

## **AP MODERN EUROPEAN HISTORY (1450-Present)**

### SUMMER ASSIGNMENT 2017: Europe Today

Greetings APME Students!

Over the summer, you will read a number of recent articles (and several video series) about European current affairs and leaders (scroll down for the links). Hopefully, your understanding of these contemporary dynamics will provide an engaging and meaningful lens for our exploration, beginning this September, of European history.

This assignment will constitute TWO test grades for Quarter 1. It is due on or before our first class in September.

#### **Specific Requirements and Rubric**

1. Source Analysis: After reading/viewing the sources linked below, please analyze each of them. There are a total of twenty sources (you may treat the video series as one piece).

- What is the thesis/central argument? (20 points)
- What facts/specific evidence are used to support the thesis? Be specific. You may want to bullet or number these for easy reference. (20 points)
- Identify, research and define all historical references. (20 points)
- Which APME theme does the source best represent? How? (20 points)  
APME themes: 1) Interaction of Europe and the World, 2) Poverty and Prosperity, 3) Objective Knowledge and Subjective Visions (fact versus belief), 4) States and Other Institutions of Power, 5) Individual and Society (socio-economic classes, family dynamics, gender, race, religious groups...).

Make your format something that will be a useful and well-detailed reference for you. However you approach this, be sure to note the title and author of each source, and distinguish clearly between the four categories: thesis, support, historical references, and thematic connections.

2. Final reflection: When you have finished the readings/viewings, please 1) identify and discuss the one or two sources you found most insightful and intriguing, and 2) discuss the role of historical references. How did they serve to make the source more powerful, persuasive and/or thought-provoking. (20 points)

Please be prepared to discuss these readings, as well as any significant European events that occur over the summer, on our first day of class in September, and be prepared to reference them as we begin studying European history in more depth. Until then, I hope you enjoy a wonderfully relaxing and happy summer, and please know that I am very much looking forward to working with you in the fall.

Email me at [LFairchild@mvrhs.org](mailto:LFairchild@mvrhs.org) with any questions or comments.

Best wishes, Ms. Fairchild-Coppoletti

## **THE SOURCES**

### **Persistent anti-semitism in Europe**

<http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2015/04/is-it-time-for-the-jews-to-leave-europe/386279/>

### **Trump & Europe**

<https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2017/05/the-plan-to-end-europe/521445/>

### **France**

<http://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2015/01/france-muslims-liberalism-crisis/384901/>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/06/19/world/europe/france-emmanuel-macron-le-pen-melenchon.html>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/06/27/world/europe/emmanuel-macron-trump-bastille-day-syria-chemical-weapons.html>

### **Germany & Merkel**

<http://time.com/time-person-of-the-year-2015-angela-merkel/>

### **Russia & Putin**

<http://time.com/4276525/vladimir-putin-nato/> (please watch videos in addition to reading)

<https://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2017/04/russia-putin-revolution-lenin-nicholas-1917/521571/>

<http://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2015/12/russia-putin-miroporyadok/422196/>

<https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2017/03/its-putins-world/513848/>

### **Brexit & EU (reading and videos)**

<http://www.cnn.com/2016/06/20/world/non-brits-guide-to-brexit-explainer-trnd/index.html>

### **The EU & NATO (more on Trump & Merkel)**

<https://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2017/02/europe-merkel-germany-trump-eu-nato/516975/>

### **Spain**

<http://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2013/10/to-hell-and-back-spains-grotesque-recession-and-its-surprising-new-economy/280678/>

[https://www.nytimes.com/2017/06/09/world/europe/spain-catalonia-independence-referendum.html?ref=collection%2Ftimestopic%2FSpain&action=click&contentCollection=world&region=stream&module=stream\\_unit&version=latest&contentPlacement=6&pgtype=collection](https://www.nytimes.com/2017/06/09/world/europe/spain-catalonia-independence-referendum.html?ref=collection%2Ftimestopic%2FSpain&action=click&contentCollection=world&region=stream&module=stream_unit&version=latest&contentPlacement=6&pgtype=collection)

### **Scandinavia (Focus on Denmark)**

<https://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2016/08/the-american-dream-isnt-alive-in-denmark/494141/>

### **Greece & Post-Recession Population**

[https://www.nytimes.com/2017/04/16/business/fewer-children-in-greece-may-add-to-its-financial-crisis.html?ref=collection%2Ftimestopic%2FSpain&action=click&contentCollection=world&region=stream&module=stream\\_unit&version=latest&contentPlacement=3&pgtype=collection](https://www.nytimes.com/2017/04/16/business/fewer-children-in-greece-may-add-to-its-financial-crisis.html?ref=collection%2Ftimestopic%2FSpain&action=click&contentCollection=world&region=stream&module=stream_unit&version=latest&contentPlacement=3&pgtype=collection)

### **Terrorism:**

<http://www.newyorker.com/news/news-desk/how-different-and-dangerous-is-terrorism-today>

### **Islam & Europe**

<http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2016/05/how-islam-created-europe/476388/>

### **A Muslim Mayor of London!:**

[http://www.nytimes.com/2016/05/07/world/europe/britain-election-results.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2016/05/07/world/europe/britain-election-results.html?_r=0)

### **6 part video documentary series on a Syrian refugee's journey through Europe:**

<http://www.newyorker.com/topics/the-journey-from-syria-documentary>