Summer Reading List for Those Registering for AP World History 2012-13

Welcome to the course and to your first assignment which is due the first day of classes in August.

In AP World History we will be covering world history, broken into the following time periods:
- Period 1 - 8000 BCE to 600 BCE
- Period 2 - 600 BCE to 600 CE
- Period 3 - 600 CE –1450 CE
- Period 4 - 1450 CE –1750 CE
- Period 5 - 1750 CE –1900 CE
- Period 6 - 1900 to present

However we will start with Period 6, so that is why books from Period 6 will be permitted for the first semester reading assignment.

In AP World History we will be emphasizing the following themes:
1. Interaction between humans and the environment (demography, disease, migrations, patterns of settlement, and technology)
2. Development and interaction of cultures (belief systems, religions, philosophies, science, technology, arts and architecture)
3. State-building, expansion, and conflict (governments, empires, nations, revolutions, etc.).
4. Creation, expansion, and interaction of economic systems (agriculture, trade, labor, industrialization, capitalism, etc.)
5. Development and transformation of social structures. (gender roles and relations, families and kinship, ethnicity, social and economic classes)

You should spread your reading around, geographically, chronologically, and thematically. If you are familiar with medieval Europe, I suggest not reading a book about that topic, but rather trying to expand your horizons and knowledge--you need to gather as much information as you can to prepare for the AP test! I have not included many books whose sole focus is United States history and few on just Europe as I assume some of your coursework has already covered that material.

I know that this will be your summer vacation, so do not force yourself to suffer through a hard or tedious read. There are many enjoyable books on this list, both fiction and non-fiction, and even some that may be characterized as “popcorn” or “beach” reads, but will still provide you with valuable information. That said, it might be easier to get through some of the longer texts in the summer than during the school year and these will probably be more beneficial for the exam. Also, you might choose to start your second semester books during the summer, too.

For class you will need to read a total of 4 books, 2 due on the day of registration and the other 2 for second semester (dates to be determined later).

For the summer assignment you need to read two books:
- one fiction any book from F-6, F-1, F-2 or F-3,
- one non-fiction any book from NF-6, NF-1, NF-2, NF-3, NF-7, or NF-8
- and write a book review on each.

For second semester assignment you need to read two books, they can both be either fiction or non-fiction, or one of each:
- any fiction (1, 2 or none) book from F-4, or F-5,
- any nonfiction book (1, 2 or none) from F-4, F-5, F-7 or F-8

An approved reading list is attached. If you want to read something not on this list, you will need my permission first, received via email. Failure to read a book from the write Period will result in a “0” for that grade.
In certain classes (e.g. AP English or Spanish) when you have a choice in what book to read for class, you may use the same book as one of mine if it is okay with your other teacher. See me or email me for suggestions.

PLEASE NOTE: COLLABORATION (VERBALLY OR OTHERWISE) WITH ANOTHER STUDENT ON THIS ASSIGNMENT WILL BE CONSTRUED AS CHEATING. THIS IS AN INDEPENDENT ASSIGNMENT. YOU WILL ALSO BE SUBMITTING YOUR REPORTS TO TURNITIN.COM

BOOK REVIEWS
You are required to do a book review on any book you read for credit in our class. These book reviews are intended to serve two purposes:
1. To show that you have indeed read the book and understood its message.
2. To evaluate your writing and analytical skills. I will be grading the summer assignment more leniently than I will the 2nd semester assignments. The summer assignments will help me get a sense of the level of your writing skills; improving these skills will be a major focus of our class.

Any good book review (both fiction and nonfiction) should be written as though the reader had not read the book in question. Hence, the reviewer must, as efficiently as possible, inform the readers about the general contents of the work:
- Subject matter, including its time period,
- general organization of the material,
- structure of the argument, and so on.

There is a copy of the grading rubric for you to check on the website http://mbondlamberty.googlepages.com/apwhreadinglistandrubrics.

