

Welcome to Advanced Placement World History (APWH). You have chosen to embark on a challenging but rewarding academic journey and I look forward to helping you reach your goals. As we are required to cover the whole of human history in one academic year, the completion of summer pre-course work is an essential next step. The pre-course work serves the dual purposes of both reviewing material learned last year in Big History, and previewing material that will be learned in the AP World History course. It is essential that all students complete the assignment, and do so in a thorough and punctual manner.

The goal is not perfection; the goal is learning! While you may not have the perfect answer to every question, you do have the ability to meet the guidelines for each part.

Avoid the temptation to procrastinate or “over think” the summer assignment.

Reading should be an enjoyable activity – even when it is assigned. To that end, I recommend reading the books once through without considering the questions – just soak it in. Then, go back and read for further understanding with the questions in mind. I am looking forward to hearing your thoughts in August!

A Note About Plagiarism: Plagiarism, the act of taking credit for the academic work of someone else, will not be tolerated. Whenever you are asked to write in this course it is under the expectation that the work you do is your own. Paraphrasing, with the inclusion of proper citation, is acceptable. All direct quotes must be properly cited using [MLA guidelines](#). Failure to honor these academic standards will result in disciplinary action, which may include dismissal from the course.

SUMMER PRE-COURSE WORK

ORGANIZATION & SUBMISSION OF SUMMER WORK

You will need to maintain a 3-ring binder (1.5” or 2”) for this course. Your binder should be divided into 6 sections (Summer Work, Period 1, Period 2, Period 3, Period 4, Written Assessments). While you are free to annotate your books, notes must be handwritten and each assignment should be clearly labeled in your binder. You will submit your binder, with your completed summer work, on the first day of class.

PART I: WHY STUDY HISTORY?

Below is collection of essays from prominent historians or historical groups from the last 30 years discussing the purpose of history:

1. Bentley, Jerry – Why Study History? (<http://worldhistoryconnected.press.uiillinois.edu/5.1/bentley.html>)
2. McNeill, William – Why Study History? ([https://www.historians.org/about-aha-and-membership/aha-history-and-archives/historical-archives/why-study-history-\(1985\)](https://www.historians.org/about-aha-and-membership/aha-history-and-archives/historical-archives/why-study-history-(1985)))
3. Schlabach, Gerald – *A Sense of History* (<http://www.geraldschlabach.net/about/relationships/benedictine/courses/handouts/sense-of-history/>)
4. Stearns, Peter – Why Study History ([https://www.historians.org/about-aha-and-membership/aha-history-and-archives/historical-archives/why-study-history-\(1998\)](https://www.historians.org/about-aha-and-membership/aha-history-and-archives/historical-archives/why-study-history-(1998)))

Your assignment:

1. Read TWO of the essays. You may choose whichever.
2. Take notes (save your chosen articles in Notability so that you can easily annotate and access for discussion) and **write** a response to the following questions:
 - a. What is the author’s view of history? What evidence is used?
 - b. What are the differences and similarities between the two authors?
 - c. What should be the purpose of history?
 - d. Do you believe history has relevancy in your life? Explain, providing at least one concrete and relevant example.

PART II: FOUNDATIONS OF HUMAN HISTORY

To get an understanding of the textbook reading level and the notes required, and to review early history, you will read [chapter 1, Ways of the World, 2nd ed.](#), by Robert Strayer. After reading and annotating (recommend downloading to Notability) you will complete the [chapter packet](#) questions created for this assignment. ***You can only access the pdf version of the reading and the chapter packet through Google using your @tampaprep.org account.***

PART III: “READING THE WORLD” CHOICE ASSIGNMENT

You will choose ONE of the books listed below to read. All books can be purchased in digital or print format through your local bookstore or online book retailer. You will write a response per the instructions outlined below. You will submit your responses to turnitin.com (enrollment will be emailed). Responses must be typed (12-pt Times New Roman font and standard MLA formatting of header and margins). Include textual references and parenthetical citations appropriately.

Book Choices:

Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of Cultural Revolution, by Ji-li Jiang
Lost Names: Scenes from a Korean Boyhood, by Richard E. Kim
A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier by Ishmael Beah
An Edible History of Humanity by Tom Standage
Journey into the Whirlwind by Eugenia Ginzburg
The Fall of The Ottomans: The Great War in the Middle East by Eugenia Rogan
Ishmael: An Adventure of Mind and Spirit by Daniel Quinn
Genghis Khan and the Making of the Modern World by Jack Weatherford
Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood by Marjane Satrapi

Questions to be addressed in your response:

1. Background of the author. Who is the person writing the book? Why did the author write the book? What characteristics of the author (gender, nationality, ethnicity, occupation, etc.) may be influencing their perspective and subsequent writing? ***Note that it is not good enough to state, “The author is a woman and thus is biased.” You must show how any particular trait is evidenced in the reading by quoting the text and providing analysis.***
2. Is the book a fictional account of a historical event, a true story, an eye-witness or autobiographical account, or a work of fiction based on general/historical information?
3. What do you think can be learned in terms of world history and culture studied from reading this book? Provide at least three (3) specific examples and explain how it enhances your understanding of world history.
4. What human connections did the book help to make for you with other places and peoples and other times? As a citizen of the world, what makes this story part of all of our histories and of your life today?

ASSESSMENT GUIDELINES

Summer coursework is not “busy work”. Everything assigned is relevant to the required course content as well as the building of skills you will need to be successful in this class and on your AP exam. With that in mind, it is important that you complete the work, in its entirety, thoughtfully and thoroughly. “A” quality work will meet the following criteria:

- Content is complete, major points are thoroughly explained, defended, or proven with evidence from the text.
- Work is very neatly printed or typed and correctly formatted. Complete headings are correctly formatted. Presentation demonstrates thoughtfulness and preparation.
- Rules of grammar, usage, and punctuation are followed. Language is exceptionally clear and precise. The assignment is without spelling errors.

Your summer assignment will be due the first day of class. Any assignments not completed on time will be subject to a 10% grade deduction per day, up to three days, after which no late assignments will be accepted. Failure to submit all parts of the assignment by the end of the third day of classes may result in dismissal from the course.

Finally, while I have tried to be detailed and clear in my instructions, please do not hesitate to email me (ienglenton@tampaprep.org) should you have any questions. It may take me a couple of days to reply but I will get back to you. I look forward to a challenging but exciting and fun class with you in the fall.

Sincerely,

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