

**SUMMER READING GUIDE FOR AP EURO. HISTORY (RUDD):**  
**AFTER THE BLACK DEATH by George Huppert**

**Date due and Assessment:**

Within the first week of the academic year, this assignment will be checked as a homework grade. Then, following discussion in class, students will take a written test that focuses specifically on the facts obtained from the reading assignment questions. The test is entirely subjective (short answer/short essay), and the test questions come directly from this reading guide. Therefore, the student should consider the reading guide to be a “study guide” for the test.

**Objective:**

The purpose of using this book for summer reading in the Advanced Placement course is to help the students understand more clearly the social history of Europe during the late middle ages and early Renaissance periods.

**Ch. 1**

1. Be able to explain the factors surrounding population growth and decline during the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries. What were causes for both? What impact did they have on community life, etc.?
2. Be able to explain the function of the Church in the community. What role did the clergy play in the communities? How were people involved?

**Chs. 2-5**

1. Be able to explain the rise of the *Bourgeois* class in the late middle ages. Who are they? Where did they come from? What role do they have in society?
2. Be able to explain the social structure of Europe during this period. Who were the “urban elite?” What did they do? Where did they come from? What other social classes existed? What was their place in society (occupations, etc.)?

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### Chs. 6-11

1. Be able to explain the circumstances of the mass of peasantry during the 17<sup>th</sup> century. What were their conditions in life?
2. Be able to explain the circumstances of the various groups “living on the margins of the community.” Who were they? How did they exist? What was their role in society? Could they escape their fate?
3. Be able to explain common Christianity in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. What was Christianity to the people of the late middle ages? What did they believe? Not believe? How was their religion played out in the community? How are their beliefs different than those of today?