The BIG Questions: what were the challenges of both Europe and the world after the end of World War II? What were the main solutions posed to those challenges? How did the capitalist/democratic world and the Marxist/totalitarian world respond?

The BIG Issues: in this chapter, students will focus on these things.

- The events between 1945 and 1949 that heightened the tension between the United States and the Soviet Union, and why the Cold War became a global affair
- How European colonies in Africa, the Middle East, and Asia gained independence
- The main developments in the Soviet Union and eastern Europe
- The main political developments in western Europe and North America
- The major changes in Western society
- The similarities and differences in the political, social, and economic history of eastern Europe and western Europe
- The role of Gorbachev in the Soviet Union’s demise
- The changes in Eastern Europe since the revolutions of 1989
- Why the Cold War came to an end
- The major political and social developments in western Europe and North America
- The similarities and differences between the feminist movement of the 19th century, the post-World War II, and contemporary movement
- The reforms of Gorbachev and the role they played in the demise of the Soviet Union
- The major political developments in Eastern Europe, Western Europe, and North America since 1985
- How and why did the Cold War ended
- The main issues in the struggle with terrorism
- The issue of immigrants in European society
- The major Western cultural trends that have emerged since 1985
- The Digital Age, and its products, results, and dangers
- The main ways in which globalization is manifesting in the twenty-first century

The BIG Themes: How do you see these themes at work during the period we are examining in chapters 28, 29, and 30?

1. Intellectual and Cultural History
   - Developments in social, economic, and political thought
   - The diffusion of new intellectual concepts among different groups
   - Developments in elite and popular culture: religion, family, work, and ritual
   - Changes in religious thought and institutions
   - Scientific and technological developments and consequences
   - Major trends in literature and the arts
   - Relationship to social values and political events
   - Developments in social, economic, and political thought, including ideologies characterized as “-isms,” such as socialism, liberalism, and nationalism
   - The diffusion of new intellectual concepts among different groups
   - Impact of global expansion on European culture
   - Developments in literacy, education, and communication

2. Political and Diplomatic History
   - The rise and functioning of the modern state
   - Political elites, and the development and ideologies of political parties
   - The extension and limitation of rights, liberties, and political persecutions
   - Forms of political protest, reform, and revolution
   - Relationship between domestic and foreign policies
   - Efforts to restrain conflict: treaties, diplomacy, international organizations
   - War and conflict: origins, developments, technology, and consequences
   - Relations between Europe and the world: decolonization, global interdependence
   - The growth and changing forms of nationalism
   - Relations between Europe and the world: global interdependence

3. Social and Economic History
   - The character of, and changes in, agricultural production and organization
   - The shift in social structures, and changing distribution of wealth and poverty
   - Changing definitions and attitudes toward social groups, classes, races, and ethnicities within and outside Europe
   - Gender roles and their influence on work, social, and family structure
   - Competition and interdependence in national and world markets
   - Private and state roles in economic activity
   - Development of racial and ethnic group identities
   - Changes in the demographic structure of Europe: causes and consequences
**Western Civ., ch. 28, “Cold War and a New Western World, 1945-1965” pp. 890-907 (“Recovery and Renewal...”)—end**

**Discussion Questions:** Why were the main events in the relationship between the Soviet Union and the states of Eastern Europe? How did the developments within these countries effect relations between them? What were the main political and economic developments in the nations of Western Europe and North America between 1945 and 1970? What were the political and economic challenges to post-WWII reconstruction in Western Europe? What major changes occurred in Western society in the post-WWII era?

