

Honors World History Summer Assignment

2020-2021 School Year

Introduction:

The Honors World History course focuses on developing students' understanding of world history from approximately 1500 C.E. to the present. The course has students investigate the content of world history for significant events, individuals, developments, and processes in different historical periods, and develop and use the same thinking skills and methods (analyzing primary and secondary sources, making historical comparisons, chronological reasoning, and argumentation) employed by historians when they study the past. The course also provides six themes (interaction between humans and the environment; development and interaction of cultures; state building, expansion, and conflict; creation, expansion, and interaction of economic systems; development and transformation of social structures and technology and innovation) that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places encompassing the five major geographical regions of the globe: Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe, and Oceania.



The due date for this assignment is Monday, August 10th.

As you begin this assignment, you may have questions. Some of them will be great questions and may suggest that I didn't explain something as clearly as I should have. For this, I apologize in advance. Some of your questions are probably already addressed in this document, so read it carefully. Please know that this is a class that requires advanced thinking skills. So, when you feel like you have a question, try to answer it on your own at first; nevertheless, if you are still having trouble, please feel free to contact me for clarification. My email is jwilliams@xavierprep.org

Part I - Why Study History?

Read "Why Study History" by Peter Stearns (see link below). Write a thesis statement (this is not a summary; it is an argument) for why the study of history is important.

[http://www.historians.org/about-aha-and-membership/aha-history-and-archives/archives/why-study-history-\(1998\)](http://www.historians.org/about-aha-and-membership/aha-history-and-archives/archives/why-study-history-(1998))

Part II- The History of Our World in 18 Minutes

Watch this brief [Ted Talk given by David Christian](#) As you read take notes (you may need to hit pause as you notate). Afterward, write a one paragraph summary of the purpose of Christian's lecture. Be sure to support your answer with evidence from Christian's point of view.

Part III- Map Activity

Create or print an outline map which you can locate and label each of the items listed below. Items listed with a color and number can be labeled using the appropriate color/number combination. All other items must be neatly hand drawn or outlined and clearly labeled. Your map should be at least 11x 17, but can be as large as 13x19 in size. You may have a map quiz during the first week of school, so please study this as you complete it. Suggested reference for the physical geography maps: http://go.hrw.com/atlas/norm_hm/world.htm.

Continents (RED)

1. North America

2. South America
3. Australia
4. Europe
5. Antarctica
6. Asia
7. Africa

Oceans, Seas, Bays, Lakes (BLUE)

1. Atlantic Ocean
2. Pacific Ocean
3. Indian Ocean
4. Arctic Ocean
5. North Sea
6. Baltic Sea
7. English Channel
8. Mediterranean Sea
9. Adriatic Sea
10. Aegean Sea
11. Black Sea
12. Caspian Sea
13. Red Sea
14. Persian Gulf
15. Arabian Sea
16. South China Sea
17. East China Sea
18. Sea of Japan
19. Caribbean Sea
20. Gulf of Mexico

Rivers (GREEN)

1. Nile River
2. Tigris
3. Euphrates
4. Amazon River
5. Indus River
6. Ganges River
7. Mekong
8. Rhine

9. Danube

Deserts (TAN or YELLOW)

1. Gobi
2. Kalahari
3. Sahara
4. Mojave
5. Arabian

Ranges (ORANGE ^^)

1. Himalayas
2. Hindu Kush
3. Andes
4. Sierra Madre
5. Alps
6. Appalachian
7. Rocky Mountains
8. Pyrenees Mountains
9. Ural Mountains

Straits (PURPLE)

1. Bosphorous Strait
2. Strait of Magellan
3. Strait of Gibraltar

Peninsulas & Other Landforms (STRIPED LINES)

1. Arabian Peninsula
2. Balkans
3. Horn of Africa
4. Iberian Peninsula
5. Yucatan Peninsula

I look forward to meeting you!