Dear Rising Sophomores and Soon-to-be AP World History Students:

First let me congratulate you on completing your freshman year. I am looking forward to working with you in the fall. Second, as you prepare for next year, I need to inform you of several important items:

I. Summer Assignment:
College-level courses like AP, Dual Enrollment and Honors require students to think critically, write analytically and read dense academic texts. Many colleges and universities require summer reading assignments in order to provide a common starting point for their incoming freshmen. Our summer assignments afford students the opportunity to do readings over the summer that begin to immerse them in the course content and guide their thinking as historians and political scientists. As students enrolling in a college-level course, it is important to do some academic work over the summer in order to be prepared for this intellectual challenge.

Over the summer you will read the first three chapters of the AP World History textbook, *Ways of the World* by Robert Strayer and take Cornell Notes on them. The entire assignment, along with a note-taking template and detailed instructions of the Cornell method of note-taking, can be accessed on my website on the page entitled “WHAP Summer Assignment 2016,” HERE or at http://bit.ly/1VUNMY8. While to some extent, the material will be a review, it is crucial to realize that the AP World History curriculum and framework are very distinctive, and different from how you approached World History I last year. For that reason, you'll also be utilizing the College Board's APWH Curriculum Framework (this is detailed in the assignment).

II. AP World History Textbook:
Although all students will be given a textbook next school year, some purchase their own beforehand. The book is Robert W. Strayer's *Ways of the World – A Global History With Sources*, First Edition, 2011. The ISBN is 978-0-312-64466-6. It can be ordered from the publisher at http://www.highschool.bfwpub.com/Catalog/. Enter "Ways of the World" into the search box, then under "Books", click "show more from books," and the textbook is the 8th item on the results page. It is also available used and new from amazon.com. Make sure, however, if you purchase it from someone other than the publisher, that you have the High School Edition with the correct ISBN number. The publisher also has a college edition, a *Brief Global History With Sources* and an edition without sources, they are not our book. For the summer assignment, you'll need to access the textbook in one of the following three ways: 1) you can come to room 150 during the last two weeks of school to check out your copy of the book (the one you'll use over the summer and next year); 2) you can access the chapters for the summer assignment on my webpage, on the “WHAP Summer Assignment 2016” page; or 3) you can purchase your own copy of the book, as described above.

III. AP World History Review Book:
Students are strongly encouraged to purchase a copy of the review book, *Kaplan AP World History 2016* (or 2017). This book will be a valuable resource through the course of the year as it provides concise summaries of the course concepts, themes, topics and periodization. Students should look through this book over the summer to familiarize themselves with the course outline. The ISBN number for the 2016 edition is 978-625231420 and the book is available for about $12 at http://www.barnesandnoble.com/ or http://www.amazon.com/. Students may want to wait until the 2017 edition is published since it will contain the newest changes to the exam format. The course content for both editions, however, is the same.

If you have questions, do not hesitate to contact me via email over the summer. I check my email at least weekly and will respond to your concerns as soon as possible. Have a great summer!

Sincerely,
Mr. Salvatore Giordano
Social Studies Department Chair
AP World History
Students will read and take Cornell Notes on the first three chapters of the AP World History textbook, Robert W. Strayer’s *Ways of the World; A Global History with Sources*. These chapters constitute most of the first unit of the AP World History Curriculum (which can be accessed both on the College Board's website, [here](#); and on my website on the “WHAP Summer Assignment 2016” page). As such, students should expect a test on this first unit within the first few days of class. The assignment for the textbook reading follows.

The sections to be read are:

- **Prologue**, pp. li – lix
- **Part One: First Things First**, pp. 2-9
- **Chapter One: First Peoples**, pp. 11-33
- **Chapter Two: First Farmers**, pp. 48-67

For this assignment, students will take Cornell Notes (sometimes also called Two-Column Notes) on these chapters. Students should already be familiar with this method of note-taking from their 9th grade World History course. **However**, all students should read the guidelines for this method of note-taking which are included with this packet and can also be found on my AP World History webpage on the WHAP Summer Assignment 2016 page. Even if you have used a note-taking method similar to this, there is important information there regarding the expectations and formatting of them for AP World History. **BE SURE** to read through all of that document before you get started on the textbook reading.

As part of the notes for chapter 1-3, students will also interact with the AP World History themes as described below. Since AP World History covers all of recorded time, coverage of all the facts of World History is impossible. For that reason, the College Board curriculum takes a thematic approach, and world history is explored through five major themes. (The themes and an explanation of them are available in the Kaplan review book and on the College Board’s website for AP World History. Go [here](#), then click on “AP World History Course and Exam Description.” The themes are covered in detail on pages 10-30.) This document is also available at my website on the “WHAP Summer Assignment 2016” page. For each chapter of *Ways of the World*, students should cite one example of each of the five themes. These can be brief, perhaps two to three sentences each. They should be included at the end of the Cornell notes for each chapter (after the final summary).
Due Date, Format, etc.

