

Middletown Township Public Schools  
High School North and High School South  
AP World History Assignment  
Summer 2016

**AP World History Summer Assignment Checklist**

The following items are due on the first day of school. There will be no exceptions. Please be mindful of what must be typed and what must be handwritten.

\_\_\_\_\_ **APWH Course Themes.** Go to the AP World History homepage on the College Board's website. Click on and download the Course Description. Read pages 17-20 (Course Themes) and fill out the **Course Themes in Today's American Society Worksheet** in this packet. This should be *handwritten*.

\_\_\_\_\_ **APWH 101.** You should also be able to answer the following questions based on the College Board's APWH website and the Course Description PDF. You will be quizzed on this material within the first week of school.

--What are the five course themes of APWH?

--Into what six major periods is this course broken? What percentage of each period is covered on the test?

--What are the sections of the APWH exam and how much time do you have for each? How much is each part worth?

--When is the 2017 APWH Exam?

--Study the APWH Regions – A Closer Look found on page 22 of the course description. A quiz on these will be given within the first week of school.

College Board's APWH Website:

<https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/apcourse/ap-world-history/about-the-exam?worldhist>

\_\_\_\_\_ Read ***Writing On The Wall: Social Media – The First 2000 Years*** by Tom Standage.  
ISBN: 978-1-62040-283-2

\_\_\_\_\_ Complete the **reading guide** found in this packet. Bullet points are fine – you do not need a novel for each. You should *handwrite* out these responses on a separate sheet of paper. You will be given an in-class essay on *Writing On The Wall* within the first week of school, so your notes will be crucial for your preparation for this first major assessment.

\_\_\_\_\_ Read ***The Earth and Its Peoples: A Global History*** Chapter 1 and take notes. You may choose to complete your notes using the guided reading located on the Google Classroom page.

### Course Themes in Today's American Society Worksheet

Use the APWH Course Description, available on the College Board's APWH website, pages 17-20, to learn about and then paraphrase each of the five course themes below. Then, consider modern American society. You can think broadly or narrowly (nationwide, US foreign policy, or just locally in the NYC metro area, for example). Give at least five examples of each course theme. Be prepared to defend your examples.

<b>APWH Course Theme + Description in your own words</b>	<b>Examples from American Society Today</b>
Interaction between humans and the environment	
Development and interaction of cultures	
State-building, expansion, and conflict	

<b>APWH Course Theme + Description <i>in your own words</i></b>	<b>Examples from American Society Today</b>
Creation, expansion, and interaction of economic systems	
Development and transformation of social structures	

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## ***Writing On The Wall: Social Media – The First 2000 Years Reading Guide***

### **Introduction – Cicero’s Web**

1. Explain the comparison between Cicero’s papyrus rolls and today’s social media.

### **Chapter 1. The Ancient Foundations of Social Media: Why Humans Are Wired For Sharing**

2. Why are social media sites so popular? How do they fit with our brain’s “wiring”?
3. Why do humans have such relatively large neocortexes?
4. What is social grooming? Why is it so important for primates?
5. What is the Dunbar Number? Do you see evidence of this in your own life? Explain.
6. What role does the exchange of social information (gossip) play in human interactions?
7. Why was writing first developed?
8. What was the ancient Greek attitude toward the written word? How is this related to “googling” in today’s world?

### **Chapter 2. The Roman Media: The First Social-Media Ecosystem**

9. Why were Roman letters so important?
10. What were Julius Caesar’s reasons for ordering the publication of the acta?
11. Why didn’t Romans develop a printing press?
12. How were people’s comments about the news just as important as the news itself?
13. How did books gain popularity? What issues did authors face?
14. What role did “walls” and “message boards” play in Ancient Rome?
15. Why is graffiti important?

### **Chapter 3. How Luther Went Viral: The Role of Social Media in Revolutions (1)**

16. Why was the written word so rare in “Dark Ages” Europe? How did this eventually change?
17. Explain Martin Luther’s “post” and how it went “viral.”
18. What other forms of media were used in the Reformation Era? How effective were they?
19. How did the “social media” of the day help cause/spread the Reformation?

#### **Chapter 4. Poetry in Motion: Social Media for Self-Expression and Self-Promotion**

20. How did members of the sixteenth century Tudor court use social media?
21. How did the printing press and manuscripts affect literacy in Europe?
22. How are miscellanies related to modern social media practices?
23. Who was @saucygodson? How did he use the social media of his day to advance his career? To what extent is this still similar to people today? How is this similar to people today?

