

AP European History

For new and experienced AP teachers

About This Course

AP European History focuses on developing students' abilities to think conceptually about European history from approximately 1450 to the present and apply historical thinking skills as they learn about the past. Five themes of equal importance—Interaction of Europe and the World, Poverty and Prosperity, Objective Knowledge and Subjective Visions, States and Other Institutions of Power, and Individual and Society—provide areas of historical inquiry for investigation throughout the course. These require students to reason historically about continuity and change over time and make comparisons among various historical developments in different times and places.

Learning outcomes

After attending this workshop, participants will be able to:

- Align their instruction with the goals of the AP European History course
- Identify the skills and knowledge that the exam will assess, and identify the tasks and materials for which students might need more preparation
- Draft a syllabus that meets the curricular requirements for the course
- Make equitable access a guiding principle in designing instruction

Workshop materials

At every AP European History workshop held by the College Board, each participant receives a copy of the **Workshop Handbook**, which contains:

- **AP European History Course Description**
- **AP Course Audit** information
- **Sample syllabus** for AP European History and a **Syllabus Development Guide**
- AP European History **free-response materials** (student samples, scoring guidelines and commentary)
- **Multiple-choice questions and answers** from the AP European History 2009 Released Exam

Materials also include an introduction to course and exam redesign slated for the 2015–2016 school year. Eighty percent of workshop content will focus on the current course; and 20 percent focuses on previewing the redesigned course. Participants will receive:

- The curriculum framework for the redesigned AP European History course
- Activities that both explore the structure of the redesigned course and suggest appropriate instructional strategies and practices

Curriculum Module: Teaching Post-Cold War Europe

This curriculum module is intended to aid teachers with instruction on one of the more difficult periods addressed in the course. These articles have been developed by veteran AP European History instructors. The first article, "Post-Cold War Western Europe," provides direction through the changes and challenges Europe has faced since the collapse of the Soviet Union. The second, "Casting a Giant Shadow," discusses how the political changes in post-

Soviet Russia, while seeming new and radical, echo an earlier period of Russian history. Finally, the module provides two lesson plans for classroom activities.

Note: Curriculum module materials reflect important topics in AP courses, and the materials are meant to provide teachers with resources and classroom ideas. However, curriculum module materials should not be taken as an indication that a particular topic will appear on the AP Exam.