THIS SUMMER ASSIGNMENT MUST BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS. Failure to prepare for this will negatively impact your grade, since you will be using it immediately in class. It is strongly recommended that students set aside time throughout the summer to complete it, rather than attempt to get it done in the few days before school begins. This would be a very big mistake as the reading and notetaking will require some time and focus; giving them short shrift will significantly reduce your ability to participate meaningfully in our beginning-of-the-year discussions and assignments.

In addition, be sure to read and follow the directions for Cornell Notetaking. Failure to complete them properly will result in a poor grade. The Cornell/Two-Column notes from the textbook MUST BE HANDWRITTEN.

If you have questions as you work on this through the summer, please contact me at sgiordano@k12albemarle.org.
The Cornell Method of Note Taking

In AP World History students will be required to follow the Cornell or Two–Column Method described below. This method of note taking offers several advantages over other styles. It results in more organized notes, which clearly delineate the different types of information that the students will be expected to learn. This includes writing 1) discreet facts and definitions that are tagged to 2) organizing concepts and/or questions, followed by 3) a summary of the content. Students should be able to use the notes to quickly identify key words and key concepts from a reading or lecture. The notes can easily be used as a study guide for test/exam preparation. Properly arranged, the information is easy to scan, making it easy to locate particular pieces of information. The strategy may be adapted to a number of presentation formats: homework assignments, movies, lectures, etc. In general the notes are set up with factual or descriptive notes recorded on the right two-thirds of the page, while key words, concepts and essential questions are recorded in the left hand third called the recall or question column, and a summary is recorded at the end of each section.

Cornell or Two–Column Method of Note-Taking Guidelines:

1. Divide the letter-sized notebook paper.
   - Use COLLEGE-RULED loose leaf letter-sized notebook paper
   - Divide the paper vertically into two columns by drawing lines from top to bottom about 2” from the left side of the page. (Roughly one-third left side, two-thirds right side)

2. Each set of notes should have the student’s name, chapter number and chapter title at the top

3. Record notes
   - During the lecture or reading, record the main or significant ideas, concepts, and details on the right side of the page. This is the notes column.
   - Rephrase the information in your own words before writing it down. THIS IS IMPERATIVE – copying the (albeit brilliant) words of Robert Strayer WILL NOT help you learn.
   - Skip one line between significant ideas and topics.
   - Avoid writing in complete sentences; use symbols, and abbreviations.
   - The format or style of the notes can vary, suggestions for organizing notes are:
     - Paragraph Style: For unstructured information, record notes in a paragraph style with short, telegraphic sentences & phrases.
     - Topic and Ideas style: For expanded topic information, record topics and ideas.
     - Sentence Style: For ideas and concepts, record notes in short sentences.
     - Definition Style: For main topics and features, record definitions and explanations of words in short phrases.
4. Record Key or Important/Essential Questions
   • As you take notes in the right-hand column, look to see what **QUESTIONS** those notes would help you answer. Write these questions in the left-hand column.
   • Alternately, you can use the left-hand column to sort of “label” the different sections of the notes, by giving them headings or categories.
   • Information in this column must be very brief, a phrase or two or a question.

5. Review, Clarify, and Summarize – This is perhaps the most important part of your notes, it is **NOT** a throw-away.
   • Stop at the end of each major section of the text. For Ways of the World, each major section is denoted by LARGE RED TYPEFACE.
     - For example, Chapter Three (First Civilizations) has FOUR major sections: the first is called **Something New: The Emergence of Civilizations**; the second is **The Erosion of Equality**; the third is **The Rise of the State**; and the fourth is **Comparing Mesopotamia and Egypt**.
     - The last part of the chapter, called “Reflections,” does NOT get its own summary.
     - At the end of each of these sections, you will write a summary, as described below.
   • Review the notes in the right column and clarify any ambiguous information
   • Check to see if the questions you have written in the left-hand column are adequately answered by the notes you’ve taken (if not, add some details that do the trick)
   • Now, at the end of the section, write a **paragraph-length summary** of the key ideas from that section. The summary should encapsulate the “big picture” discussed in the section. It should hit on the main points and provide some sort of result or effect-oriented statement in conclusion.

6. Other Considerations - Special Sections and Instructions
   • In reading your textbook (especially these first three chapters), you should come to notice a few special parts to it and may be confused about how to take notes on those sections.
   • For the Prologue, even though it seems there are five major sections (since there are five sections that are titled with that large red typeface, you should simply take notes on the entire Prologue and then write ONE summary for the whole thing.
   • For Part One: First Things First, the same holds true. Strayer has the book divided into six parts, each one of those parts correlating to each of the six periods or eras outlined in the College Board’s AP World History curriculum. He gives each of these “parts” their own introduction, called “The Big Picture.” The Big Picture for Part One goes from page 3 to page 7. Like the Prologue, you should take notes on the Big Picture section and write one summary for it.
   • Lastly, you should realize that Strayer opens each chapter with a contemporary anecdote and some sort of introduction. While you should take some notes on them, they do not (like the “Reflections” piece at the end of each chapter) require a summary.

Template for Cornell or Two-Column note-taking

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<tr>
<th>Your Name</th>
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Section Summary (NOT at the bottom of every page of notes, just at the end of each SECTION)

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