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Social Studies Department

AP World History Summer Assignment 2017-2018 School Year

AP World History students are required to complete the summer assignment. The Summer Assignment will be graded and will count as 25% of the first quarter grade.

Students who registered for AP courses in the Spring 2017 term, must turn in the assignment the first day of class or receive a failing grade on the assignment. Students who enroll in the class after August 1 will receive the summer assignment on the day of registration and will have four weeks to complete and submit the completed work.

If you would like to get a head start on AP World History, I will be posting assignments and resources on *Google Classroom*. If you have any questions you may contact me through the *Google Classroom* site.

Please be reminded that plagiarism (academic dishonesty) is an offense against the PGCPs Code of Student Conduct and is a basis for disciplinary action by the school administration.

Background

Jared Diamond was born in Boston in 1937. He is currently a professor of Geography and Physiology at the University of California. Professor Diamond is a writer known for his work in the fields of ecology and evolutionary biology. In 1997, he published his theories on the development of society in the award-winning book. "*Guns, Germs and Steel*".

This assignment will be based around Jared Diamond's book, *Guns, Germs and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies*. Students have the option to utilize either one or all of the following resources to complete this assignment: the book, audiobook or view a National Geographic presentation that is based on Diamond's book.

Resources:

Book:

Guns, Germs and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies

Jared Diamond, W.W. Norton & Company, New York, NY, 1997, 1999

Video:

"Guns, Germs and Steel" National Geographic Guns Germs And Steel 3 of 3 -
Documentary Film Official

[Guns, Germs and Steel. HD](#)

Audio Book: [Jared Diamond Audiobook Full: Guns, Germs, and Steel \(Winner of the Pulitzer Prize\)](#)

Article:

World Health Organization "50 Facts: Global Health Situation and Trends
1955-2025"

http://www.who.int/whr/1998/media_centre/50facts/en/

Google Classroom Code:

Note: you may have to download the Google Classroom App.
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Assignment Learning Objectives:

Students will:

1. Hypothesize about why some countries have accumulated great riches over time while others remained historically poor.
2. Discuss what they have learned by providing specific reasons, facts, and examples from the documentary and their notes.
3. Support a position about Jared Diamond's theory and support this position with specific reasons, facts, and examples.

National Standards:

World History

- Standard 27: Understands how European society experienced political, economic, and cultural transformation in the age of global intercommunication between 1450 and 1750.
- Standard 29: Understands the economic, political and cultural interrelations among peoples of Africa, Europe, and the Americas between 1500 and 1750.

Geography

- Standard 2: Knows the location of places, geographic features, and patterns of the environment.

Places and Regions

- Standard 4: Understands the physical and human characteristics of place.
- Standard 5: Understands the concept of regions.

Human Systems

- Standard 9: Understands the nature, distribution, and migration of human populations on Earth's surface.
- Standard 12: Understands the patterns of human settlement and their causes.

Uses of Geography

- Standard 17: Understands how geography is used to interpret the past.

Assignment #1

Directions:

Read the article from the World Health Organization "50 Facts: Global Health Situation and Trends 1955-2025"

Write the letter of the correct answer on the line provided.

_____ 1. Most deaths in children under age 5 are due to:

- A. Infectious diseases and malnutrition
- B. Premature birth/birth defects
- C. Accidents
- D. All of the above
- E. None of the above.

Write T for True or F for False on the line provided.

_____ 2. True or False: At least 40% of the deaths in children under age 5 that occur worldwide each year could be prevented by administering existing vaccines to young children.

3. List what you believe are the 5 most deadly infectious diseases worldwide.

A) _____

B) _____

C) _____

D) _____

E) _____

Assignment #2:

Directions: Watch All three episodes of "Guns, Germs and Steel". Your assignment must be typed (double spaced, 12 pt. font) and should include references to the episode (for video), or page number (for the book). Finally, the assignment must be in a report folder.

Before beginning this assignment, read each question to know what information and ideas you should be looking or listening for. Record your answers to each question by providing as many facts, details, and examples as possible to answer each question.

1. What was Yali's question? How did it lead Diamond to do the research that led to *Guns, Germs, and Steel*?
2. According to Diamond, livestock also plays a significant role in a civilization's ability to become rich and powerful. How did the domestication of animals help people? Give several examples.
3. List the animals that can be domesticated and where they can be found.
4. Review the list of animals and locations from question three then, discuss how Diamond's theory about geographic luck applies here. How did the domestication of animals help people? Give several examples.
5. How does Diamond refute the argument that the failure to domesticate certain animals arose from cultural differences? What does the failure to domesticate certain animals suggest about the reasons why some peoples independently developed domestic animals and others did not?
6. For thousands of years, people have been cultivating crops. Describe the process used to domesticate crops and create plants that yielded bigger, tastier harvests.
7. Compare and contrast the colonialist view of "genetic superiority" vs. Diamond's view of New Guineans in terms of abilities?

8. What were the advantages enjoyed by the Fertile Crescent that allowed it to be the earliest site of development for most civilizations? How does Diamond explain the fact that it was Europe and not Southwest Asia that ended up spreading its culture to the rest of the world?

9. Explain how civilization leads to epidemics?

10. How did the native Africans protect themselves from the germs that caused diseases such as smallpox and Malaria? Give specific examples.

11. Give Specific examples of how the colonization of Africa created countries riddled with disease?

12. Describe the ways disease has contributed to the poverty in many African countries such as Zambia.