Welcome to Advanced Placement European History! We are in for an exciting year together and to get geared up to critically explore the history and development of Modern Europe, it is important to look at events currently occurring there. By taking the time to discover the European experience in this 21st century, we will be able to raise many questions about those past events that have over time helped to create the current scenarios that Europe faces.

Therefore, we will begin the course this summer by creating a Current Events Portfolio. You will be required to complete the following by our first meeting together in September.

Read the news! We are much better global citizens if we know what is taking place in the world, and we become much better students as we learn to ask and answer the pivotal questions.

In AP European there is a particular style of analysis that you will all become familiar with, it is referred to as PERSIA+GT (political, economic, religious, social, intellectual, aesthetic and geographic and technology).

You are to collect a total of 18 articles (2 per topic named above plus 2 you just found interesting in any of the topics) and for each article you are to write a summary/analysis. (1/2 to 1 page) The hope is that when we arrive back to BHS together in September, we have a pretty good understanding of the issues that Europe has been facing since the year 2010 and can then begin to develop the history of Europe together critically and analytically from 1350 to the present. You will be turning in your portfolios inclusive of the articles and summaries on the first day of class.

“History is the mirror that allows us to understand how the present reflects the past and how the past has helped to create the present” (Michael Whelan, Mrs. Carnahan’s Grad School professor at Teacher’s College, Columbia University)

Have a wonderful summer and I will see you in September! Should you need to reach me with any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at mcarnahan@briarcliffschool.org