Fiction
I am not particular about the exact format (essay, or letter, etc.) you use to do the fiction book reviews. Do try to form paragraphs around ideas, and have a general organizing principle to your review, i.e. a thesis, introduction and conclusion. Your fiction review piece must include answers to the following questions:
• What are some interesting/significant historical/cultural things you learned from this book? Be specific!
  This should be the focus of your paper. You need to discuss the story line, but only minimally. In some novels the historical information is like part of the scenery, so do not tune it out but pay attention to it. Be sure to discuss the historical matter on which the book is focusing as well as the additional historical information about that time period that appears in the background (things such as the themes mentioned above: technology, gender roles, etc.)
• What historical questions were raised for you about this topic? What in the book inspired these questions? You need to come up with some questions. Having no questions is not an option.
• How did you like the book overall? Would you recommend this book for next year’s summer reading list? Why or why not? Be specific. Saying you did not like the book will not negatively affect your grade.
Please note: past students lost points when not focusing enough on the historical information in their fiction readings.
Nonfiction  These should be written in a more formal manner, i.e. a basic essay (but not necessarily 5-paragraph) format with a thesis, introduction and some sort of conclusion. This essay should answer (with explanations as appropriate) the following questions. The answer to some of these questions are often in the introduction of the book.

- What question is the author(s) trying to answer? (Why are they writing this book?)
- Why do they think this question is important? (Why is it worth researching and writing a book about?)
- What is the author’s thesis (that is, the answer to their question)?
- What kind of evidence do they provide in trying to answer the question? Summarize as much as possible, but do not omit important evidence.
- How convincing do you think they are in defending their thesis? Why do you think so?
- Did the author have a specific audience in mind when writing? If so, did this affect their presentation?
- What opinion(s) does the author hold towards this subject? Is it helpful or harmful to his or her purpose?
- Are there other questions that you wish the author had answered? If so, what are they? If no questions were raised for you, say so.
- Are there questions that were raised by this reading that you would like answered in the course? If so, what are they? What in the book inspired these questions? You need to come up with at least two questions.
- How did you like the book overall? Would you recommend it for next year’s summer reading list? Why or why not? Be specific. Saying you did not like the book will not negatively affect your grade.

Other Points for the Rubric:

- I do not appreciate poorly written work and will return to you, for resubmission, with penalties for lateness, any work that I deem to be poorly executed. Therefore I suggest that you form coherent and well thought-out paragraphs, type your book reviews (please use at least 12 point font and double-space them with at least 1 inch margins on all sides), and proofread them for grammatical and spelling errors. This will be my first impression of you and it should be a good one! No title page or cover is necessary, but a name (yours) is and the title of the book should be underlined or italicized throughout your essay. Please note that just using a word processor’s spelling and grammar check is not sufficient in most cases. I advise having someone else check your book review for spelling, suitable vocabulary, grammar and coherence.
- Write your review yourself. It will not help you on the AP exam to have someone else write this first assignment and a false first impression could make me think that your skills are worsening during the school year.
- Do not collaborate (talk, Skype, email, Facebook, etc.) about your assignment. This is meant to be an individual assignment. Any similarities in someone else’s assignment could result in both parties receiving a “0” or failing the course.
- Quotes from your actual book are not necessary unless you feel it would really help you make a point. If you do, please cite the page number parenthetically.
- To do this assignment well you only need to use your head (and have read the book in its entirety). Other information is not necessary to complete this assignment, so do not feel the need to do research. However, if you do get ideas from somewhere else, give credit to the source instead of getting a ‘0’ for plagiarism. Use parenthetical citations (see Noodletools.com) for your quotes or just to give credit for ideas.
- I reserve the right to ask you for an electronic copy of your paper to submit to turnitin.com.
Recommended and Approved Reading List for AP World History 2011-12

This is not a definitive list, but one that I feel has the best and most readable world history texts. I might add some books if I come across any over the summer, look at my website to find out: http://mbondlamberty.googlepages.com/apthreadinglistandrubrics. (Also on my website are lists of books that are no longer on the list or were never on the list but are still good reads and helpful for this class.) Feel free to check with me if there is a book that you would like to read that is not on the list, my email is mrs.bondlamberty@gmail.com. Please note I will be away for some of the summer, so I will not be check my work email regularly. Do not leave your questions until the end of the summer.

