

AP European History: Chapter 16 – Scientific Revolution

Overview & Schedule

The Renaissance and the Protestant Reformation opened a world of discovery, religious freedom, and challenges to authority. Although the Scientific Revolution is often seen as a seventeenth century intellectual movement, it had already been in motion since the days of the Renaissance from thinkers like Leonardo da Vinci. The new movement questioned and challenged the conceptions and beliefs about nature and the world that had been cemented since the ancient times up to the medieval era. Not only did the new ideas change the view of the earth-centered to a sun-centered universe, but also continued challenges to the Church and institutes of authority. Long-standing foundations and views will be exchanged for a new worldview. New ways of thinking from the scientific method and systematic doubt will usher in a new movement of the eighteenth century, the Enlightenment.

CONTENT TOPICS and Focus Questions

Background to the Scientific Revolution

- What developments during the Middle-Ages and the Renaissance contributed to the Scientific Revolution of the seventeenth century?

Toward a New Heaven: A Revolution in Astronomy

- What did Copernicus, Kepler, Galileo, and Newton contribute to a new vision of the universe?
- How did it differ from the Ptolemaic conception of the universe?

Advances in Medicine and Chemistry

- What did Paracelsus, Vesalius, and Harvey contribute to a scientific view of medicine?

Women in the Origins of Modern Science

- What role did women play in the Scientific Revolution?

Toward a New Earth: Descartes, Rationalism, and a New View of Humankind

- Why is Descartes considered the “founder of modern rationalism”?

The Scientific Method and the Spread of Scientific Knowledge

- How were the ideas of the Scientific Revolution spread, and what impact did they have on society and religion?

CONTINUITY AND CHANGE: What characteristics of thinking, power structures, and life had changed from the Renaissance/Reformation era of the 15th century to the 17th century and which things had stayed the same?

ASSIGNMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Wednesday, November 2

- Chapter 15 Review Activity
- Brief lecture on the origins of the Scientific Revolution
- Poster activity on Sci Rev people & concepts: Paradigm shift in thinking
- **HOMEWORK: Text 484-492**

Thursday, November 3

- Finish paradigm shift activity
- **HOMEWORK: Study for Chapter 15 Exam**

Friday, November 4

- Chapter 15 Exam
- **HOMEWORK: Text 493-500**

Monday, November 7

- CONTINUITY & CHANGE: Skill & Scientific Revolution
- Art & the Scientific Revolution
- **HOMEWORK: Text 502-508**

***** Chapter 16 Exam Thursday November 10; study guide and terms due**