#### **Chapter 5. Let Truth and Falsehood Grapple: The Challenges of Regulating Social Media**

24. Who was John Stubbs? What message did he articulate and how? What does this episode illustrate about the authorities responding to criticisms in social media?
25. Why did political leaders want to keep strict controls on printing?
26. How did political news spread?
27. How did freedom of press eventually emerge in England?
28. How were pamphlets like today's blog posts?
29. How did Milton's arguments influence U.S. history?
30. How are the politics of today similar to the politics of the 1640s in England?

#### **Chapter 6. And So to the Coffeehouse: How Social Media Promotes Innovation**

31. Why did coffee and coffeehouses become so popular in seventeenth Europe?
32. What role did coffeehouses play in spreading information? How were they like today's web pages?
33. What were the criticisms of coffeehouses leveled by opponents? What did coffeehouse supporters argue? How are these arguments similar to arguments made today about social media use?
34. How did coffeehouses promote collaboration? How is this similar to collaborative uses of social media today (online meeting sites, Google Docs, etc.)?
35. What role did scientific journals play in promoting ideas? How were articles verified? How is this similar to websites today?

#### **Chapter 7. The Liberty of Printing: The Role of Social Media in Revolutions (2)**

36. What role did postmasters in towns play in the early colonies in America in regards to the spread of ideas and information?
37. How were reprinted letters, speeches, and pamphlets printed in early newspapers a form of social media?

38. What is censorship? How did early colonial governments combat newspapers publishing information without the approval of the local government? Give examples.

39. How was the Stamp Act (1764) used to control the exchange of information? How did colonists and publishers stir up opposition to the Stamp Act? Were they successful?

40. Explain how Thomas Paine's *Common Sense* went "viral." Compare how Paine and Luther adapted their language to reach the widest possible audience.

### **Chapter 8. The Sentinel of the People: Tyranny, Optimism and Social Media**

41. What relationship did the French government during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries have with newspapers and other kinds of publications? How did this compare with contemporary Britain and America?

42. Explain what the "underground media" in eighteenth century France was. Give examples.

43. What effect did the easing of censorship in France (1788) have on the circulation of printed materials?

44. What role did the media have when the Old Regime collapsed and the French Revolution (1789) began?

45. To what extent do you think a free press leads to freedom?

### **Chapter 9. The Rise of Mass Media: The Centralization Begins**

46. What effect did steam printing have on the printing of newspapers? What were "penny papers?"

47. How did *The Sun* appeal to the people of America and increase its readership? How did this differ from traditional newspapers of the time?

48. What led to the rise of newspaper "reporters?" How did this field expand rapidly in the nineteenth century?

49. What were the advantages of Samuel Morse's electric telegraph? Why did *Scientific America* in 1852 declare "No invention of modern times has extended its influence so rapidly as that of the electric telegraph?"

50. What led to the rise of media moguls like Horace Greeley, William Randolph Hearst and Joseph Pulitzer?

51. How were newspapers different at the end of the nineteenth century from what they were in the early nineteenth century?

### **Chapter 10. The Opposite of Social Media: Media in the Broadcast Era**

52. How did Guglielmo Marconi serve as a catalyst for the development of wireless radio technology?

53. What were some of the drawbacks of early wireless radio broadcasts?

54. What was the purpose of organizations like NBC, FRC, CBS and the BBC? What role did they play in the centralization of radio?

55. How did Germany in the 1930's take radio centralization to new heights? Who was Joseph Goebbels? How did he plan to effect political and societal change?

56. How did the television become “the drug of the nation?” Why did television sales increase dramatically after WWII?

57. What were some of the reasons television was so popular? What kinds of programs were being shown to draw Americans to their television sets?

### **Chapter 11. The Rebirth of Social Media: From ARPANET to Facebook**

58. What are the origins of ARPANET? What was its primary purpose?

59. What were some of the ways people used ARPANET? What were its benefits?

60. What led to the development of the World Wide Web?

61. Why did companies and universities begin setting up their own webpages in the 1990’s? How did this lead to the setting up of personal webpages and blogs?

62. How did bloggers come to see themselves as an alternative and corrective outlet to the mainstream media? What were some results to this?

63. What led to the rise of social media sites like Friendster.com and Facebook.com? How did social media sites like these impact events like the Arab Spring and other large scale world events?

**Epilogue. History Retweets Itself. Consider ONE of the following three questions. Develop this response in 2-3 paragraphs, using examples from your life, and your reading of Bulliet.**

Does greater access to the Internet, and to the open publishing environment provided by social media in particular, inherently promote freedom and democracy? Consider this within historical context.

Are peoples engaging in social media a distracting waste of time that diverts people from more worthwhile pursuits like work and study? Consider this within historical context.

To what extent does a modern day social medium resemble earlier forms of social media like coffeehouses and other shared social platforms throughout history?