Most of the books in this list are available through your local library, Northwood’s library at the end of the school year (those are the highlighted titles) or bookstores (used or new). If you can afford to buy them, by all means do so, and if you want, share the book with classmates. Some of these books are worth having in your personal libraries. That said I am aware of the financial burden of buying books. The Montgomery County Public library website http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/libraries/index.asp enables you to sign up to be on a wait list for a book. Some others will be available through University of Maryland or MCPL’s Interlibrary Loan http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/libtmpl.asp?url=/content/libraries/ill/interlibraryloan.asp. Do NOT wait until the last minute to find these books; in some cases the one you want to read will require a wait.

Note: Many of these books deal with adult content, and in some have sexual scenes. I have attempted to identify the most egregious ones, but all are not appropriately flagged. Please be sure to clear all readings with your parents beforehand.

The books are listed in chronological order by the time period covered and by alphabetical order by author in the non-fiction sections and by title in the fiction sections. Specific translations or editions are only recommendations; you can use other ones as long as they are not abridged versions. For some of the older historical novels, try to get an edition with good notes. Also the introduction is often a section that can really help you understand the material. Some of my personal favorites and ones that last year’s class especially enjoyed are marked with this mark: ***.

F-6 Fiction –Period 6 - 1900 to present - BOOKS FOR FIRST SEMESTER

*Anil's Ghost* by Michael Ondaatje; A book about the recent past in Sri Lanka. It concerns a young forensic anthropologist returning to the land of her birth as an investigator for a human rights organization. ***

*Nakazawa, Keiji. Barefoot Gen: The Day After*. A semi-autobiographical account of Keiji Nakazawa's life growing up in Hiroshima, Japan during and after WWII. Incredibly graphic and violent.

*Beneath a Sky of Porphyry* by Aicha Lemsine. Describes life in an Algerian village before, during & after the war of liberation against French.

*Beneath the Lion's Gaze* by Maaza Mengiste. Describes events in Ethiopia leading up to and beyond the revolution that toppled Haile Selassie. Includes some rather graphic scenes.

*Bitter Grounds* by Sandra Benítez; story of several generations of women in El Salvador in the city & countryside.

*Black Mamba Boy* by Nadifa Mohamed. Story of a boy’s wandering around East Africa in 1935.

*Bride Price* by Buchi Emecheta; Forbidden love story of a young Ibo girl and her teacher. ***

*Burmese Days* by George Orwell; White man’s rule in Upper Burma and India before WWII.

*The Cairo Trilogy: Palace Walk or Palace of Desire* (You only need to read one) by Najib Mahfuz (or Naguib Mahfouz, Nobel Prize winner) Story of a family living in Cairo. The first introduces the family and the different forces that affect it after WWI. The second shows the conflicts of the 1920s.

*Darkness at Noon* by Arthur Koestler. Man interrogated during the Soviet Union’s treason trials of the 1930s.

*Death and the King's Horseman* by Wole Soyinka. (Nobel Prize winner). Tragic story of traditional African culture in Oyo, an ancient Yoruba city of Nigeria, in 1946, when the king dies.

*Death in the Andes* by Mario Vargas Llosa. Start of Sendero Luminoso Movement (Shining Path) in Peru. ***
Fiction – Period 6 - 1900 to present - BOOKS FOR FIRST SEMESTER (continued)

