

Name _____

Date _____ Period _____

Course _____



How did we get here from there?

World War II, the fall of the Soviet Union, and 9/11 are some of the key turning points that shaped the development of the 21st century world in which we live today. If this is the case, then what was the critical turning point that led to WWII?

In other words, how did Europe go from Renaissance to Holocaust in a little over 400 years?

In this unit, you will decide for yourself what were the turning points in history that shaped the Europe we know today.

- First you will use the online *Showing Evidence Tool* to create three “claims” or arguments for events you have selected to be the most important in the development of Europe. There is no right answer here. It is up to you to back up what you say with evidence.
- Next, evidence. You’ll need it. What you are looking for if factual proof that what you are saying is important to the development of Europe (political, economic, religious, social, intellectual, artistic) is actually important?
- Rate it. A big part of what you are doing in this phase of the project is going to be using the *Showing Evidence Tool* ratings to judge the quality of the evidence you find so that you can narrow it down to the most compelling justification for your claim.

Use the chart below to help you brainstorm different turning points in European history you think might be the most important.

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Next, choose three events that you’d be interested in investigating and enter them into the next row of boxes. Below that, give a justification for why you chose these to be the most important.

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