Intellectual Revolutions Presentations

**Which invention, event and/or movement did the most to create our modern understanding of the world?**

*Many of these events and movements are interconnected. Your job is to explain it to the audience and argue that your topic did the most to create our modern understanding of the world.*

Parts of the presentation: You can switch the order if you want.

**Each student gets one slide. Put your name on it.**

1. BEFORE: Life in Europe before this movement/event.
2. EXPLANATION: What was this movement/event?
3. THE CHANGE: What it changed, specifically.
4. SO WHAT? Why this event did the most to create our modern understanding of the world. Make an argument.

**How to get a B:**

* 3X5 Rule: 3 bullet points with 5 words maximum per bullet point. Verbally add important details for the audience and be ready for questions.
* Use visuals, videos, GIFs, memes, etc. as long as they don’t exceed your total word count.
* **The rest is your verbal explanation to the class.**
* **Your name should be on your slide.**This helps me to grade. Names don’t count towards word total.

**How to get an A:** Do all of the above, plus the following.

* **Memorize and rehearse** your part of the presentation. The less you look at the screen, the better. It’s OK to have note cards for emergencies, but don’t lean too much on them.
* Project your **voice** and **look at the audience**, not at the teacher.
* Be **ready to field obvious questions and counter-arguments.** I won’t grade you down if you can’t answer an overly tricky question.
* While you’re in the audience: **Take notes** in the graphic organizer for your writing assignment + to avoid a point deduction, be ready with a least **1 question**, and/or **1 counter-argument** (for example, that your topic did more to create our modern understanding of the world)**.** **Every student must ask at least one question or make one counter-argument.**

**NOTES:** Create a group Google Doc. Put your name on your section. Write at least **one page** of notes (bullet points OK). Put in links to at least **3-5 sources**. This helps me to evaluate the depth of your knowledge.

**Copernicus**

An astronomer and priest who popularized heliocentrism, the **theory** that the Earth revolves around the Sun. This debunked Ptolemy’s geocentric theory (the Earth is the center of the universe) which was backed by the Catholic Church. Early scientists like Copernicus didn’t want to destroy religion; they were Christians who fought to eliminate obvious errors and superstition but still believed that God was the creator of the universe. Copernicus only allowed his work to be published while on his death bed out of fear that the Church would execute him.

Good Sources:

“Scientific Revolution: Crash Course European History #12”

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0eO0pPrGi6o&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtMsMTfmRomkVQG8AqrAmJFX&index=8&t=0s

“Turning Points, The Scientific Revolution” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9hodYUDDfsY>

“Copernicus Astronomer, Mini Bio” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M0p6NKANE08>

<https://www.famousscientists.org/nicolaus-copernicus/>

**Galileo**

Pioneer of the Scientific Method, Galileo greatly increased the power of the telescope, proved the existence of a planet not mentioned by Ptolemy, and proved that moons orbit other planets, not just Earth (this further debunked the idea that Earth is the center of the universe). He provided the **evidence** to back the **theory** of heliocentrism, using his telescope to show Church officials the proof that Ptolemy was wrong. He used his celebrity status to avoid the fate of Bruno (burned at the stake) but he still faced persecution by the Church.

Good Sources:

“Scientific Revolution: Crash Course European History #12”

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0eO0pPrGi6o&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtMsMTfmRomkVQG8AqrAmJFX&index=8&t=0s

<http://galileo.rice.edu/>

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Galileo-Galilei>

# Galileo Galilei: Father of Modern Science

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0eO0pPrGi6o&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtMsMTfmRomkVQG8AqrAmJFX&index=8&t=0s

**Early Capitalism**

* Trade Fairs: During the Crusades (1096-1291), Europeans came back from the Middle East, a richer and more technologically advanced part of the world at the time, with new goods to trade. This spurred the rise of early capitalism.
* 1200s-1300s Banking. Genoa, Florence. Despite usury laws (lending money and charging interest was a sin), banks extended credit and allowed for long-distance transactions across most of Europe at a time when travel was expensive and dangerous.
* The **Black Death** helped set off an economic boom as the 1/3- 1/2 population loss left a lot of empty land and capital that could be amalgamated into larger, more efficient farms and businesses. This gave the common people more power to choose where and how to earn money b/c their labor was now scarce and therefore valuable.
* **Joint Stock Companies**, helped spur entrepreneurship and trade by creating the first multinational corporation, the East India Company. Large amounts of money could be raised quickly.

