

European History (AP)
Summer Assignment 2018
EuroAP18.1

Name:

Introduction:

Welcome to AP Euro. Our goal will be to achieve an understanding of this dynamic and immensely influential continent from the dawn of the early modern era (14th century) to the cataclysmic 20th century. In furtherance of that end, we will also discuss events in contemporary Europe when they have a relation to the events of the seven centuries in our curriculum. To stimulate your thinking over the summer, a book has been chosen which will examine two of the most influential decades in this seven hundred year period.

Your Selection:

Fracture:
Life and Culture In the West 1918-1938
by
Philipp Blom
(Basic Books, New York, NY 2015)

Author Biography:

Philipp Blom is a German-American, Oxford-educated historian and journalist based in California. His works include the widely acclaimed *Vertigo Years: Europe 1900-1914* (2008) as well as various novels and a libretto.

Your Task:

You are to read *Fracture* and write a five full page paper which addresses the following question:

“Identify and explain five events in the European interwar years (1918-1938) which reveal a central thesis of Blom’s: that the interwar years are a time of collision between the certainties of the 19th century and the unknown direction which modernity portends.”

The essence of this assignment is to get you to think about how all that European civilization has built since the 14th century has been blown asunder by the devastation of World War I. In the wake of the tragedy from 1914 to 1918, how does Europe deal with a new reality in art, music, politics and many other manifestations of culture?

Directions:

1. Citations referencing Blom are expected - use University of Chicago citation methodology (this means footnotes). Keep direct quotes short and to a minimum. At least five references would be plausible for an assignment of this nature.
2. Footnotes mean you will have a separate page for "Sources." Blom may be your only source, but you may want to reference other scholarly sites. Number your pages
3. Since this is a European history course, focus on the events pertaining to Europe. It is preferred that you not choose the US -centric topics such as the Scopes Trial or Prohibition for example. Short references to topics such as these are fine, but no detailed analysis - the European topics provide more than enough grist for your paper.
4. Cover pages are a requirement of Chicago, but for this assignment create a single space header with your name, European History AP and the summer assignment title. The rest of your paper will be double-spaced.
5. Although you are focusing on five events and Blom helpfully organizes chapters around single years, you are to take notes on the Introduction as well as all 21 chapters in a journal I will ask to see at the start of the course. These notes are merely meant to get you to hone in on a major theme for each chapter and its significance. An example of an acceptable focusing-topic would be, in chapter 32, what was Stalin's motivation in bringing about widespread starvation through the Holodomor?

Due date:

Tuesday, September 11, 2018

Time Management:

June: Acquire or borrow book. Address this right away as copies of this book are limited. Hardcover, softcover or eversion of this book are acceptable.

July/August: Read the book in 20 to 30 page installments. This is a complex book, so there are a lot of ideas to master and that takes time.

September 1-10: Write your paper, contact me with questions and allow enough time for paper revisions.

BOOK REACTION PAPER RUBRIC

SCORE	OUTSTANDING (4)	EXCELLENT (3)	BASIC (2)	IN PROGRESS (1)	POINTS
SUMMARY	Summary consists of a discussion of major themes, ideas, and characters providing at least 4 single sentence excerpts from the book. It combines ideas from the book into new sentences using your own words.	Summary consists of a discussion of major themes, ideas, and characters, providing at least 3 excerpts from the book. It combines ideas from the book into new sentences using your own words.	Summary consists of a discussion of major themes, ideas, and characters providing at least 2 excerpts from the book. It combines new ideas from the book into new sentences using your own words.	Summary is mostly an outline of the book and does not discuss themes or major ideas of the book. There may be one direct quote “thrown in” for effect.	
POINT OF VIEW	Paper accurately analyzes the author’s intent and views	Paper generally reflects the author’s intent and views.	Paper attempts to get author’s intent and views.	Paper does not accurately demonstrate author’s intent and views.	
CRITIQUE	Critique consists of thoughts, responses, and reaction to the book. The student reviewer reacts to the themes, the author's aims or intent, the subject of the book, how well it is written and overall success or failure of the book.	Critique consists of thoughts, responses, and reaction to the book. The student reviewer may discuss only two aspects, for example, themes and writer's style. There is not a thorough review of various aspects.	Critique consists of thoughts, responses, and reaction to the book. The student may discuss only one aspect of the novel, such as themes. This review just states random facts, is superficial and it lacks a critical eye.	Critique consists of a basic opinion based on personal feeling of "I liked it" or "I hated it" and is not considered a critique because it does not focus on themes, author's intent, or writer's style.	
ORGANIZATION	Structure of the paper flows and is easily read because of smooth transitions from paragraph to paragraph. The sequence of topics is in logical order. There is a clear-cut introduction, body, and conclusion.	Structure of the paper flows and is easily read, but 1-2 transitions may be faulty or missing. There is some illogical order in sequence of topics. There is a clear cut introduction, body, and conclusion.	Structure of the paper does NOT follow a logical order. The writing or ideas may “jump” around; it is not cohesive. There is not a clear introduction, body, or conclusion.	Structure of the paper does NOT follow a logical order. There are no transitional phrases that make it easy to read the paper. OR review is just a copying of the original book.	

MECHANICS	Uses complete sentences and a variety of sentence types. Proper grammar/spelling.	Uses complete sentences and a variety of sentence types. A few (3-5) grammatical/spelling errors	There are 1-2 incomplete sentences or fragments. There are also run-on sentences. 6-8 spelling errors.	There are more than 2 incomplete sentences or fragments. There are more than 2 run-on sentences. Over 9 spelling/grammar errors.	
				TOTAL	_____ 100