



# A.P. World History: Modern

Syllabus



Class webpage: [www.slhs.net](http://www.slhs.net) → **Teacher Pages** → **Avar, T.** (Office hours & course resources updated & posted here)

**Ms. Avar**      **email:** [tavar@slusd.us](mailto:tavar@slusd.us)      **Room:** 201      **Voicemail:** (510) 618-4600, xt. 2201

Advanced Placement (AP) World History: Modern is a college-level course that analyzes global patterns of historical development and exchange from 1200 C.E. to the present. Using primary and secondary sources, AP World History scholars track historical change and continuity within and across 9 units of study, paying close attention to unifying course themes and accompanying learning objectives. History is a sophisticated quest for meaning about the past, beyond the effort to collect and memorize information. Great emphasis is placed on the honing of historical analysis and thinking skills, such as chronological reasoning, comparison, contextualization, argumentation, interpretation and synthesis. Throughout the course, students will practice and be provided scaffolds to produce thesis-driven arguments to be deployed in timed writings such as Document-Based Questions (DBQ), Short Answer Questions (SAQ) and Long-Essay Question (LEQ) types that address the targeted historical thinking skills of causation, comparison, continuity and change, and periodization. Assessments are in preparation for the College Board AP Exam in the spring.

## AP World History Exam & College Credit

**ALL STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO TAKE COLLEGE BOARD'S NATIONAL AP WORLD HISTORY EXAM in MAY!** For college credit, most colleges accept a score of 3, 4 or 5 (out of 5 total). Though results of the exam do not affect the academic high school credits earned in this course, *at teacher discretion*, students may be eligible to receive a grade bump at the end of the year if they pass with a 3, 4 or 5, depending on final course grade earned - and efforts demonstrated - in class all year. Students who do not take College Board's AP exam will not receive the AP designation on their transcripts - even if enrolled in the AP class all year - as it will be reclassified as a college-preparatory (CP) course and graded on a 4.0 scale, without an extra GPA point (see AP Contract).

## Grading Scale / Policy

On transcripts, students will earn a **weighted grade** (5.0) for this class and **College Board's AP designation** for taking the AP Exam. All assessments will be assigned a point value which reflects their relative importance as measured against other activities, and graded by percentage according to the following scale: **A: 90-100%**    **B: 80-89%**    **C: 70-79%**    **D: 60-69%**    **F: 0-59%**

This course has an ongoing grade for the whole semester (not quarters), and is weighted by priority based upon the following criteria:

- **30% Timed Essays (Summative Assessment)** - Include AP-style timed writing essay prompts (DBQ and LEQ).
- **30% SAQs – Short Answer Questions (Summative Assessments)** - Include timed AP-style Short Answer Questions.
- **25% Multiple Choice (Summative Assessments)**
  - Include AP-style stimulus-based multiple choice questions based on chapter readings, coursework and lectures (both in-class and Khan Academy videos). Multiple choice grades *may* be curved against the cohort's high scores.
- **15% Coursework**
  - Includes formative practice: AP Classroom, historical and thematic analysis and content synthesis through Socratic Seminars, Paired Debate, SPICE theme and other organizational charts, simulations, collaborative group work, peer-teaching, interactive lectures, primary and secondary source analysis, reading and writing workshops, short-answer development, map exercises, critical thinking activities, statistical data analysis, technology-based instruction, etc.
  - Requires and rewards individual merit, preparation and collaboration, and in most cases, peer-teaching.
  - If there's something scholars can just copy from a classmate, expect that it won't be something receiving a grade!

## Homework Expectation & Time Management Responsibilities

Expect and plan to spend at least **1 hour each day** (on average) preparing for class and studying for AP World History. The vast majority of homework requires students to develop interactive notes while completing assigned reading (from textbook, primary and secondary sources), utilizing AP Classroom, viewing/taking notes about Khan Academy online videos (the official practice partner of College Board and the AP program) and map work. With hundreds of years of global human history to cover, you will be responsible for knowing information from assigned readings & lectures that may not be discussed in class, so completing all that is assigned is absolutely critical to be successful in AP World History and on College Board's AP Exam in May.

## Note-Taking

This course supports Cornell Notes format. Though it is essential to take notes on chapter readings and lectures, like in college, notes aren't collected. Effort /time put in to notes will directly demonstrate readiness for coursework and improve success on assessments.

## Please bring these necessary supplies to class EVERY DAY\*:

- 3-ring hard cover **binder** exclusive to this class (2" minimum).
- College ruled lined **paper** (loose leaf, NOT paper that needs to be torn out and "hairy" from a bonded spiral notebook).
- **Highlighters** (5+ different colors). Many assignments require color to receive credit as we color-code world history themes.
- **Pens** (2+ dark blue or black ink) & **Pencils** (must have #2 or mechanical for exams).
- **Sticky/Post-it Notes** (a variety of sizes is recommended for critical reading assistance, note-taking and binder organization).
- **Binder divider tabs** (can purchase these or make home-made with sticky notes).
  - Carefully review Ms. Avar's "Binder Requirements Guide" for materials to organize your AP World History binder.
- HIGHLY recommended: **Calendar/Planner & Flashcards** (Digital tools are also an option).

