

10th Grade AP European History Student Information Sheet

Prerequisite: Student performance, teacher recommendation, and successful completion of World Studies 1 & 2 earning a grade of “A” or “B”.

Course Description

AP European History is designed for students who are performing above the high school level, have a consistently strong work ethic, and enjoy the study of European history. This one-year course of study is based on the 10th grade California Social Science and National Advanced Placement standards. The course covers the span of European History from roughly 1450 to the present. In addition to providing a basic narrative of events and movements, the goals of AP European History are to develop (a) an understanding of some of the principal themes in modern European history, (b) an ability to analyze historical evidence and historical interpretation, and (c) an ability to express historical understanding in writing. Students who successfully navigate this class will be prepared to take the AP European History national exam in May and may earn college credit for this course.

Course Requirements

Reading: Students in AP Euro will be required to read approximately 20 pages from the assigned textbook per week throughout the entirety of the year. Please note that the textbook utilized in the course is a college-level textbook.

Writing: Students in AP Euro will be required to master a number of writing-based assignments including document analysis, GPERSIA analysis, in addition to free-response & document-based essay questions. Students should expect to write 6+ essays per semester.

Assessments: Students in AP Euro will be required to take periodic (1-2 per week) reading quizzes on the assigned readings. There will also be either chapter/unit tests every few weeks. Each semester will have district-mandated Benchmark Exams as well as cumulative Final Exams. Finally, the AP test held in May is encouraged for students who take the course.

Why take AP Euro?

AP Euro is a 5-point class. Students who earn an “A” in AP Euro will receive 5 points for the semester. Students who take and pass the AP Euro test with a score of 3 or higher may receive college credit.

The Scramble for Africa

Europeans controlled relatively little of the African continent before 1880. Earlier, when their economic interests were more limited (in the case of Africa, primarily the slave trade), European states had generally been satisfied to deal with existing independent states rather than attempting to establish direct control over vast territories. For the most part, the Western presence in Africa had been limited to controlling the regional trade network and establishing a few footholds where the foreigners could carry on trade and missionary activity. During the last two decades of the nineteenth century, however, the quest for colonies became a scramble as all of the major European states engaged in a land grab.



The first step towards lightening

The White Man's Burden

is through teaching the virtues of cleanliness.

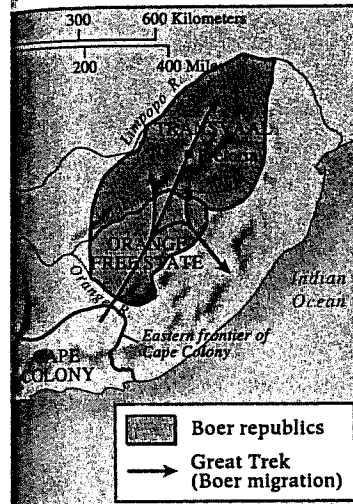
Pears' Soap

is a potent factor in brightening the dark corners of the earth as civilization advances, while amongst the cultured of all nations it holds the highest place—it is the ideal toilet soap.

North Wind Picture Archives

Soap and the White Man's Burden. The concept of the "white man's burden" included the belief that the superiority of their civilization obligated Europeans to impose their practices on supposedly primitive nonwhites. This advertisement for Pears' Soap clearly communicates the Europeans' view of their responsibility toward other peoples.

South Africa During the Napoleonic wars, the British had established themselves in South Africa by taking control of Cape Town, originally founded by the Dutch. After the wars, the British encouraged settlers to come to what they called the Cape Colony. British policies disgusted the Boers or Afrikaners, as the descendants of the Dutch colonists



The Struggle for South Africa

were called, and led them in 1835 to migrate north on the Great Trek to the region between the Orange and Vaal Rivers (later known as the Orange Free State) and north of the Vaal River (the Transvaal). Hostilities between the British and the Boers continued, however. In 1877, the British governor of the Cape Colony seized the Transvaal, but a Boer revolt led the British government to recognize Transvaal as the independent South African Republic. These struggles between

the British and the Boers did not prevent either white group from massacring and subjugating the Zulu and Xhosa peoples of the region.

In the 1880s, British policy in South Africa was largely determined by Cecil Rhodes (1853–1902). Rhodes founded both diamond and gold companies that monopolized production of these precious commodities and enabled him to gain control of a territory north of Transvaal that he named Rhodesia after himself. Rhodes was a great champion of British expansion. He said once, "If there be a God, I think what he would like me to do is to paint as much of Africa British red as possible." One of his goals was to create a series of British colonies "from the Cape to Cairo," all linked by a railroad. His imperialist ambitions led to his downfall in 1896, however, when the British government forced him to resign as prime minister of the Cape Colony after he conspired to overthrow the Boer government of the South African Republic without British approval. Although the British government had hoped to avoid war with the Boers, it could not stop extremists on both sides from precipitating a conflict. The Boer War dragged on from 1899 to 1902, when the Boers were overwhelmed by the larger British army. British policy toward the defeated Boers was remarkably conciliatory. Transvaal and the Orange Free State had representative governments by 1907, and in 1910, the Union of South Africa was created. Like Canada, Australia, and New Zealand, it became a fully self-governing dominion within the British Empire.