

# A.P. EUROPEAN HISTORY SUMMER ASSIGNMENT

In preparation for your “journey” through A.P. European History, you will be required to read the book listed below and write a journal assignment.

**Manchester, William. A World Lit Only by Fire. Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1992.**

## Journal Assignment – 35 points

**Purpose:** to introduce students to A.P. European History skills, themes, and content

- You will become familiar with the first period of Modern European History (1450-1648). Periodization is an important skill in European History and the test revolves around four time periods.
- You will become familiar with and use the five European History themes. Our course revolves around these themes, so it is important to understand how they work.
- You will become familiar with identifying and using concrete evidence to support your arguments. This is an important skill in A.P. European History writing.
- Educational research proves that students who can access previous knowledge, relate new topics to material they have already learned, and can categorize new material learn better; this assignment allows all students to enter class with this ability.

### **Requirements**

- Answer in paragraph form
- Type your work
- Please allow time to read a book and about three hours to write your journals
- Your work is due the first day of class

### **Assignment**

For EACH of the three sections of Manchester’s text complete the following

- Choose two of the themes listed below (the questions under the theme are there to guide your thinking – not be answered directly), identify two pieces of concrete evidence in each section, and explain how each piece of evidence demonstrates the theme.
- Identify the three most significant events in the section and explain how each one either epitomizes the era and promote traditional views of life or how they alter European life, thinking, or worldview.
- Identify the three most significant people in the section and explain how each one either epitomizes the era and promote traditional views of life or how they alter European life, thinking, or worldview.
- Write one question that arose in your mind as you read.

### **Theme 1**

#### **Interaction of Europe and the World**

(How has Europe interacted with the World?)  
(What technology allowed them to interact?)  
(What was the impact of these interactions?)

### **Theme 3**

#### **Objective Knowledge and Subjective Visions**

(How has the Church and Greek and Roman thought created and transmitted knowledge?)  
(How did people challenge established ideas of knowledge?)  
(What are the new ideas of the era?)

### **Theme 5**

#### **Individual and Society**

(What forms have family, class, and social groups taken in European History?)  
(How and why have tensions arisen between the individual and society?)  
(How and why has the status of specific groups within society changed over time?)

### **Theme 2**

#### **Poverty and Prosperity**

(What is the economic system of the era?)  
(What were the causes and consequences of economic and social inequality?)  
(How did individuals and groups respond to the inequality?)

### **Theme 4**

#### **States and Other Institutions of Power**

(What are the forms of government?)  
(How have governments moved toward or reacted against democratic principles?)  
(How did non-governmental groups impact, challenge, uphold, and work with state government?)

If you have questions, you can e-mail me at [Kelly\\_Rose@ipsd.org](mailto:Kelly_Rose@ipsd.org).