*\*If you are unable to purchase these supplies, please write a note or have a conversation with me: Sometimes students from previous semesters donate extra supplies.*

## Course Content

AP World History: Modern is designed to be the equivalent of an introductory college or university survey of modern world history. It is divided into 9 units by four Periods. The following shows percentage of coverage on College Board's AP World History Exam:

Units	Chronological Period*	Exam Weighting
Unit 1: The Global Tapestry	c. 1200 to c. 1450	8–10%
Unit 2: Networks of Exchange		8–10%
Unit 3: Land-Based Empires	c. 1450 to c. 1750	12–15%
Unit 4: Transoceanic Interconnections		12–15%
Unit 5: Revolutions	c. 1750 to c. 1900	12–15%
Unit 6: Consequences of Industrialization		12–15%
Unit 7: Global Conflict		8–10%
Unit 8: Cold War and Decolonization	c. 1900 to the present	8–10%
Unit 9: Globalization		8–10%

\*Events, processes, and developments are not constrained by the given dates and may begin before, or continue after, the approximate dates assigned to each unit.

## Class Policies

- **BINDERS:** Keep a collection of all of your coursework **in your binder**. Organize your materials according to the AP World History Binder Requirements. See class board each day to record coursework and due dates (see Aeries and sample binder if absent). *Never throw away old work*. There are many occasions on which we will refer to your resources and previous units to complete current coursework. Also, always keep everything for the year in the event you need to defend a grade you earned.
- **LATE POLICY:** Late work will not be accepted. All deadlines are firm deadlines. Graded coursework is designed to synthesize and enhance learning through activities in the classroom the day it is due, so turning it in late is a missed opportunity.
- **ABSENSES:** Check your mailbox folder for any worksheets handed out and review Aeries for coursework assigned. If you have a **verified** absence the day coursework is due, read any notes listed by the assignment description in Aeries for an alternate assignment and deadline. Unverified absences are treated as a cut, work due will receive a zero and no makeup options available.
- **MAKUP POLICY:** Makeup Exams, Essays and SAQs will be taken in class the day of return, unless time will not allow or is otherwise arranged. Also see Aeries for posted makeup opportunities. Most homework is not graded, therefore does not qualify for makeup grades. Scholars with verified absences will have coursework grades excused (unless otherwise stated in Aeries).
- **RETAKE ESSAYS, EXAMS & SAQs:** To emulate a college course, no retakes are allowed. Plan ahead and prepare!
- **RESTROOM / LOCKER PASSES:** Only TWO emergency passes provided for each semester. **DON'T LOSE THEM!** You must serve a 10-minute detention if you need to be excused to the restroom / your locker but you've run out of passes.

## Plagiarism / Cheating

- ✓ All work that you turn in must be yours or properly cited (do not misrepresent others' work or ideas as your own).
- ✓ Do not let other students share or copy any of your work (use the sample binder, course webpage, or teacher for help).
- ✓ **Academic dishonesty on any work will receive ZERO credit, with no opportunity for makeup/retake. No exceptions!**

## Class Professionalism Expectations

In addition to school policy, below is a list of rules and consequences for our classroom. Failure to act professionally in class will result in a phone call home and a teacher detention, which, if not served, will turn into a school referral. ***To the teacher's discretion, extremely inappropriate behavior or defiance will result in an automatic administrative referral and/or parent conference.***

- **BE ON TIME:** If you arrive late without a pass signed by an SLHS official, school tardy policies will apply.
- **ELECTRONICS REQUIRE ADVANCED, EXPLICIT PERMISSION AND FOR ACADEMIC PURPOSES ONLY:** If I see or hear your electronic device or earphones/buds without my advanced and explicit permission to use it that day for a specific purpose, I will enforce the SLHS school-wide electronics policy (send with referral to the Assistant Principals' office. Device confiscated a day. If subsequent offense with any SLHS educator, parents/guardians will have to collect device from the A.P. office). Failure to professionally adhere to this consequence will result in an additional referral for defiance.
- **CLEAN UP AFTER YOURSELF:** If caught leaving food, gum, or trash in the room, you will owe me a 10-minute cleaning detention to help clean the classroom, the desks and floor (ew!) ☹ If not served you'll be issued a school referral.
- **PROFESSIONAL INTERACTION WITH CLASSMATES AND TEACHER AND CLASSROOM:**
  - Discipline yourself so no one else has to. Don't be part of the problem: Be part of the solution!
  - Don't interrupt when it's other people's turn to speak; no profanity; respect differences; provide constructive feedback rather than criticism, don't inappropriately tamper with class property; no grooming or sleeping in class.