



Southmoreland School District

Pre AP Curriculum Overview

Pre AP Overview:

Accelerated (Pre-AP) World History and Geography focuses deeply on the concepts and skills that have maximum value for college, career and civic life. This elective course is designed for those 9th & 10th grade students who intend to focus heavily on the humanities and to prepare them for future AP social studies courses. Accelerated (Pre-AP) World History and Geography has four units: one geography unit and three world history units that cover different historical eras. The geography unit is universal; all schools must teach it. Individual schools choose and implement the three World History units that best align with their local and state standards.

This class is meant to teach Freshman and Sophomore students how to be successful in an AP History Course. The first quarter of the Class uses a focus on geography to build students' global awareness of early humans, civilizations, and cultures with a heavy focus on how to write in proper History format. After the first Quarter there will be more of a focus on history opposed to Geography. By this time the skills and requirements of using Primary Sources and proper research to write smaller form Document Based Questions will be presented using World Religion as the focus content. As the course progresses more complex and involved Primary Sources and DBQ's will be assigned. By the end of the Academic School Year students will be able to organize, prepare, and construct a fully professional Document Based Question based on any theme presented to them.

Module Titles:

Module 1: Themes and Skill of Geography based on Early River Civilizations

Module 2: Analysis of World Religion through Primary Sources

Module 3: Renaissance to the Scientific Revolution: Simple DBQ's

Module 4: The Enlightenment: Learning how to analyze and use multiple Primary Sources.

Module 5: War and Revolution: Learning how to write a fully professional DBQ.

Module Overviews:

Module 1:

Using the first early river civilizations, students will learn global spatial recognition and learn important terms and skills used to record and help man progress. Once students have learned the required knowledge of reading and interpreting maps to better understand its relation to history students will then be introduced to proper research writing formatting. Long Answer and Short Answer responses required in AP are a major focus of assessment.



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Module 2:

Shifting from a focus on geography, students analyze the major religions of the World. To fully understand any historical event or happening, one must be able to read, comprehend, and analyze Primary Source materials.

Module 3:

Students learn how to analyze and use multiple mediums of sources like graphs, art, and maps. The processes of DBQ analysis are established, and a guided focus question will be presented requiring the use of one to two primary sources to construct responses. At the conclusion of this module, students will be able to construct a simple DBQ response.

Module 4:

Students build foundational DBQ skills and knowledge to complete more complex DBQ's and research. While learning about the new theories and human progress of the Enlightenment students will be introduced to more indirect questions that require more planning and analysis. Students will also slowly be given more Primary Sources to use in the completion of their DBQ and research assignments.

Module 5:

Students develop an understanding of the major Revolutions and Wars of the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries. The College Board DBQ rubric will be presented to students and the final necessary skill to complete a fully professional DBQ will be taught: how to use contextualization in a response. By the time we hit the Cold War students will be completing fully professional DBQ assignments and will be fully prepared and equipped to handle the rigors of an Advanced Placement History Course.