

CONTRACT AP EUROPEAN HISTORY

The Advanced Placement Examination in European History is designed to evaluate the knowledge, understanding, and the thinking and writing skills that would be demonstrated in a year-long introductory-level college course in Western Civilization.

Students who take this course must be prepared to do some work on their own and extra time will be required beyond the regular school day. The amount of reading that will be required over the course averages about 40-60 pages a week. This reading does not include the additional documents that students will be expected to analyze and write on.

The College Board, who sponsors the AP exam, sets the date for the exam, and it is usually administered in the first or second week of May so it is necessary that the entire history of Europe from 1450 to the present is covered by the students. Consequently, Students who take this course must be prepared to do some work on their own and extra time will be required beyond the regular school day. The amount of reading that will be required over the course averages about 40-60 pages a week. This reading does not include the additional documents that students will be expected to analyze and write on.

In order to cover the required material, it is necessary that some work be accomplished over the summer months. Students will complete the summer assignments listed below and hand them in on the first day of class. Failure to hand in all completed assignments on the first day of class will result in the student being dropped from the course.

Summer Assignments (Do them in this order)

- 1) **PALMER CHAPTERS** : Read and outline the introductory section – “Geography and History” as well as Chapter 1 – “The Rise of Europe” and Chapter 2- “The Upheaval in Christendom” (do only 2.1 – 2.6).
- 2) Read Niccolo Machiavelli’s *The Prince* and take the short quiz
- 3) Essay on Machiavelli’s **The Prince**

Read Niccolo Machiavelli’s *The Prince*. The entire text is available on several websites, including <http://www.ilt.columbia.edu/publications/machiavelli.html> or http://publicliterature.org/books/the_prince/xaa.php. You may also purchase any edition of the book, or borrow a copy from the library.

Essay Assignment (5 pages minimum, double spaced, size 12 font or smaller, must be typed) :

STEP 1 : As you read “The Prince”, prepare 10 3X5” note cards, which you may use when you write an essay in class on the subject of whether your leader’s life shows that Machiavelli’s advice is or is not relevant for today’s leaders. On each note card, write one quotation from Machiavelli which you will discuss as it relates to the leader’s life—for example, “The prince must be a lion, but he must also know how to play the fox.” Add to the card details from the leader’s life that are pertinent to the quotation from Machiavelli.

STEP 2 : Choose one **contemporary** European leader, who has been in power at some time in the last **30** years. Research this leader’s biography, especially his or her political style and accomplishments or failures. You will receive at most half credit if you disregard this instruction and choose a non-European or non-contemporary leader.

****ESSAY TOPIC** : Consider whether and how your chosen leader’s life does or does not show that Machiavelli’s advice to leaders is still relevant today. As you discuss the life and work of your leader, make sure that you include (and cite) relevant quotes from “The Prince.”

I agree to all the requirements of the AP European History and understand that failure to return a signed contract (due Tuesday, June 6) or to complete the summer assignments by the first day of the 09-10 academic year will result in my being dropped from the course.

Student Signature

Parent Signature

Quiz (Complete and hand in with other summer assignments)

1. Where was Machiavelli born?

- (A) Spain
- (B) France
- (C) Italy
- (D) Germany

2. According to Machiavelli, which of the following statements about hereditary states is not valid?

- (A) Subjects naturally love the ruling family
- (B) They should retain traditional institutions
- (C) Their traditional institutions should be adapted to current events
- (D) They are more difficult to control than new states

3. Which of the following is a course of action that should not be taken by a prince of a new principality?

- (A) Change the laws and taxes
- (B) Punish insurrection
- (C) Destroy the family of the former prince
- (D) Establish settlements

4. Which of the following is the best means of becoming a prince?

- (A) Constitution
- (B) Fortune
- (C) Crime
- (D) Prowess

5. Which of the following arguments does Machiavelli make about the nature of men?

- (A) They are naturally deceitful
- (B) They are naturally conflict-prone
- (C) They are naturally dissatisfied
- (D) They are naturally incompetent

6. Which of the following is true about nobles and ministers?

- (A) It is easier to take over a state run by nobles, and easier to hold onto a state run by ministers
- (B) It is harder to take over a state run by nobles, and easier to hold onto a state run by ministers
- (C) It is harder to take over a state run by ministers, and easier to hold onto a state run by nobles
- (D) It is easier to take over a state run by nobles, and easier to hold onto a state run by nobles

7. Which of the following is a course of action that a prince should not take in order to hold states accustomed to living freely under their own laws?