Good Sources: <https://medievaleurope.mrdonn.org/powerpoints-towns.html>

The Economic Impact of the Black Death: http://brewminate.com/the-economic-impact-of-the-black-death/

“History of Ideas: Capitalism” Stop after Adam Smith around minute 5. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dIuaW9YWqEU>

<https://medievaleurope.mrdonn.org/tradefairs.html>

<https://medievaleurope.mrdonn.org/banks.html>

Commerce, Agriculture, and Slavery: Crash Course European History #8 <https://youtu.be/mU2dhPlJWyY>

**The Printing Press**

* China’s Han Dynasty (100 BCE) invented paper and the Sui Dynasty 581 CE invented wooden block printing. An entire page of Chinese characters would be slowly carved out, then paint-pressed onto paper. It wore out after a few hundred prints and took a long time to re-carve, but it was much better than copying by hand. Before the printing press, copying out books by hand was so expensive that only the richest of the rich could afford them.
* By the 1300s, wood block printing had made it to Europe through trade. Still expensive (books cost the equivalent value of half a small house in Germany!), but less than copying by hand. Only the wealthy had books, and even then, probably just the Bible and a 1-2 others.
* **Gutenberg** was an entrepreneur whose early success had been manufacturing mirrors that had been in the presence of holy relics; you could buy them to “reflect” that holiness onto yourself rather than spend a fortune + face danger traveling to pilgrimage sites.
* **Movable type**—Put onto a rack and could easily be moved around in different combinations.
* Massive expansion in literacy, spread of knowledge, reduced errors.

Good Sources: <http://www.computersmiths.com/chineseinvention/blockprint.htm>

<https://www.ducksters.com/biography/johannes_gutenberg.php>

“How a Gutenberg Printing Press Works” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kiD8U4gR0lA>

“The Printing Press Johannes Gutenberg” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LEb1v-6Lf_Q>

“AP Euro, Bit by Bit” https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xs1chMpM\_nI&index=5&list=PLWI-vV6rH86gdSM3ajwJrp0FPxKQ7Zpu0

**The Protestant Reformation**

* Before the Protestant Reformation (led by Martin Luther), Western Europe only had one church—what we now call the Catholic Church, headed by the Pope in Rome. The Protestants split the Western Church and set off “The Wars of Religion” which divided Europe into Catholic countries (France, Spain, Italy, Austria-Hungary) and Protestant countries (England, Netherlands, northern German states).
* “Back to basics.” Criticized Church beliefs that weren’t in the Bible. Luther and others were angry about **indulgences,** especially when the Church sold “double indulgences” to pay for a big cathedral. Luther also questioned **priestly celibacy** (banning priests from marriage is not in the Bible), which is why most Protestant clergy can marry but Catholic priests can’t.
* Luther published his criticism in a tract that had a 300,000 print run—even today that is considered a best seller. Only the Bible sold more copies at the time.
* Luther was born shortly after modern printing was invented. By the time he died, **a third of all books in the German language were written by him.**
* Protestants had to become literate to read the Bible for themselves and escape what Luther saw as the corrupt Catholic Church interpretation of Christianity, so he translated the Bible into German. Before then, the few literate people there were in Europe read and wrote in Latin and spoke their own languages at home. German, French and English were almost never written down. Luther thus helped create the written German language, and other Protestants did the same for other European languages.

# Good Sources: “A Fun, Animated History of the Reformation and the Man Who Started It All | Short Film Showcase” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FhGGjRjvq7w>

# “The Protestant Reformation: Crash Course European History #6” https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0eO0pPrGi6o&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtMsMTfmRomkVQG8AqrAmJFX&index=8&t=0s

# “Crash Course: Luther and the Protestant Reformation” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1o8oIELbNxE&t=12s>

“AP Euro, Bit by Bit” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-HhvdOIxueQ&list=PLWI-vV6rH86gdSM3ajwJrp0FPxKQ7Zpu0&t=0s&index=13>

**The Renaissance**

**You will need examples of art in your presentation + an explanation of what the audience is looking at and how it relates to the topic.**

Medieval art focused almost exclusively on religious themes and **people were not depicted accurately**. The focus was on **preparing for eternity**, not having a happy life on Earth.

Renaissance art glorified the human body and **humanity’s potential to improve life here on Earth** (**humanism**).

Printing of lost works of Greek and Roman philosophy helped spread **humanism**. Ancient Greek and Roman wisdom was rediscovered during this time thanks to war and trade with the Arabs, who had translated Aristotle, Plato and other ancient works + stayed literate while Europe was in the Dark Ages.

Good Sources:

“AP Euro, Bit by Bit” https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=txKiku3qJN4&list=PLWI-vV6rH86gdSM3ajwJrp0FPxKQ7Zpu0

https://worldhistory.mrdonn.org/renaissance.html

<http://manuscripts.kb.nl/browse>

<http://worldimages.sjsu.edu/index-tree/tree/13>

# Florence and the Renaissance: Crash Course European History #2 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tecocKSclwc&t=231s

Key Terms: DaVinci, Humanism, Medicis.