

AP European History

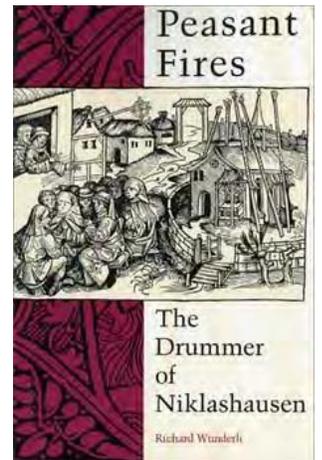
Summer Assignment 2019

Welcome to Advanced Placement European History! AP Euro is a challenging and rewarding class that allows you to analyze the lives of Europeans from the start of the Renaissance to the modern world. While our curriculum will begin during the Italian Renaissance, it is pivotal to first understand the European worldview on the eve of the Renaissance and Protestant Reformation. **If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at kburke@rtnj.org.** To fully prepare you for the AP Euro *experience*, you are to be asked to complete the following assignments:

Part One:

The first portion of the assignment describes the short text you will be asked to read. Each student will be reading the entirety of *Peasant Fires* by Richard Wunderli.

Description: In *Peasant Fires*, Professor Richard Wunderli wades through vague accounts to paint a portrait of German society on the eve of the Protestant Reformation: one governed by class divisions and tight social restrictions, and in which everyone's survival depended upon strict conformity and obedience to his superiors. In this short narrative, enter a charismatic young man who, guided by the thought that he had experienced a religious vision, inspires peasants across Germany to defy their feudal lords by embarking on a pilgrimage to a remote village in the Holy Roman Empire (present day Germany), where "the drummer" preaches about church abuses, the need to overthrow the social order, and the upcoming re-creation of society into one that is more just and equitable.



Procedure:

1. Acquire and read *Peasant Fires* by Richard Wunderli.
2. Focus on the major themes present in the text, including:
 - The centrality of religion in the lives of all in Medieval Europe.
 - The "worldview" of different groups of Europeans. In other words, the way Europeans of all social classes viewed and explained the world around them on the eve of the Renaissance and Reformation.
 - The prevailing social order within Germany, paying particular attention to the lives of the peasant communities of Europe.
3. We will have an organized discussion on this text within the first week of school.
4. Students are urged **NOT** to wait until the last minute to purchase, read and study this book. You may have to order your book via an online retailer such as Amazon. The Barnes and Noble store located on Route 10 West in Morris Plains also has been asked to stock this book for RHS students.

ISBN Information: Wunderli, Richard. **Peasant Fires: The Drummer of Niklashausen**. Indiana University Press. Bloomington & Indianapolis, IN. 1992. ISBN: 0-253-36725-5

Part Two:

Textbook Excerpt – To accompany your reading of *Peasant Fires*, I ask that you begin exploring the Late Middle Ages (LMA) in one of our textbooks. Again, while this information is technically outside of our 1450 starting point, you will often be asked to make comparisons between the LMA and the Renaissance.

- Read *Ch. 2, "Medieval Europe"*, by Ethel Wood, pp. 19-40 **[you will get this reading from me]**
- Take notes on the reading (I will not require a particular style of notes for this class. I only ask that you take detailed notes on the level of an Advanced Placement student).
- Be prepared to discuss and be assessed on the material during the first weeks of class.

Part Three:

European Map Quiz – You are expected to have a general working knowledge of the geography of Europe when we begin our studies in September. **Please label the attached map neatly and clearly with the following nations and cities.** Students are also encouraged to practice this map during the summer, as we will have a European map quiz during the first two weeks of school in September.

