

Saint Paul Diocesan Junior/Senior High School
Advanced Placement Modern European History
Summer Assignment 2022

Congratulations! If you have expressed an interest to take AP European History, you are poised to make a great shift in your intellectual capacity and the way you read, think, and write. The course is very challenging, but it will change you as a student forever!

In order to earn a position in the class, you must complete the following summer work according to the scheduled time associated with each assignment. The summer reading assignment consists of three parts:

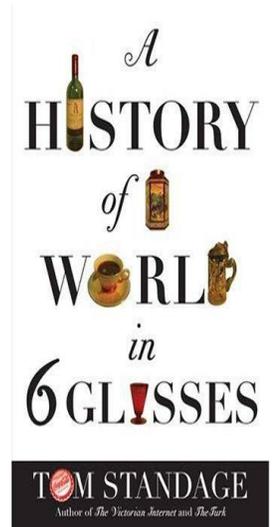
- Part I. *A History of the World in Six Glasses* (you'll need to buy the book!)
 - Part II. Map Work: Modern Europe (separate document – due first day of school)
 - Part III. Chapter 11 Assignment Packet (due first day of school)
- [Assignment Packet Chapter 11--The Later Middle Ages .docx](#)

Part I: Tom Standage, *A History of the World in Six Glasses*

About the book:

A History of the World in Six Glasses is a book by Tom Standage, Technology Editor for *The Economist*, one of the world's most highly respected magazines. The book is very well regarded by many of the nation's AP Euro teachers. As other teachers issue a disclaimer with this book, I will do the same, and I quote: "The choice of this book as a summer reading assignment is no way represents any attempt by this teacher or this school to promote the use/misuse of any of these beverages, alcoholic, caffeinated or otherwise. This book merely offers a unique and interesting way of viewing the normally dry subject of economic history." In other words, take this book for what it is: a good look at the role of commodities in shaping the past. It's an interesting set of stories, and such a reading exposes you to economic and social themes that are part of what this course is all about.

Your assignment: Due date – August 14, no later than 11:59pm (emailed to swagner@saintpaulknights.org)



1. Read the following sections: "Introduction"; "Spirits"; "Coffee"; "Tea"; "Coca-Cola"; and "Epilogue." You're welcome to read the sections on beer and wine, but they're well before the course's scope of history, so I haven't required them. As you're no doubt aware, there is no harm in reading more than is required!
2. Book Review: I am attaching a copy of a book review guide I want you to use. Please attach your notes with your completed book review in one continuous pdf.

Writing Good Book Reviews

A book review does not only tell you what a book is about, but also whether it achieves what it is trying to do. Therefore, a book review is more than a summary of the content (even though this is an important component), but a critical analysis of the book and your reaction to it.

While you are reading the book, take notes about the following issues:

- What is the author's main goal in writing the book? (Convince you of his position on a controversy? Explain the background of an event? Raise awareness of a particular issue?)
- What are the author's main points?
- What kind of evidence does the author provide to make his or her points? How convincing is this evidence?
- Is the book well written? (Easily understandable? Good style?)
- What group of readers would find this book most useful (Lay people? Students? Experts in the area?)

A book review usually has the following components:

1. Introduction (one or two paragraphs)
 - a. Bibliographic information (author, title, date of publication, publisher, number of pages, type of book)
 - b. Brief overview of the theme, purpose, and your evaluation
2. Summary of the content (about two pages)
 - a. Brief summary of the key points of each chapter or group of chapters
 - b. Paraphrase the information, but use a short quote when appropriate
3. Evaluation and conclusion (about one page)
 - a. Give your opinion about the book, Is the book easy to read or confusing? Is the book interesting, entertaining, instructive? Does the author support his arguments well? What are the book's greatest strengths and weaknesses? Who would you recommend the book to? Any other observations you wish to include as well