

AP World History Review Process

In the spring of 2020, we initiated a review of the AP World History textbooks. We last purchased AP textbooks in 2011. Through input from AP World Teachers we selected three titles for review

Traditions and Encounters: A Global Perspective on the Past - Bentley; McGraw Hill 6e 2020 update AP Edition
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Ways of the World: A Global History With Sources, 4e (since 1200 C.E.); Strayer & Nelson, BFW Publishers
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AMSCO AP Edition: World History: Modern (1200-present); Perfection Learning

The texts were reviewed by the current AP World History Teachers according to the [following criteria](#) - alignment to the curriculum, credibility and authoritativeness, prevalence of stereotyping and/or bias, learner experience, safety of the associated technology, accessibility, relevance, alignment with mission.

After careful review, we are recommending to seek reapproval of **Ways of the World: A Global History**.

We landed on this text for a number of reasons.

1. It more directly aligns with the current structure of the course

From our evaluation

-The text is strictly tied to the latest AP World History curriculum standards in both content and skill development, and is a vast improvement over an earlier edition, which I used currently in my course.

-Ways of the World has strong alignment with the new AP World curriculum set forth by the College Board.

2. It aligns with our Reframing the Narrative initiative and anti-racism policy.

From our evaluation

-This text is more inclusive, offering far more primary source evidence from women and non-Western voices than previous additions..

Consistent with our current mission to teach a more honest history, the authors have updated this text by removing at least one offensive term, and revising another passage related to 19th century racist practices.

3. Its integration of source material that sets it apart from other text

From our evaluation

-the text has a variety of maps from the various time periods for learners to analyze and draw conclusions and are drawn from a variety of perspectives(i.e. not all Eurocentric, p.191-b AP Exam practice). There are a variety of primary sources throughout each chapter that allows for student understanding from varying perspectives (i.e Ayuba Suleiman Diallo: to slavery and back, in Ch.6) . The primary source images are diverse and allow for learner discussion and demonstration of understanding through interpretation (i.e. page 648 Nigerian food store picture)

4. This is more accessible than previous texts.

From our evaluation

-The Ways text is written with college level concepts and themes intertwined with textbook language that is accessible for the high school level student. This is one of the major benefits of this text - high school learners will be able to independently read and understand content so that class meetings will be able to focus on deeper understandings and discussions rather than re-teaching content from an overly academic text (for high school age learners). There are also relevant and appropriate practice items throughout the text. These items increase in expectation and length as the text progresses which scaffolds well for high school learners.

-This text is far more accessible to diverse learners than the current edition that I use. It offers more structure, with more guiding questions to help readers navigate the text. The primary source passages are shorter. This text uses bold face to help students identify key vocabulary. AP Skill development sections accompany every unit.

Summary of Text (From Amazon)

This brand new brief edition combines the thorough examination of significant historical trends, themes, and developments that Strayer/Nelson is known for, but opens with an entirely new “Part One” written specifically for this new course. By first setting the stage of world history at 1200 C.E., Strayer and Nelson provide a thoughtful and insightful commentary that helps students see the big picture of the 1200 start date and models historical thinking and writing throughout