

**AP EUROPEAN HISTORY SUMMER ASSIGNMENT:  
Mrs. Salisbury 2014-2015**

To better prepare for the 2014-2015 school year it is essential that you read a few books over the summer. These books will provide you with some vital background information to start the course and even provide some insight to future topics that will be discussed throughout the course. One of the books, *The Prince*, is required for ALL to students to read. Then for your second book, you will read *The Monuments Men: Allied Heroes, Nazi Thieves and the Greatest Treasure Hunt in History*, by Robert M. Edsel. These assignments are MANDATORY!!! These assignments will be assessed and averaged into your 1<sup>st</sup> quarter average. Therefore, it is IMPORTANT that you take the time to read the books and complete the assignments. These assignments should be completed and ready to turn in on the first day of our class meeting in September 2014.

\*\* All assignments must be typed!\*\*

**PART 1: *The Prince***: by Niccolo Machiavelli

**Complete the following questions in a complete and detailed format: (complete sentences) When responding please provide the question, followed by the response.**

1. Describe the political situation that prompted Machiavelli to write *The Prince*.
2. Identify the basic themes of the book.
3. What is Machiavelli's opinion about humankind? Why does he feel that way?
4. What were the mistakes of Louis XII listed by Machiavelli in Chapter 3? Why does Machiavelli dwell upon their analysis? What rule could one draw from them?
5. Explain why Machiavelli, in Chapter 5, insists so much on destruction.
6. With reference to the subject of the innovations treated in Chapter 6, give an example of success and an example of failure.
7. In Chapters 6 and 7, which vices are considered useful and advisable? Why?
8. Describe Cesare Borgia as he is presented in Chapter 7. Why did Machiavelli dedicate almost the entire chapter to him?
9. What is the course a prince should follow when choosing his advisors? What is the infallible method of recognizing a good minister?
10. Explain Machiavelli's opinions about the common people and the nobles. How does he feel about the way that a prince should be viewed by his subjects?
11. What does Machiavelli say about the military duty of a prince?
12. What is the crux of the dilemma of the prince that Machiavelli presents in Chapter 17?
13. What is the significance of the *Myth of Chiron* in Chapter 18? What are the qualities symbolized by the fox and the lion?
14. Discuss Machiavelli's ideas about religion.
15. Why can't a prince who is not wise himself be well advised?

**PART 2: Book Critique**

***The Monuments Men: Allied Heroes, Nazi Thieves and the Greatest Treasure Hunt in History***  
**by Robert M. Edsel.**

**Critique *The Monuments Men* in three to five pages. Make sure to cite your source(s)! (MLA Format). This is a critical review; therefore in this approach the writer provides a descriptive evaluation of the book, its author and its purpose. The evaluation is achieved by incorporating passages from the book as evidence with analysis.**

**Use the following questions as guidelines (by no means are they all encompassing) to prepare your critique.**

1. What was your opinion of the book, & why?
2. How effectively and in what way does the theme of the book or argument of the author reflect what you already know?
3. How well has the author achieved his aims? Are these aims supported or justified?
4. Does the author seem fair and accurate? Is there any distortion, exaggeration, or diminishing of material? Is the overall interpretation biased, subjective, slanted, objective, etc? Does the author try to look at both sides of the issue?
5. Is the book interesting or boring, and why? Does the material presented raise your curiosity about the subject/time period, & why?
6. Is there enough information in the book? Is the subject treated thoroughly or summarily?
7. Did you feel satisfied, disappointed, or puzzled by the book, & why?
8. How well is the book written?
9. Is there anything distinctive or noteworthy about the book?