

2017-18 AP History Changes

The College Board has made some changes to the three AP history courses for the 2017-18 school year. These changes will not require AP teachers to resubmit their syllabi to the AP Course Audit or attend professional development.

- Streamlined the AP history disciplinary practices and reasoning skills (previously known as historical thinking skills)
 - Periodization and synthesis are no longer listed as course skills
 - The practices and skills are now defined in clearer, simpler language and reflect a range of student proficiency levels.
- Changed the exam design to give teachers and students more clarity about what to expect and more flexibility to support local curricular focus. See the updated specifications for the AP European History, AP U.S. History, and AP World History exams.
- Updated Section II of the AP history exams (document-based question and long essay question) and the generic rubrics.
 - The synthesis point has been removed from both rubrics.
 - Students will have 10 more minutes to answer the DBQ and long essay question.
 - A single rubric will now be used for the long essay question.
 - The rubrics describe more clearly what students will need to do to earn each point. The 2018 rubrics will be available in early August.
- Reduced number of AP European History and AP World History learning objectives, making them more useful for teachers in structuring their courses.
- Minor changes to the AP European History and AP World History concept outlines to more appropriately order the key concepts and align with current scholarship.
- New theme for AP European History: National and European Identity.