Destination Biafra by Buchi Emecheta. Tells the story of Nigeria during the Biafran war.
Four Reigns by Kukrit Pramoj. Looks at the reigns of four Thai kings, and the social and political changes in Bangkok from the end of the 19th C to WWII
The Glass Palace by Amitav Ghosh. Describes life in Burma and for Burmese Indians during the British conquest, WWII and up to the imprisonment of Aung San Suu Kyi.
Grain of Wheat by Ngugi W. Thiong'o; Independence struggle in Kenya against British rule during the 50s
Heart of Redness by Zakes Mda. Shows some the conflicts facing traditional villages in South Africa and the struggle between “modernity” and “traditionalist” stemming back to the Xhosa Cattle Killing Movement.
House of Spirits – Isabel Allende. Chile leading up to the military overthrow of President Allende.
Imagining Argentina by Lawrence Thornton. Argentina when thousands disappeared in the late 1970s.
In the Time of Butterflies by Julia Alvarez. Story of four Dominican sisters' struggle against Trujillo.
The Journey of Tao Kim Nam by Malcolm Bosse. The travels of man from North Vietnam to South Vietnam.
Joys of Motherhood by Buchi Emeceta. Nigerian girl dealing with the transition from girl to mother and from village girl to city woman. Some sexual content.
Of Love and Shadows by Isabel Allende. Describes life under the Chilean dictator Pinochet.
Once Were Warriors by Alan Duff. A couple battle entrenched poverty, racism and other ills that overwhelm their traditional Maori culture and children in a Maori ghetto of urban New Zealand.
Paradise of the Blind by Duong Thu Huong. Effects of the Vietnamese revolution on a particular family.
Pillars of Salt by Fadia Faqir. Stories exchanged by two wives in a mental hospital whose experiences typify Jordanian experience during the British Mandate.
The River Between, by Ngugi wa Thiong'o. Colonial splits among Kenyans and the issue of female circumcision.
Sabriya: A Novel by Ulfat Idlibi. Story of a Damascene woman's beleaguered life, from her country's revolt against the French in the 1920s in an oppressively patriarchal society.
Shadow Lines by Amitav Ghosh; Recent Indian political history especially partition and violence in Bengal.
So Long a Letter by Mariama Ba. Short story consisting of a widow's letter during her period of mourning after her husband's death about her life and the double standards for men and women.
A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini. Story of the lives of two women in living in Afghanistan during its turbulent years (war against the Soviets, warlord battles, Taliban rule and then life after the US invasion).
Tree of Red Stars by Tessa Bridal. Tells the story of a young upper class woman and those close to her in Uruguay in the 1960's, as their democracy is gradually taken over by a military dictatorship.
The Underdogs (Los de Abajo) by Mariano Azuela. Tells the story of the Mexican Revolution.
War in the Land of Egypt by Yusuf al Qa'id. Events in the 1973 war with Israel in Egypt from various angles.
War of the Rats by David Robbins. Stalingrad snipers during WWII.
Weep Not, Child by Ngugi wa Thiong'o. Story of a young boy, as he grows up amidst the Mau Mau war and the conflict between the African natives and the British colonial rulers and the Indian merchants.
When Rain Clouds Gather by Bessie Head. Botswana in the 1960s during independence versus South Africa's oppression of its black population.
Women of Algiers in Their Apartment by Assia Djebar. Collection of stories (denounced in Algeria) about urban Algerian women freed from colonialism to face a regime that subjugates them as it celebrates the liberation of men.
F-1  Fiction - Period 1 - 8000 BCE to 600 BCE – BOOKS FOR FIRST SEMESTER
Day of the False King: A Novel of Murder in Ancient Babylon by Brad Geagley. Sequel to Year of the Hyenas set in ancient Babylon.
Ishmael by Daniel Quinn. Unique reexamination of early history. Really makes you think.***
The Red Tent by Anita Diamant. Re-creation of the life of Dinah, daughter of Leah and Jacob, from her birth and happy childhood in Mesopotamia through her years in Canaan and death in Egypt. Sexual content.***
Sarum by Edward Rutherfurd. Traces the entire turbulent course of English history (over 10,000 years) through the lives of five families that reflect the changing face of Britain.
Year of the Hyenas: A Novel of Murder in Ancient Egypt by Brad Geagley. A mystery set in Ancient Egypt.

