

Advanced Placement European History
Summer Assignment – 2009

The Legacy of the Roman Empire

This assignment will be helpful by using the Internet and/or the public library. You must become familiar with the Roman Empire and the feudal society that developed in Europe after its fall in 476. Because European history is based upon the foundation of the Romans in Europe, it is necessary that you have an understanding of the Romans and their culture.

You will be expected to understand the answers for each of the following questions:

- Who were the Romans?
 - politically – government
 - socially – how did they work and live
 - religion – polytheism, Christianity, Judaism
- How far did the empire reach across the globe?
 - Will you be capable of drawing a map that outlines the borders?
- The Empire fell in 476 AD, do you know why?
 - What were the facts that led to the fall of Rome?

After the fall of Rome, Germanic tribes reduced the political system and created a sense of chaos. The Catholic Church rose up as one of the saviors to the Roman culture? How and why?

- What was the role of the Roman Catholic Church following the fall of the Roman Empire?
- The government of the Romans was replaced by feudalism. Explain.
- What was the manor system and how did it function during feudal Europe?

The following vocabulary will help you understand the time period in Europe between the fall of Rome and the rise of the Renaissance. You will be **TESTED** on these vocabulary terms as well as the previous questions during your first week of school in September, 2008.

peasants	William of Normandy	religious orders
	manorial system	
nobility (aristocracy)	crusades	<i>Magna Carta</i>
	vassals	

monks

common law

knights

feudalism

merchant guild

Charles the Great (Charlemagne)