WORLD HISTORY

SUGGESTIONS FOR STUDENTS

The single most important contributor to student success is whether he/she completes each reading assignment and its accompanying work.

There is no substitute. *Do the reading faithfully.* Reading is assigned for each class period. At first it may seem time consuming and difficult, but practice makes perfect! And use a dictionary every time you do not understand a word.

Although we are in high school, this is a college course. We will discuss topics that may be new and different. Please keep an open mind. You do not have to agree with what you read and hear, but you will need to think historically and critically.

Keep an organized notebook for both semesters and use it to review. Proper prior planning prevents poor performance. This is especially true of college courses.

Work at mastering writing styles. In that one-half of the AP grade is writing, you must be able to write if you want to pass. Come to tutorials if you need help.

Do not worry about your grade unless it is failing. This is a college course and universities know the difference on transcripts between regulars and Advanced Placement classes. University Admissions will tell you they would rather see a “C” in an AP than an “A” in a regulars’ class. AP classes earn higher grade points. Consequently an 87 in an AP class is worth a 97 in a regular’s class.

Form and join an informal study Group with students in the same class. These are very successful. The group is not a substitute for reading or the work, but two heads are often better than one. This also allows you to get missing notes. And exchange phone numbers so you can call each other if need be.

If you have a question or concern, call, email me, or come by. I will help you all as much as is possible, but you have to see me outside of class. Please do not have parents call me until you yourself have tried to resolve a concern. My conference and tutorial times are posted. And I am usually at school before classes start and after school (with the exceptions of tennis and baseball practices.)

FINAL THOUGHTS ...

I love teaching students and I have a great enthusiasm for world history. But I also know there will be much “wailing and gnashing of the teeth.” Please bear with it. It will become easier by the second month after you have acclimated. And traditionally, I have a very low failure rate within my classes. This does not mean you will not have to work to get those “A’s, B’s, and C’s.” My class will never be a “blow-off” but it will be what you need to succeed. And it will be fun loving and good-natured. You can do this work; I have faith in you!

If you have any concerns, please contact me.