

AP World History Spring Reading Assignment



This Fleeting World by David Christian



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also available online at: http://bit.ly/TFW_StudyGuideHS

Over Spring Break you will read David Christian's most recent book, *This Fleeting World*. Christian is among the most widely respected world historians, today. He is best known for developing a new approach towards world history known as "Big History". With "Big History" Christian attempts to trace the development of human society by focusing on broad periods of time, and large-scale historical developments. *This Fleeting World* is an excellent overview of the events, trends and patterns in world history that you've been studying this year. Read the following pages of Christian's book in the order listed: 97-105, 1, 23-92.

When you return from Spring break you will take an exam requiring you to elaborate on specific details related to the following topics.

1. Compare and contrast Christian's periodization of world history with the periodization we've used in class i.e. Foundations (8000 BCE-600CE), Postclassical Era (600 - 1450 CE), Early Modern Era (1450-1750), Modern (1750-1914), 20th Century (1914- today) Know the names, dates and characteristics of Christian's periodization, and be able to align those with the periodization we've used in class. Pages 97-105
2. Describe the general characteristics of Christian's "Era of Foragers." Page 1
3. Analyze significant characteristics and long trends evident in Christian's "Agrarian Era" Pages 23-57
4. Analyze major features and trends evident in Christian's "Modern Era" Pages 58-92

This Fleeting World by David Christian is published by Berkshire Publishing Group, isbn 978-1-933782-04-1. Its cost is \$14.95. Amazon.com has the book in stock. Shipping is free for orders of \$25.00 or more (order with a friend for free shipping) Berkshire Publishing Group also sells the book on-line. They offer discounts for multiple copies ordered at the same time. Order soon to ensure delivery of the book before Spring break.