**Mr. Sprintz’s Classroom Policies**

**AP European History – Spring 2012**

An Introduction

***Or***

***Is it too late to change my schedule??***

We all know what AP courses are supposed to do: help you obtain college credit while in high school. Sadly, many students expect a typical high school course and become upset when they realize that this is NOT a typical course and that they actually have to DO something.

So…….here is the reality of what you have gotten yourself into:

1. **Overview:** No more worksheets, film festivals, or “busy-work”. This is a **content course.** That means you (a) must know mountains of information and (b) be able to analyze it, not just memorize it. This is not an easy course, but it shouldn’t be painful, either.
2. **Texts:** Yes, you have one. Keep it at home; do not bring it to class. I’ll inform you when you need to bring your textbook to class.
3. **Assignments:** You should expect to have homework every day in this class up until the **AP European History Exam** on **Friday, May 11**. If you fail a test because you did not read the text or other materials then you have made the CHOICE to fail the test. The course requires both sacrifice and dedication in order to successfully complete all assignments and succeed. Keep up with the readings.
4. **Notes:** This is a history class; of COURSE you have to take notes. Don’t like lectures or note-taking or essay writing??? Boy, are you in the wrong class.
5. **Tests:** Tests will always have objective questions and essays on them. Essays will always force you to manipulate the information learned, not just memorize and repeat it. I will include extensive suggestions on each essay you write for how to improve your essays. As such, do not expect to receive your graded essays the day after your exams. I will get your tests back to you as soon as possible.
6. **Grades:** There will be homework assignments, quizzes, DBQs, FRQs, and exams.

**The proverbial bottom line:** The **AP Euro Exam is on Friday, May 11**. That means, including today, we have only 70 class periods (some shortened for early releases, and a few missed if you plan to take additional AP Exams for other courses) to cover a vast amount of historic content from the Renaissance to modern times and develop your analytic writing skills. Be ready to hit the ground running and keep up the intensity through May 11th. There is no time for Senioritis if you intend to succeed in this class.

**Office Hours:**

I will be available for tutoring and to administer make-up tests & assignments after school by appointment.

# Student and Class Expectations

* Attend every class, be there on time, and come prepared. Work missed because of unexcused absences and tardies cannot be made up.
* **Assignments are considered late if students arrive to class late without an excused pass or if students do not have the assignment completed when class begins.**
* Maintain a 3-ring binder for all lecture notes, class handouts, notes on class discussions, group activities, returned assignments, and quizzes/tests. BRING A PEN AND HIGHLIGHTER EACH DAY.
* **Respect yourself and your classmates (personal attacks and profanity are prohibited).**
* Be aware of all assignments and obtain information and materials not received due to absence. Accept responsibility for success or failure.
* Keep an open mind and do the best work possible. Ask questions often and seek additional help. Share opinions, criticisms, writings and readings.
* Remain seated until the bell rings or the class is dismissed. ABSOLUTELY NO CELL PHONES, Ipods, or any other electronic device should be out during class. I will call home to notify your parent/guardian that you have violated this rule and you should expect consequences from OHS administration.
* No food in the classroom. You may bring drinks as long as they are in bottles with screw tops.
* Avoid leaving trash around the classroom, sharpening pencils during class discussion or lecture.
* After using a textbook or any other supplies, return them where you found them

# Academic Integrity:

I tolerate absolutely no cheating, copying, or plagiarism. This goes for note cards, homework, tests and any other assignment. Unless I explicitly instruct you to work with another student or group of students, you are to work entirely on your own. Handing in identical assignments and claiming “We worked on it together” is not a valid excuse for cheating. **If caught cheating, plagiarizing, or copying assignments you will receive a zero for the assignment, receive an administrative referral, and have your parent/guardian contacted**. **DO NOT CHEAT IN THIS CLASS!**

# Turning in Assignments:

When you are absent, it is YOUR responsibility to check with me regarding work you missed or tests/quizzes you need to make up. This can be done before class or after class. You should also call a peer in the class when you are absent to keep you from falling further behind if you are out for multiple days. You are welcome to email me as well. My email address is: marc.sprintz@orange.k12.nc.us

**Special Note for missed test days:** If you are absent on the day a test is given, you will be expected to stay after school for a makeup test the very next day you are in class. You will be given a test on the same material, but it may be in a different format from the one your peers took on the scheduled test date.

**Dress for Success:**

While dressing nicely for class is welcomed, you will not receive any extra credit for doing so in this class.

**Leaving the Classroom:**

Since we have such a short amount of time to cover a vast amount of historical content, you need to be IN THE CLASSROOM. I expect you all to make an effort to use the bathroom before or after class. If you must leave the classroom for any reason, make sure you have your planner filled out with the date and destination. Unless you are ill, do not interrupt the entire class in order to ask to leave, just come up to me and ask quietly during a break in the lesson.