

## 2018 IB History I Summer Assignment

IB History provides a survey of Modern World History with a regional emphasis on Europe and Russia and their interactions with the world. This summer assignment is designed to anatomize the diverse paths that France, England, Germany and other European states take toward modernity. The documents set the groundwork for our understanding of Revolution in France, nationalism in Germany and the stability and prosperity of England in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Upon close inspection, an outline of the long-running problems of modernizing states as well as the geopolitical field of competition can be perceived.

The document packet contains primary (written in the time period) and secondary (written by historians) source documents covering social, cultural, political and religious matters. **The packet will be posted on the RMHS Social Studies website under Summer Work.**

*Your assignment is to prepare for a textually grounded seminar discussion on the extent to which conflict is at the root of social and political life in Europe between 1560 and 1720.*

**Prepare fifteen seminar discussion questions.**

For each question, cite the beginning of a phrase and a specific page number. [e.g. (The greatest danger with mercenaries, p. 78)] You should try to distribute your questions evenly throughout the text.

A word on seminar questions: Close-ended questions that have a correct answer in the text seldom generate rich discussion. Open-ended questions that require proof and insight to discover an answer make the best material for seminars. Questions that probe inconsistencies, consider alternate perspectives, contextualize an event, interpret an author's point of view, or seek to understand specific aspects of Early Modern European society and politics have the best potential to generate discussion.

***Questions are due on the first day of school.***

Issues to look for:

The social, cultural, political and religious characteristics of each country. How are these aspects interrelated?

Continuity and change across the period.

Compare the interpretations of historians.