

Summer Assignment – AP European History

The purpose of this assignment is to introduce you to people and ideals of the approximately 300-year span known as the Renaissance, which is the first major era we will cover in the school year.

The assignment:

1. Use reliable Internet sources to find a good definition/explanation of each of the following:
 - a. Renaissance (should include relevant characteristics)
 - b. Humanism
 - c. “Renaissance Man”
 - d. Reformation
 - e. Catholic Reformation
 - f. Machiavelli’s *The Prince*

*This will help you understand the book better as you read.

2. You will be reading *Renaissance Lives: Portraits of an Age* by Theodore K. Rabb (Basic Books). I would recommend buying this from Amazon, which means you need to order it early enough to allow time for delivery and reading. This book gives brief biographies of 15 men and women who lived through the period of the Renaissance, roughly in chronological order, and exposes the reader to a more complete picture of the era than just the famed artists with whom most are familiar.

a. For **each** of the chapters on a person, answer the following question: “How did this person contribute to or influence the Renaissance, or how did the person exemplify the ideas of the Renaissance?” Cite specific reasons from the chapter, and you may use quotes if they are properly cited.

b. Why do you think these people were chosen? (May be a single response but should include specific examples)

c. Which of the people discussed did you find the most interesting? Why?

Other instructions:

1. Do your work **on your own**. Unless specified, all work in this class is to be done yourself so that your own performance can be assessed.
2. Answer on your own paper (typed would be preferable) in **complete sentences**. The purpose of this is to train you to explain your thoughts well. If you make an assertion, back it up with **examples**.

Due:

The first full day of school (the second day) - **Wednesday, August 18, 2010**

It will NOT be accepted late. It WILL be graded for content. Failure to complete this assignment will remove you from this course.