F-2  Fiction - Period 2 - 600 BCE to 600 CE – BOOKS FOR FIRST SEMESTER
The Gardens of Light by Amin Maalouf, Dorothy S. Blair. Recreates the life of Mani, Persian mystic who founded the Manichaean religion and was eventually executed on the grounds of heresy.
Siddhartha by Herman Hesse. Introduction to Buddhism and life of Siddhartha (later known as the Buddha).

F-3  Fiction - Period 3 - 600 CE –1450 - BOOKS FOR FIRST SEMESTER
The Book of Saladin: A Novel by Tariq Ali. Fictional memoir of Saladin, the Kurdish liberator of Jerusalem.***
The Celebrated Cases of Judge Dee, The Chinese Nail Murders, or any of Robert van Gulik's Judge Dee novels. Classical Chinese detective stories; reveal ancient Chinese society, culture and government.***
Dante's Daughter by Kimberley Burton Heuston. Story of Dante, his daughter and their times.
Daughter of Time by Josephine Tey. Mystery novel about Richard III and the deaths of his two nephews. An excellent look at how history is written.***
In an Antique Land by Amitav Ghosh. An Indian student does research on a mysterious slave of a Jewish merchant working the Indian Ocean trade routes; also examines life in postcolonial Egypt.
Monkey (part of a longer piece called Journey to the West), Arthur Waley trans.; Tang Chinese folk tales (written in the Ming dynasty) that cover some of the basic principles of Taoism and Buddhism.
Samarkand by Amin Maalouf. Story of Omar Khayyam, a poet, mathematician, and astronomer; and fanatical cult leader Hassan, who commands an invincible army of assassins.***
A Sultan in Palermo by Tariq Ali. Story of Muhammed al-Idrisi’s (Muslim cartographer) in 12th C Sicily where Arab, Norman and Christian culture clash.
Tusk and Stone by Malcolm Bosse. A young Brahmin book in 7th C India is kidnapped, sold, becomes a soldier, then a mahout and then a stone carver.***
The Walking Drum by Louis L’Amour. A young man’s travel throughout Christian & Islamic Europe & Western Asia. Not great literature, attitudes towards gender are troubling, but good on cultural exchanges. ***
The novel was dictated by Toer while in prison to others who passed it out for transcription. This Earth of Mankind sent to Holland in 1837 which expose them to the slave trade, life in Holland and in Indonesia. The Two Hearts of Kwasi Boachi, starting in the 1800s and going until the present. Explicit sexual content. Shark Dialogues challenged by the slave trade and Islam.***

Segu

The Rock of Tanios

Mogul India, but also earlier and later.

Red Earth and Pouring Rain: A Novel

Rebels of the Heavenly Kingdom
describes China during the Taiping Rebellion.

Bodies Without Wings by Louis de Bernieres. Tells the story of the decline of the Ottoman Empire from the perspective of a small Anatolian town of Eskihahce and the life and career of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk.***

Cloud of Sparrows by Takashi Matsuoka. Gripping fictional account of Japanese contact with the West. ***

Daughter of Fortune by Isabel Allende. Tells the story of a Chilean woman traveling to California during the gold rush with a Chinese friend. Some adult content.

The Dawning: A Novel by Milkwa Bajic-Poderegin, translated by Nadja Poderegin. Follows four generations of a family in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Focuses on nationalism, religion, class and gender issues facing the family.

Fantasia: An Algerian Cavalcade by Assia Djebar. Story of a girl, Algeria, and occupation by the French.

The Glassblowers by Daphne DuMaurier. Story told by a family split by the French revolution.

Grandfather’s Tale by Ulfat Idlibi. Follows a Dagestani family into Syria and back into the soon to be Russia.

Hadji Murat by Leo Tolstoy. Tells of 19th C Russian encounter with its Muslim neighbors and then inhabitants.

Island Beneath the Sea: A Novel by Isabel Allende, tells the story of a slave at the time of the Haitian Revolution.

Land: A Novel by Pak Kyong-Ni. Tells the story of Korea from the late 18th to the present.