- (A) Live there in person
- (B) Devastate towns and villages
- (C) Bribe local officials

- (D) Set up an oligarchy
8. Which of the following is true about fortune and prowess?
- (A) Acquiring a state by prowess is hard, maintaining it is easy
- (B) Acquiring a state by fortune is hard, maintaining it is easy
- (C) Acquiring a state by fortune is hard, maintaining it is hard
- (D) Acquiring a state by prowess is hard, maintaining it is hard
9. What is Machiavelli's approach to the use of cruelty?
- (A) Inflict all the cruelty at once, then never again
- (B) Inflict small amounts of cruelty consistently
- (C) Never inflict cruelty at all
- (D) Inflict cruelty suddenly and unpredictably
10. Under what conditions are fortresses most valuable?
- (A) If they prevent rebel insurrections
- (B) If they prevent enemies from invading
- (C) If they prevent citizens from hating the prince
- (D) If they prevent mercenaries from pillaging
11. Which of the following is not true about ecclesiastical principalities?
- (A) They can be possessed by a prince
- (B) They are maintained by divine power
- (C) They can be ruled by a prince
- (D) They have happy citizens
12. Which of the following types of troops should a prince depend on?
- (A) Auxiliary troops
- (B) Native troops
- (C) Mercenary troops
- (D) Mixed troops
13. Which of the following statements about auxiliary troops is not true?
- (A) They fight well
- (B) They are skilled and organized
- (C) Their first loyalty is to another ruler
- (D) They are just as dangerous as mercenaries
14. With which of the following statements would Machiavelli not agree?
- (A) The only way to lose a state is by neglecting the art of war
- (B) Good armies stem from good laws
- (C) Italy has been overly dependent on mercenaries

- (D) Auxiliary troops are useful in prosperous times
15. Which of the following traits is most desirable in a prince?
- (A) Parsimony
- (B) Generosity
- (C) Trustworthiness
- (D) Compassion
16. Against whom might a prince be justified in using inhumane cruelty?
- (A) Against rebels
- (B) Against criminals
- (C) Against troops
- (D) Against commoners
17. To what does Machiavelli compare a prince who breaks his word to play one foreign power off another?
- (A) A trap
- (B) A wolf
- (C) A lion
- (D) A fox
18. What quality in a prince will cause the populace to despise him?
- (A) Effeminacy
- (B) Miserliness
- (C) Stubbornness
- (D) Impulsiveness
19. What is the best defense against conspiracies?
- (A) Popular support
- (B) Loyal ministers
- (C) A strong army
- (D) Foreign allies
20. Which of the following is not a means of winning honor and prestige?
- (A) Embarking on military campaigns
- (B) Declaring neutrality in a conflict
- (C) Throwing city-wide festivals
- (D) Exhibiting outstanding ability
21. What is the mark of the best kind of intellect?
- (A) The ability to explain things to others
- (B) The ability to understand things for themselves

- (C) The ability to understand the explanations of others
 - (D) The ability to guess the understanding of others
22. What is Machiavelli's historical assessment of Italy's past princes?
- (A) Mostly bad luck despite good ruling
 - (B) Mostly bad ruling combined with a little bad luck
 - (C) Mostly bad ruling despite good luck
 - (D) Mostly bad luck combined with a little bad ruling
23. Which of the following is foremost among Machiavelli's pleas to Lorenzo de' Medici?
- (A) The need to rebuild Italy's military strength
 - (B) The need to rebuild Italy's national infrastructure
 - (C) The need to rebuild Italy's national pride
 - (D) The need to rebuild Italy's alliances with foreign powers
24. Which of the following rulers is not an example of a ruler who triumphed on the strength of their own powers?
- (A) Theseus
 - (B) Moses
 - (C) Cyrus
 - (D) Cesare Borgia
25. Why had a number of Italian princes of Machiavelli's time recently lost their states?
- (A) Malignant acts of God
 - (B) Plague
 - (C) Their own military faults
 - (D) The invasion of brutal Mongol hordes