

2018-2019 AP European History – Summer Assignment
Mr. Kerwin

Thank you for signing up for AP European History! For this assignment, you will be using our textbook, *A History of Western Society* (7th or 10th Edition) by McKay, Hill, and Buckler.

You are to complete the following upon your return to school:

1. **Read and outline** Chapter 12 – “The Crisis of the Later Middle Ages” (7th or 10th Ed.)
****Any form of outlining is permissible****
2. **Write an essay that addresses the following question: *Describe the factors that led to the decline of the Middle Ages, and which factor was most influential to this decline.*** Below is a rubric used for evaluation:

9-8 Points

- Thesis identifies at least THREE factors that led to the decline of the Middle Ages, as well as highlights the most influential factor.
- Organization is clear, consistently followed, and effective in support of the argument.
- Essay is balanced in its analysis of factors that led to the Middle Ages
- Strong rationale is provided to support most influential factor
- Major assertions in the essay are supported by multiple pieces of evidence.
- May contain errors that do not detract from the argument.

7-6 Points

- Thesis identifies at least THREE factors that led to decline of the Middle Ages, but the essay may not develop these fully.
- Organization is clear, effective in support of the argument, but not consistently followed.
- Essay provides analysis of factors that led to the decline of the Middle Ages but may do so in an unbalanced way
- Rationale is provided to support most influential factor
- Major assertions in the essay are supported by relevant evidence.
- May contain an error that detracts from the argument.

5-4 Points

- Thesis may identify TWO or more that led to the decline of the Middle Ages, but it may develop only ONE factor effectively.
- Organization is clear, effective in support of the argument, but not consistently followed.
- Essay may attempt analysis of factor or factors but be unsuccessful in its efforts; essay may be primarily descriptive with little or no analysis of factor or factors.
- Rationale is provided to support most influential factor
- Some major assertions in the essay are supported by relevant evidence.
- May contain a few errors that detract from the argument.

3-2 Points

- Thesis may be explicit but fails to address the prompt; factors may be identified but developed inadequately in the body of the essay.
- Organization is ineffective.
- Essay may fail to address the time period OR may focus on other developments of the time period
- Essay may provide limited relevant evidence.
- May contain several errors that detract from the argument.

1-0 Points

- No discernible attempt at a thesis or has a thesis that is wholly undeveloped.
- No discernible organization.
- Only one or none of the major topics suggested is mentioned or topics are undeveloped.
- Little or no relevant supporting evidence used.