Middle Passage by Charles Johnson. Life of a freed African American slave in New Orleans who ends up on a slave clipper and helps the slaves stage a revolt.

Morenga by Uwe Timm. A historical novel set in the early 20th Century, about a black African leader and a bloody civil war in German-occupied Southwest Africa.

Rebels of the Heavenly Kingdom by Katherine Patterson. Describes China during the Taiping Rebellion.

Red Earth and Pouring Rain: A Novel by Vikram Chandra. Various stories from India including 18th and 19th C Mogul India, but also earlier and later.

The Rock of Tanios by Amin Maalouf. Depiction of social and political turmoil in Lebanon during the 1880s.

Segu by Maryse Conde. Chronicles a family near present-day Mali (and beyond) in the 18th C as their traditions are challenged by the slave trade and Islam.***

Shark Dialogues by Kiana Davenport. Follows the women of a matriarchal Hawaiian family through multiple generations, starting in the 1800s and going until the present. Explicit sexual content. ***

The Two Hearts of Kwas Boachi, by Arthur Japin. Novel based on the true story of two Ashante princes, who are sent to Holland in 1837 which expose them to the slave trade, life in Holland and in Indonesia.

This Earth of Mankind by Parmoedya Ananta Toer. Tells the tale of Dutch Java and colonialism and modernity. The novel was dictated by Toer while in prison to others who passed it out for transcription.
NONFICTION READINGS

NF-6  NONFICTION - Period 6 - 1900 to present - BOOKS FOR FIRST SEMESTER


Friedman, Tom. The World is Flat. Shows how interconnected the world has become with new technology and digital advances, led often not by corporations, but also individuals. ***

Gourevitch, Philip. We Wish to Inform You That Tomorrow We Will Be Killed with Our Families: Stories from Rwanda. Tales of genocide in Rwanda. Is incredibly depressing and moving.


Huntington, Samuel. The Clash of Civilizations and the Remaking of World Order. Discusses increasing threat of violence from renewed conflicts between cultures that base traditions on religious faith and dogma.


Kinser, Stephen. A Thousand Hills: Rwanda's Rebirth and the Man Who Dreamed It. Balanced look at events leading up to the 1994 genocide (and earlier "practice" ones) and life after it in Rwanda. ***

Kurlansky, Mark. 1968: The Year That Changed the World. An engaging look at life in 1968 and how events around the world, as far apart as the US and Poland, were interconnected. ***

MacMillan, Margaret. Paris 1919: Six Months that Changed the War. Fascinating look at events during the conference that ended WWI. Presents a different hypothesis on causes leading to WWII.

Mernissi, Fatima. Beyond the Veil: Male-Female Dynamics in a Modern Muslim Society. Muslim women’s lives in Morocco.


Wrong, Michela. I Didn't Do It for You: How the World Betrayed a Small African Nation. Compelling account of the recent history of Eritrea (since the turn of the century) and its neighbors and colonizers. ***

NF-1  NONFICTION - Period 1 - 8000 BCE to 600 BCE BOOKS FOR FIRST SEMESTER

Lerner, Gerda. Creation of Patriarchy. Multi-causal theory to explain development of the patriarchal system.

Teresi, Dick. Lost Discoveries: The Ancient Roots of Modern Science--from the Babylonians to the Maya. Traces technology and science in Foundations period (and a little beyond). Math and science heavy.

NF-2  NONFICTION - Period 2 - 600 BCE to 600 CE BOOKS FOR FIRST SEMESTER

Armstrong, Karen. The Great Transformation. Fascinating look at the changes in major belief systems in India, China and the Middle East from 900 BCE to 200 BCE.


NF-3 NONFICTION - Period 3 - 600 CE –1450 CE BOOKS FOR FIRST SEMESTER


Chambers, James. *The Devil's Horsemen: The Mongol Invasion of Europe.* Excellent. ***

Chaudhuri, K.N.  *Asia before Europe: Economy and Civilization of the Indian Ocean from the Rise of Islam to 1750.* Explores the interactions in the regions around and beyond the Indian Ocean.