Nations

Albania	Greece	Romania
Armenia	Hungary	Russia
Austria	Iceland	Scotland*
Belarus	Ireland	Serbia
Belgium	Italy	Slovakia
Bosnia & Herzegovina	Latvia	Slovenia
Bulgaria	Liechtenstein	Spain
Cyprus	Lithuania	Sweden
Czech Republic	Luxembourg	Switzerland
Denmark	Moldova	Turkey
Estonia	Netherlands	Ukraine
Finland	Norway	United Kingdom (England)
France	Poland	
Germany	Portugal	

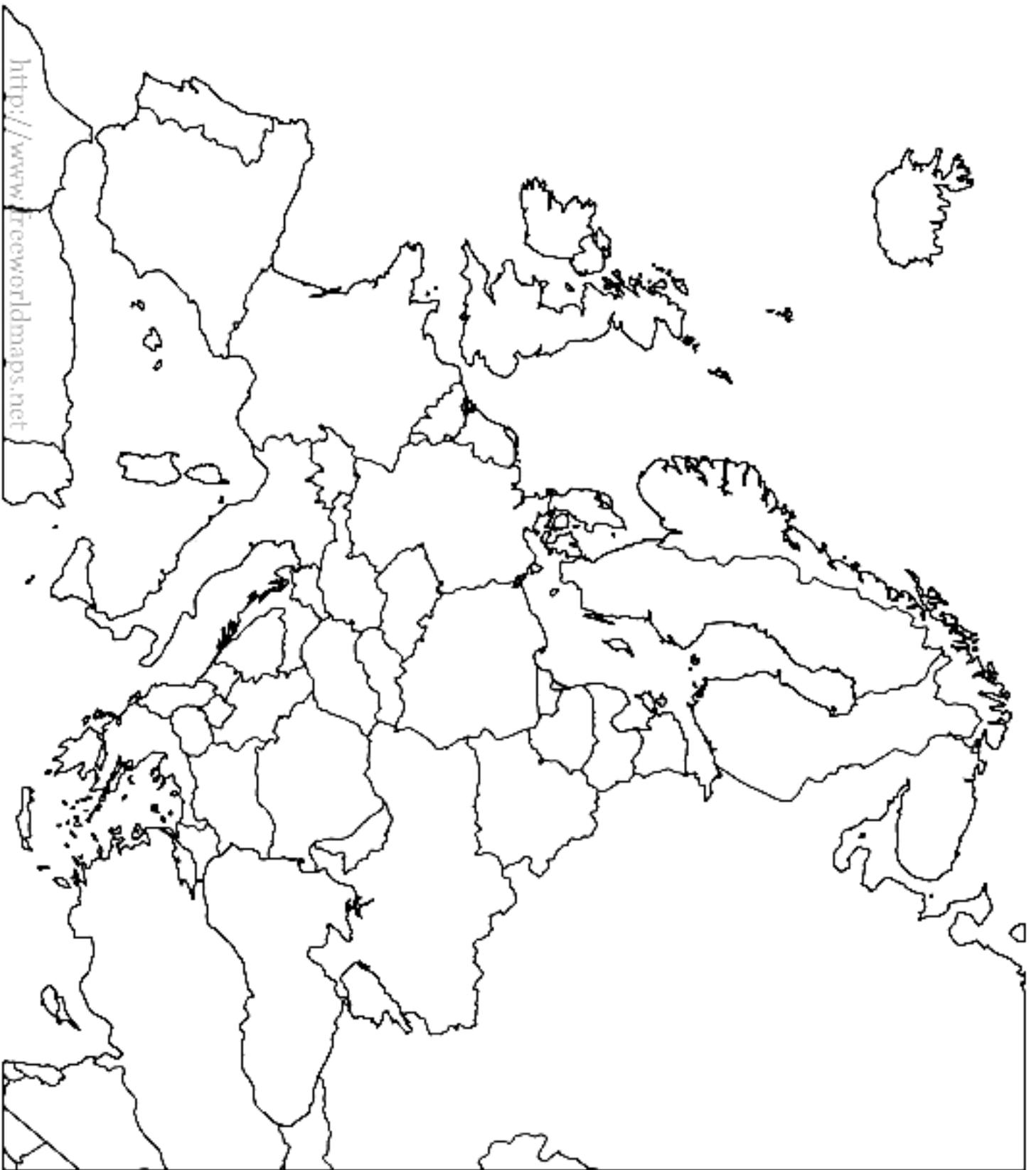
Cities

Amsterdam
Berlin
London
Moscow
Paris
Prague
Rome
St. Petersburg
Vienna

Please shade in the following regions lightly and create a key on the side of your map.

Regions

The Balkans
The Baltic States



<http://www.freeworldmaps.net>