

Part 1 – focused essay (50%)

Make sure that your answer is built around a clear thesis. Employ at least three specific examples to support your answer, and discuss each example in enough detail to fully explain its relevance and significance.

1 – The Black Death was a transformative event in European history. How did the plague alter the face of European social, cultural, and economic life? Would these changes have occurred, over time, without the plague's influence?

Part 2: cumulative essay (50%)

Your essay must be built around a strong central thesis that directly answers the question(s) asked in the prompt. Your essay should use at least four concrete pieces of supporting evidence. These MUST be drawn from BOTH HALVES of the course, and must be analyzed in enough detail to fully explain their relevance and significance.

2 – How did the structure and purpose of education and academic life in Europe change during the period covered by this class? What are the key figures, institutions, and turning points in this process? What forces and factors contributed to this process of evolution?