Coe, Michael. *Mexico: From the Olmecs to the Aztecs.* Great source from the premier researcher on this region.


Fagan, Brian. *The Great Warming: Climate Change and the Rise and Fall of Civilizations.* Looks at the period from 800-1300 when temperatures rose dramatically, and its impact.

Gabrieli, Francesco.  *Arab Historians of the Crusades.* Arab sources without filters.

Gies, Frances and Joseph. *Cathedral, Forge, and Waterwheel: Technology and Invention in the Middle Ages.* Discusses Europe's rise to technological leadership and their non-European sources of many of their inventions.

Gordon, Stewart. *When Asia Was the World: Traveling Merchants, Scholars, Warriors, and Monks Who Created the "Riches of the "East."* Entertaining tales of various travelers (some well-known) from 700-1500 in Asia.

Levathes, Louise, *When China Ruled the Seas: The Treasure Fleet of the Dragon Throne 1405-1433* The tale of Chinese emperor and his admiral’s seven major naval expeditions to India, Indonesia, and Africa.

NF-4 NONFICTION - Period 4 - 1450 CE –1750 CE BOOKS FOR SECOND SEMESTER


Braudel, Fernand. *The Mediterranean and the Mediterranean World in the Age of Philip II*. The Mediterranean in the 1500s, explaining the environment’s role in rise of the Ottomans, how Egyptians made iced drinks, etc.


Crosby, Alfred. *The Columbian Exchange: Biological and Cultural Consequences of 1492*. Ultimate work on this event. Discusses the exchange of foods, diseases and ideas between the Americas and Europe. ***


*The Rise and Fall of the Plantation Complex*. Pioneering study of plantation societies in the Americas.

Fernandez-Armesto, Felipe. *1492: They Year the World Began*. An examination of the world-wide events leading up to and beyond Columbus’ voyage to the Americas.

Leon-Portillo, Miguel. *Broken Spears*. Short and plainly written account of the Aztec view of the conquest.

Mann, Charles. *1491*. Great read on new findings about pre-Colombian America. ***

*1493*. Also a good read on new (and old) findings about the Columbian Exchange and its global impacts.


Pagden, Anthony. *Lords of All the World: Ideologies of Empire in Spain, Britain and France C.1500-C. 1800*. Describes different theories colonial powers used to justify seizure & subjugation of aboriginal lands & peoples.


Willis, John. *1688*. Entertaining read about this time period around the world.

*The World from 1450 to 1700*. Interesting read about the world during this time, focusing on key themes.

NF-5 NONFICTION - Period 5 - 1750 CE –1900 CE - BOOKS FOR SECOND SEMESTER

Brown, L. Carl ed. *Imperial Legacy: The Ottoman Imprint on the Balkans and the Middle East*. Good book on Ottomans.

Chaudhuri, Nupur and Margaret Strobel. *Western Women and Imperialism: Complicity and Resistance*. Examines the role of women in imperialism.


Curtin, Philip D. *The World and the West: The European Challenge and the Overseas Response in the Age of Empire*. Case studies of the interaction of Western societies of Europe & America with others around the world.

*Africa Remembered: Narratives by West Africans from the Era of the Slave Trade*. Slave trade from a non-European perspective.


Headrick, Daniel R. *The Tools of Empire: Technology & European Imperialism in the 19th Century*. An examination of the technologies that made imperialism possible and how those technologies came about. 221 pgs

*Tentacles of Progress: Technology Transfer in the Age of Imperialism*. Impact of technology transfer.

Hochschild, Adam. *King Leopold's Ghost*. Account of megalomaniae King of Belgium, his cruelty and those who fought him after unexpectedly finding themselves witnesses to a holocaust.

Loewen, James W. *Lies My Teacher Told Me: Everything Your American History Textbook Got Wrong*. Only read this one if US history is vague for you. Discusses revisionism.

