

# 2019 Summer Assignment for AP World History

## Course Textbook

Robert Strayer and Eric Nelson, Ways of the world with Sources for the AP course, 3rd edition, Bedford, Freeman & Worth, 2016.

We will also be using the document source book that accompanies the textbook entitled, Thinking through Sources for Ways of the World, Volume 2, 3rd edition.

You may purchase a package of Ways of the World with Sources for AP, 3rd edition (Physical text) with VitalSource PDF e-Book for Thinking through Sources for Ways of the World, Volume 2, 3rd edition (One-year Online) ISBN: 1319302793 or ISBN: 9781319302795

## Summer Assignment

- I. Please read chapter 7, *Commerce and Culture: 600-1450* pages 272-310 and complete an essay that answers the following question:

**What motivated and sustained the long distance commerce of the Silk Roads, Sea Roads and Sand Roads?**

**NOTE:** *Each essay must feature an introduction with a strong thesis statement followed by at least four paragraphs that contain numerous facts and details that support your thesis statement. Each essay should be at least two pages in length. You are encouraged to type your essays.*

- II. Please read Chapter 8, *China and the World: East Asian Connections* pp.600-1300 pp. 323-354 and complete the following essay:

**How might China's posture in the world during the Tang and Song dynasty era compare to its emerging role in global affairs in the twenty-first century?**

In addition, please read the section entitled "Working with Evidence" on the Leisure Life of China's Elites, pp.356-360 and answer in detail the five questions found on page 361.

- III. Please read chapter 9, *The World of Islam, 600-1450* pp.363-396 and answer the following essay question:

**How might you account for the immense religious and political/military success of Islam in its early centuries?**

IV. Please read Guns, Germs and Steel: The fates of Human Societies, by Jared Diamond.

You are encouraged to read the entire book but you **are required to** read the following chapters:

Prologue: Yali's Question

Ch. 1: Up to the Starting Line

Ch. 2: A Natural Experiment of History

Ch.3: Collision at Cajamarca

Ch. 4: Farmer Power

Ch.5: History's Haves and Have-Nots

Ch. 6: To Farm or Not to Farm

Ch. 9: Zebras, Unhappy Marriages, and the Anna Karenina Principle

Ch. 10: Spacious Skies and Titled Axes

Ch. 11: Lethal Gift of Livestock

Ch. 12: Blueprints and Borrowed Letters

Ch. 13: Necessity's Mother

Ch. 14: From Egalitarianism to Kleptocracy

After reading the book, please write a two page double-spaced response in which you discuss how guns, germs and steel changed human history. In your opinion, which of these three (guns, germs and steel) had the greatest influence on the course of human history? Please make sure to support your answer with details from the book.