

AP European History: Chapter 12 – The Renaissance

Overview & Schedule

Students mistakenly believe that ‘rebirth,’ the literal translation of the word Renaissance, is sufficient to understand this complex time period. Perhaps a better name for the era rather than the glorified name given in the 1800s would be *change*. This unit will explore the Renaissance as a time of change and innovation. The questioning of authority, the formation of states, and the role of the church are central to understanding this unit. Also in this unit we will begin to explore the historical skills with periodization.

CONTENT TOPICS & Focus Questions

Meaning and Characteristics of the Italian Renaissance

- What characteristics distinguish the Renaissance from the Middle-Ages?

The Making of Renaissance Society

- What major social changes occurred during the Renaissance?

The Italian States in the Renaissance

- How did Machiavelli’s works reflect the political realities of Renaissance Italy?

The Intellectual Renaissance in Italy

- What was humanism, and what effect did it have on philosophy, education, attitudes toward politics, and the writing of history?

The Artistic Renaissance

- What were the chief characteristics of Renaissance art, and how did it differ in Italy and northern Europe?

The European State in the Renaissance

- Why do historians sometimes refer to the monarchies of the late fifteenth century as “new monarchies” or “Renaissance states”?

The Church in the Renaissance

- What were the policies of the Renaissance popes, and what impact did those policies have on the Catholic Church?

PERIODIZATION: Define the historical skill, explore why historians have defined the Renaissance as a separate time period from the Middle Ages, and determine the beginning of the New Monarchies.

DAILY HOMEWORK AND CLASS ACTIVITIES

Monday, September 12

- Middle-Ages vs. Renaissance, causes of Renaissance, & Impact of Medici’s
- PERIODIZATION: What makes the Renaissance period separate & distinct from the Later Middle Ages?
- Lecture: Causes & beginnings of the Renaissance
- **HOMEWORK: Text 340-347; answer questions on Petrarch page 346**

Tuesday, September 13

- Discuss: humanism, secularism, individualism’s impact: Petrarch & Valla
- Read/discuss *The Courtier*
- How did Humanism challenge to the Catholic Church’s authority?
- **HOMEWORK: Study for Chapter 11 Exam**

Wednesday, September 14

- Chapter 11 Exam
- **HOMEWORK: Text 347-350; Socratic Seminar #1 - Machiavelli**

AP European History: Chapter 12 – The Renaissance

Overview & Schedule

Thursday, September 15

- Continue Humanism, Secularism & Individualism
- Introduce CORNPEG and POV
- Practice writing POV statements
- **HOMEWORK: Text 350-357; Machiavelli Soc Sem**

Friday, September 16

- PowerPoint Lecture: Renaissance art
- Art Interpretation Activity
- **HOMEWORK: Prepare for 1st Socratic Seminar on Machiavelli; MUST have completed Prep Guide in order to participate**

Monday, September 19

- Machiavelli Socratic Seminar discussion
- **HOMEWORK: Text 357-365**

Tuesday, September 20

- Lecture: Impact of New Monarchies on Europe; problems with the Church & need for reform
- **HOMEWORK: Read Burckhardt and Burke's views on the Renaissance.**

**** Chapter 12 Exam is Friday September 23; Study Guide & Terms are due**