

Dear AP European History Students (2009-2010):

As you enter into the world of an Advance Placement student, you must begin to recognize the responsibility that accompanies this venture. Advanced Placement courses are not honors classes. AP classes are college level classes that are introduced to high school students. As your teacher, It is my responsibility to help each of you meet the challenges of this very rigorous class. In order to do this, let me update you on just a few of the goals of this course:

- We will cover European history from the High Renaissance of the 1450s to current events.
- Cultural, economic, political, and social developments will be analyzed.
- Cause and effect as well as change over time will be highlighted.
- Analyses of historical evidence and historical interpretation through documents, art, and literature will assist us in reaching our goal of success on the national examination

Not all of you will be entering this AP European class with the same academic background. Although many of you have had World History I, some of you have been enrolled in a World Geography course during the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Because each of you comes with different perspectives, it is important that all of you enter with some understanding of European history before the rise of the Renaissance. This is where the summer assignment will help each of you.

It is important that you realize this assignment was developed to help you and not to invoke fear or frustration. If you have a working relationship with this assignment, you will enter this course in September with a sense of confidence and this is extremely important.

If at anytime this summer you have questions about this AP European History class or the summer assignment, please get in touch with me. I check my email account daily and I look forward to hearing from each one of you before school begins. Good luck with this assignment and, most of all, enjoy your summer.  
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Sincerely,

Rose M. O'Neill  
AP European History