Meyer, Karl E. *The Race for Mastery in the Asian Heartland* Political history of Central Asia
**BOOKS FOR EITHER SEMESTER**

**NF-7  NONFICTION - Cross Era Histories (Generally focused on one region or theme)**

Ahmed, Leila. Women and Gender in Islam. Thorough treatment of women in Islam throughout history. ***

Anderson, Benedict. Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism - a bit slow but has useful information on nationalism and its spread.


Bender, Thomas. Rethinking American History in a Global Age. US history from a global perspective.


Black, Edwin. Banking on Baghdad: Inside Iraq’s 7,000-year History of War, Profit, and Conflict. Weak on the first 5000 years; has a strong opinion on why we are in Iraq. On the Air Force reading list on the Middle East.


Crosby, Alfred. Ecological Imperialism: The Biological Expansion of Europe, 900-1900. Examines world history during from an environmental perspective, trying to explain why Europe dominated the world. ***


Figes, Orlando. Natasha’s Dance: A Cultural History of Russia. Russian culture and things that influenced it.


Lewis, Bernard. The Muslim Discovery of Europe. Covers contact between Europe and the Muslim world.

What Went Wrong: Western Impact and Middle Eastern Response. Controversial interpretation and survey of how Islamic civilization fell from worldwide leadership to its condition today.

Liebman, Victor. Strange Parallels: Volume 1, Integration on the Mainland: Southeast Asia in Global Context, c. 800-1830. Connects Southeast Asia’s development to that of the world.

Lovejoy, Paul E. Transformations in Slavery: A History of Slavery in Africa. Discusses the often-ignored Islamic African slave trade, as well as other slavery within and without Africa.

McNeill, J. R. Mosquito Empires: Ecology and War in the Greater Caribbean, 1620-1914. Compelling read on the role ecology & disease had in the conquest and independence of the Caribbean and how diseases were vanquished.

Mottahedeh, Roy. The Mantle of the Prophet: Religion and Politics in Iran. Historical examination of Iran – leading up to the Islamic Revolution and a little beyond.

Pearson, Michael. Port Cities and Intruders: The Swahili Coast, India, and Portugal in the Early Modern Era. A thorough study of the interactions of these areas and peoples.


Reader, John. Africa: A Biography of the Continent. A great survey that uses vignettes about Africa!


Waley-Cohen, Joanna. Sextants of Beijing: Global Currents in Chinese History. An enjoyable and accessible, book that puts to rest the myth that China was unchanging and cut off from the rest of the world. ***


Wilson, Samuel M. The Emperor's Giraffe and Other Stories of Cultures in Contact. Historical contact stories.

Wolff, Eric. Europe and the People without History. Different perspective on history, favored by AP. *** 240pp
BOOKS FOR EITHER SEMESTER

NF-8 **NONFICTION - World Histories**

Ansary, Tamim. *Destiny Disrupted: A History of the World Through Islamic Eyes.* Presents a very different perspective and periodization of history from the perspective of the Islamic world. ***

Armstrong, Karen. *A History of God: The 4,000-Year Quest of Judaism, Christianity and Islam.* The history of how people have perceived and experienced God from the time of Abraham to the present.

Bray, R. S. *Armies of Pestilence: The Effects of Pandemics on History.* Looks at pandemics and their impact.

Christian, David. *This Fleeting World: A Short History of Humanity.* A brief but sweeping view of human history, focus on the part discussing 8000 BCE to the present (The Agrarian Era).


*Cod: A History of a Fish that Changed the World.* – interesting account of coffee, linking it to many dictatorships around the world.

Kurlansky, Mark. *The World that Trade Created: Society, Culture, & the World Economy.* Great short stories about economics, trade, and history. ***


Stearns, Peter. *Cultures in Motion.* Brief examination of cross-cultural interactions and exchanges in world history, including major religions, migrations, nationalism, imperialism and consumerism. Neat maps.

Worster, Donald. *The Ends of the Earth: Perspectives on Modern Environmental History.* Looks at history with an environmental lens.