

AP European History: Chapter 21 – Reaction, Revolution, and Romanticism, 1815-1850 Overview & Schedule

The French and industrial revolutions triggered dramatic political and social consequences and new theories to deal with them. The ideologies engendered by these 19th-century revolutions — conservatism, liberalism, socialism, nationalism, and even romanticism — provided their adherents with coherent views of the world and differing blueprints for change. For example, utopian socialists experimented with communal living as a social and economic response to change. The responses to socioeconomic changes reached a culmination in the revolutions of 1848, but the failure of these uprisings left the issues raised by the economic, political, and social transformations unresolved well into the 20th century.

In the second half of the 19th century, labor leaders in many countries created unions and syndicates to provide the working classes with a collective voice, and these organizations used collective action such as strikes and movements for men’s universal suffrage to reinforce their demands. Feminists and suffragists petitioned and staged public protests to press their demands for similar rights for women. The international movements for socialism, labor, and women’s rights were important examples of a trend toward international cooperation in a variety of causes, including antislavery and peace movements. Finally, political parties emerged as sophisticated vehicles for advocating reform or reacting to changing conditions in the political arena.

Nationalism acted as one of the most powerful engines of political change, inspiring revolutions as well as campaigns by states for national unity or a higher degree of centralization. Early nationalism emphasized shared historical and cultural experiences that often threatened traditional elites. Over the course of the 19th century, leaders recognized the need to promote national unity through economic development and expanding state functions to meet the challenges posed by industry.

In this unit we will continue our work with analyzing documents for point of view as well as work on the historical skill of synthesis.

CONTENT TOPICS & Focus Questions

- Conservative Order (1815-1850)
 - What were the goals of the Congress of Vienna and the Concert of Europe, and how successful were they in achieving those goals?
- The Ideologies of Change
 - What were the main tenets of conservatism, liberalism, nationalism, and utopian socialism, and what role did each ideology play in Europe in the first half of the nineteenth century?
- Revolution and Reform (1830-1850)
 - What forces for change were present in France, Great Britain, Belgium, Poland, and Italy between 1830 and 1848, and how did each nation respond?
 - What were the causes of revolutions of 1848, and why did the revolutions fail?
- The Emergence of an Ordered Society
 - How did European states respond to the increase in crime in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries?
- Culture in an Age of Reaction and Revolution: The Mood of Romanticism
 - What were the characteristics of Romanticism, and how were they reflected in literature, art, and music?
- Synthesis: How does the conservative movement following Napoleon relate to previous efforts to return to conservative rule? What course themes apply to this chapter?

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ASSIGNMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Thursday, December 21

- Lecture: Congress of Vienna & Concert of Europe – Conservatism vs. Liberalism
- Metternich & Conservatism
- **HOMEWORK: 624-631**

Tuesday, January 3

- Economic Liberalism: *Wealth of Nations*
- Lecture: Nationalism & Socialism
- **HOMEWORK: Text 631-634**

Wednesday, January 4

- Semester Final Exam Review
- **HOMEWORK: Review for Final Exam**

Thursday, January 5

- Field Trip to the MIA!
- **HOMEWORK: Review for Final Exam**

Friday, January 6

- Semester Final Exam Review
- **HOMEWORK: Review for Final Exam**

Monday, January 9

- Semester Final Exam
- **HOMEWORK: 634-641**

Tuesday, January 10

- 1830s-1848s Revolutions
- **HOMEWORK: Text 641-646**

Wednesday, January 11

- Ordered Society – The New British Police: “We Are Not Treated as Men”
- Romanticism
- **HOMEWORK: Text 646-655**

Thursday, January 12

- LEQ Activity in Class
- **HOMEWORK: 657-663**

***** Chapter 21 Exam Tuesday, January 17; study guide and terms due**