

AP Euro Students and Parents,

Welcome to the world of Advanced Placement courses. I am Mrs. Karen Barrett and I am eagerly looking forward to meeting you when school begins in August. I have been teaching AP courses for 17 years and have spent much of that time introducing students like you to college level work in high school. This will be my first time teaching AP Euro and I have been reading, talking to fellow teachers, and searching the web for ways for us to make this course one of the best at PACS!

Students, you are clearly at the top of your class to be recommended for this course. Be prepared to discover a higher level of thinking and learning. Many of you have breezed through your course work thus far with little studying due to your intelligence. That is likely to change very quickly. Most AP students spend several hours a week, more at first, to develop the kind of study efficiency needed to be successful at the college level. Your text will be a college textbook. Be prepared to do a lot of independent reading and learning. It seems daunting, because it is hard. But YOU can do hard things and learning to master this type of academic work now will put you miles ahead when you get to college.

Parents, please be patient with me and your child. Making the adjustment from 9<sup>th</sup> grade work to college level work is difficult. Your child will figure out how to make that adjustment, but it probably won't happen in the first few weeks. Therefore, there may be some grades that are not typical. If so, these low grades will motivate your child to make the changes necessary to succeed in AP classes. I assure you I am not unmindful of the looming GPA, and I will work to give students opportunities to protect their grade while still setting the bar ever higher. I will also work with your child every step of the way to make sure they have the tools necessary to "get over the bar". I am confident you will see your child become better students as a result of their efforts.

I am attaching your summer reading and map assignment. I hope you will take the assignment seriously as it will benefit you throughout the course. We will refer back to the maps and the book often. This assignment is due on the first day of school.

I also will attach a list of readings that will be assigned throughout the year. One of the most important lessons learned in a college level course is time management. I personally hate having too much work in the summer as I see summer as a time to relax and renew. So, if you choose to wait to do those assignments during the year, you will make the choice I would make. However, some of you are overwhelmed with extra-curricular activities in the fall and will be required to read a lot of material in your text book, so I want you to have the option of getting ahead over the summer if you wish.

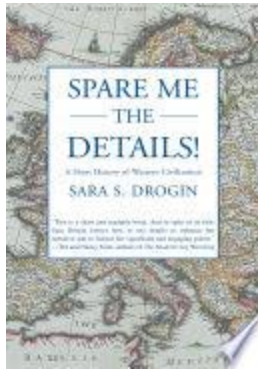
Please feel free to email me at [kbarrett@princeave.org](mailto:kbarrett@princeave.org) over the summer with any questions.

Sincerely,

Karen Barrett

## AP EUROPEAN HISTORY SUMMER Reading and Map Assignment

Reading Assignment: Students should read the book, “Spare Me the Details!: A Short History of Western Civilization.” Each student should respond to the reading in one of the three ways listed below. These methods will be required for each reading response assigned throughout the year.



- **Connecting to the text** - This involves underlining key ideas and making marks and comments in the margins. Go back through the reading and write five “big” questions on key concepts in each chapter. Then answer two of those questions or write a commentary on why they think these are the core issues in the reading.
- **Summarizing the readings and visualizing the key ideas** - Make a visual or graphic organizer for content in each chapter in the reading. You may also make a chart or include several lists that organize and categorize ideas.
- **Studying as a group** - Two or three students can convene as a study group. Discuss the readings, focusing on key concepts. Ideas are recorded and then written up for the group with each member contributing equal parts.

### Map Assignment

Create two maps: one from 2018 A.D. Europe and a second from 1500 A.D. Europe.

A list of everything that needs to be included on the 201 A.D. Europe map is below.

For the 1300 A.D. Europe map, simply focus on countries and states. A good example can be found at

<https://www.euratlas.net/history/europe/1500/index.html>

## OUTLINE MAP OF MODERN EUROPE

Draw and label a map of Europe including the following. You may construct one physical and one political map. However, be sure that you understand the relationship between physical and political - e.g. that Paris, France is located on the River Seine.

<p><b><u>Countries</u></b></p> <p>Albania Algeria Austria Belgium Belarus Bosnia &amp; Herzegovina Bulgaria Croatia Czech Republic Denmark Estonia Germany Finland France Great Britain (England, Northern Ireland, Scotland &amp; Wales) Greece Hungary Iceland Ireland Italy Latvia Lithuania Luxemburg Macedonia Moldova Morocco Netherlands Norway Poland Portugal Romania Russia Serbia &amp; Montenegro Slovakia Slovenia Spain Sweden Switzerland Tunisia Turkey Ukraine</p>	<p><b><u>BODIES OF WATER</u></b></p> <p>Adriatic Sea Aegean Sea Atlantic Ocean Baltic Sea Barents Sea Black Sea Caspian Sea Dardanelles (straits) Straits of Gibraltar Mediterranean Sea North Sea White Sea</p> <p><b><u>ISLANDS</u></b></p> <p>Corsica Crete Elba Gibraltar Malta Sardinia Sicily</p> <p><b><u>RIVERS</u></b></p> <p>Danube Elbe Loire Marne Rhine Rhone Seine Thames</p>	<p><b><u>MOUNTAINS</u></b></p> <p>Alps Apennines Caucasus Pyrenees Urals</p> <p><b><u>CITIES</u></b></p> <p>Algiers (north Africa) Amsterdam Avignon Belfast Belgrade Berlin Brussels Budapest Dublin Florence Frankfurt Geneva Genoa The Hague Helsinki Istanbul Lisbon Liverpool London Madrid Manchester Paris Prague Rome Sarajevo St. Petersburg Trieste Tunis Venice Vienna Warsaw Zagreb</p>
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### **Readings to be assigned during the school year**

There may be other smaller excerpts, but these are the heavy readings: You should have a written response for each in the same manner as your summer assignments. (THESE ARE TOTALLY OPTIONAL FOR SUMMER!)

AP Euro readings:

Plato: The Death and Trial of Socrates	57 pages
Machiavelli's The Prince	122 pages
More: Utopia	132 pages
Descartes: Meditations on First Philosophy	59 pages
Voltaire: Candide	94 pages
J.S. Mill: On Liberty	113 pages
J.S. Mill: Utilitarianism	63 pages