

**Williamsburg Christian Academy**  
**Summer Assignment for AP European History**  
**2009-2010**

Read Machievelli's *The Prince*.

Choose one contemporary European leader, who has been in power at one time in the last 30 years. Research this leader's biography, especially his or her political power style and accomplishments or failures. You will receive at most half credit if you disregard this instruction and choose a non-European or non-contemporary leader.

As you read, consider whether and how your chosen leader's life does or does not show that Machiavelli's advice to leaders is still relevant today.

Prepare three 3 x 5" note cards, which you may use when you write an essay in class on the subject of whether your leader's life shows that Machiavelli's advice is or is not relevant for today's leaders. On each note card, write one quotation from Machiavelli which you will discuss as it relates to the leader's life. For example, "The prince must be a lion, but he must also know how to play the fox." Add to the card details from the leader's life that are pertinent to the quotation from Machiavelli. You will receive up to 10 required completion points for each note card, so be sure to turn them in with your essay.

In class, we will discuss the writings of Machiavelli and the requirements of the AP European History free response question. You may refer to your three note cards when you write a timed essay on your research in class at the end of the second week of school.

I anticipate that you will be able to complete this assignment in ten hours or less. Please feel free to contact me at [powersj@williamsburgchristian.org](mailto:powersj@williamsburgchristian.org) if you have any questions.