



High Bluff Academy

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION: AP MODERN WORLD HISTORY**

The AP World History: Modern course requires that students learn world history from a global perspective. Balanced coverage of the regions within the course ensures that a single region is not situated at the center of the historical narrative. The time period covered in this course is from the 13<sup>th</sup> century through the 20<sup>th</sup> century of the Common Era. The course takes a thematic approach to history using the following themes outlined by the College Board:

**THEME 1: HUMANS AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

The environment shapes human societies, and as populations grow and change, these populations in turn shape their environments.

**THEME 2: CULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS AND INTERACTIONS**

The development of ideas, beliefs, and religions illustrates how groups in society view themselves, and the interactions of societies and their beliefs often have political, social, and cultural implications.

**THEME 3: GOVERNANCE**

A variety of internal and external factors contribute to state formation, expansion, and decline. Governments maintain order through a variety of administrative institutions, policies, and procedures, and governments obtain, retain, and exercise power in different ways and for different purposes.

**THEME 4: ECONOMIC SYSTEMS**

As societies develop, they affect and are affected by the ways that they produce, exchange, and consume goods and services.

**THEME 5: SOCIAL INTERACTIONS AND ORGANIZATION**

The process by which societies group their members and the norms that govern the interactions between these groups and between individuals influence political, economic, and cultural institutions and organization.

**THEME 6: TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION**

Human adaptation and innovation have resulted in increased efficiency, comfort, and security, and technological advances have shaped human development and interactions with both intended and unintended consequences.

**TEXTBOOK:** Hansen, Valerie and Kenneth R. Curtis. *Voyages in World History*. 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. National Geographic/Cengage Learning, AP Edition, updated online 2020.