**Primary Sources Discussion Questions:**
- “Who Started the Cold War?”: Well? What do you think? Why?
- “The Truman Doctrine”: What attitudes or themes about Russia and America does Truman express? What, essentially, is the “Truman Doctrine”? How does Truman justify his request for aid? How might a Russian react to Truman’s statements? Does Truman himself bear any responsibility for beginning or aggravating the Cold War? Explain.
- “The Cuban Missile Crisis: Khrushchev’s Perspective”: How does Khrushchev’s account of the Cuban Missile Crisis differ from American accounts? How do you assess the legitimacy of his claim?
- “Franz Fanon and the Wretched of the Earth”: What does this document reveal about the basic character of European colonial regimes? Is the boy’s explanation for killing his schoolmate convincing? Explain. Why might the colonized have committed such actions as they did against the colonizers in the post-WWII world?


**Discussion Questions:** Why were there developments in areas of sexual mores, the youth protest and student revolts, the feminist movement, and anti-war protests in the late 1960s and after? Describe the major developments in the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe, Western Europe and the United States between 1965 and 1985? What did these developments suggest was going in these regions? What did these things suggest about trends in these regions going forward?

**Primary Sources Discussion Questions:**
- ““The Times They are A-Changin’””: the Music of Youthful Protest”: What do you think the song is about? Who are the “good guys” and the “bad guys”? What might the lyrics suggest about the role of popular culture in the post-WWII, Cold War era? Is the song still relevant? Why or why not?
- “1968: The Year of Student Revolts”: What were the key issues, concepts, causes of the student protests of this era? How do these student protests mimic other popular protests we’ve studied in Europe’s history?
- “The Brezhnev Doctrine”: Is Brezhnev persuasive in his arguments justifying soviet action in Czechoslovakia? How did the Brezhnev doctrine compare with the Truman Doctrine (p. 878)?
- “Margaret Thatcher: Entering a Man’s World”: What would seem to be Thatcher’s greatest strength as a national politician? How did Thatcher (and “Thatcherism”) reflect and challenge prevailing economic, political, and social standards of the day?


**Discussion Questions:** What were the main events in the Cold War between 1965 and 1985? How important was Détente in these events? What did this new relationship suggest about the USSR and the US? What new developments in cultural marked this same period? What did these things say about people valued or did value? How did the developments in areas of sexual mores, the youth protest and student revolts, the feminist movement, and anti-war protests in the late 1960s and after? Describe the major developments in the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe, Western Europe and the United States between 1965 and 1985? What did these developments suggest was going in these regions? What did these things suggest about trends in these regions going forward?

**Primary Sources Discussion Questions:**
- “The Fury of the Red Guards”: What is described in this document? Where have we seen similar behavior in previous times? How are those other instances also different from what’s described here?
- “Small is Beautiful: the Limits of Modern Technology”: What is Schumacher’s critique of modern technology? Is there a historical foundation to his critique? Do you agree with his views? How do you think Schumacher might view today’s globalization?
- “Grandmaster Flash…’The Message’”: What is the “message”? Is this message similar to or different from Dylan’s “The Times They Are A-Changin’?”
● “Vaclav Havel: the Call for a New Politics”: How different was Havel’s view of politics from those views of more mainstream politicians? What do you served his thinking? How do you think this might be helpful or hurtful?
● “A Child’s Account of the Shelling of Sarajevo”: How do you think these events might have influenced Zlata Filipovic?

> Western Civ. ch. 30, “After the Fall: the Western World in a Global Age (since 1985)”, pp. (“After the Cold War…”—END OF THE BOOK!)

**Discussion Questions:** How and why did the Cold War end? What are the main issues in the struggle with terrorism? What have been the main issues of the women’s movement since 1985? What has been the issue regarding immigration in Europe after 1985? What have been the other issues of influence in the world since 1985?

**Primary Sources Discussion Questions:**
● “Violence Against Foreigners in Germany”: Why did neo-Nazi groups come about in modern western and central Europe? Why toleration appear absent in the former East Germany?
● “Pope John Paul II: an Appeal for Peace”: What lessons to Pope John Paul II seek to teach here? What does suggest about the role of religion in modern times?
● “A Warning for Humanity”: What problems and challenges do these reports present? What do these reports have in common? How are they different?