

ADVANCED PLACEMENT WORLD HISTORY

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Habits of Mind or Skills

The AP World History course addresses habits of mind or skills in two categories: 1) those addressed by any rigorous history course, and 2) those addressed by a world history course.

Four *Habits of Mind* are in the first category:

- Construction and evaluating arguments: using evidence to make plausible arguments.
- Using documents and other primary data: developing the skills necessary and interpret information.
- Developing the ability to assess issues of change and continuity over time.
- Enhancing the capacity to handle diversity of interpretations through analysis of context, bias, and frame of reference.

Three *Habits of Mind* are in the second category:

- Seeing global processes over time and space while also acquiring the ability to *connect global developments to global ones and to move through levels of generalizations from the global to the particular.*
- Developing the ability to compare within and among societies, including *comparing societies' reactions to global processes.*
- Developing the ability to assess claims of universal standards yet remaining aware of human commonalities and differences; *putting culturally diverse ideas and values in historical context, not suspending judgment but developing understanding.*

The Six AP World History Themes

- Patterns and impacts of **interaction** among major societies: trade, war, diplomacy, and international organizations.
- The relationship of **change and continuity** across the world history periods covered in this course.
- Impact of **technology and demography** on people and the environment (population growth and decline, disease, manufacturing, migrations, agriculture, weaponry).
- Systems of **social structure and gender structure** (comparing major features within and among societies and assessing change).
- **Cultural and intellectual developments and interactions** among and within societies.
- Changes in **functions and structures of states** and in attitudes toward states and political identities (political culture), including the emergence of nation-state (types of political organization).