Keep a copy of this in your notebook and reference these themes and habits of mind to what you are learning. While you read through a chapter, which of the AP World themes are prominent? As we work through activities in the classroom, which Habits of Mind are we addressing? Which ones do you struggle with? How will you improve on some of those skills? Developing an awareness and a strategy to overcome your difficulties will be a key to your success in this course.

I. AP World History Themes (taken from the AP World History Course Description)

1) Impact of interaction among major societies: trade, systems of international exchange, war, and diplomacy, and international organizations

2) The relationship of change and continuity across the world history periods.

3) Impact of technology and demography on people and the environment (population growth and decline, disease, manufacturing, migrations, agriculture, weaponry)

4) Systems of social structure and gender structure (comparing major features within and among societies and assessing change)

5) Cultural and intellectual developments and interactions among and within societies

6) Changes in functions and structures of states and in attitudes toward states and political identities (political culture), including the emergence of the nation-state (types of political organization).

II. Habits of Mind (taken from the AP World History Course Description)

The AP World History course addresses habits of mind or skills in two categories: a) those addressed by any rigorous history course, and 2) those addressed by a world history course.

Four Habits of Mind in the first category:

?? Constructing and evaluating arguments, using evidence to make plausible arguments.

?? Using documents and other primary data: developing the skills necessary to analyze point of view, context, and bias, and to understand and interpret information

?? Developing the ability to assess issues of change and continuity over time.

?? Enhancing the capacity to handle diversity of interpretations through analysis of context, bias and frame of reference.

Three Habits of Mind are in the second category:

?? Seeing global patterns over time and space while also acquiring the ability to connect local developments to global ones and to move through levels of generalization from the global to the particular.

?? Developing the ability to compare within and among societies, including comparing societies’ reactions to global processes.

?? Developing the ability to assess claims of universal standards yet remaining aware of human commonalities and differences; putting culturally diverse ideas and values in historical context, not suspending judgment, but developing understanding.