

AP European History Summer Assignment

The summer assignment for AP European History is quite simple and also quite necessary as we enter this course.

Rationale: Over the course of the year, a student will need to know for instance, “where is the Balkan Peninsula?” or “Where does Europe end and Asia begin?” and “What are the major water routes of Europe?” and assorted other questions. The instructor will assume the student has a working knowledge of Europe and can immediately reference this information without hesitation.

When class convenes in August each student will be required to take two map tests of the European continent. These tests will occur on the first two days of class.

In the first test the student will demonstrate knowledge of the political boundaries that make up Europe in the current year. There are 50+ countries in Europe and each student is expected to be able to name and place the great majority of those countries. A section on this test will also be dedicated to the largest cities in Europe (London, Paris, Rome, Berlin, Moscow, Istanbul etc.) A grade of 90% is expected before the student is allowed to move on to the second test.

The second test, given upon completion of the first one requires that the student has a working knowledge of all the geographical landforms of the European continent. The student will be responsible for all major mountain ranges, peninsulas, rivers, bodies of water etc.

Question: *“How do I prepare for these tests?”*

Answer: Over the summer prepare yourself by looking at maps of Europe. Another strategy is to make lists of the countries, largest cities and major geographical features of Europe. Aside from being a required grade for this class, this geographical information will help the student become familiar with this continent.