

History 10: Revolution and the Modern World
Required summer reading and writing assignment
Due on the first day of school

Welcome to Allendale Columbia's sophomore history course and its first reading and writing assignment. Please read Geraldine Brooks's wonderful historical novel, **Year of Wonders**. It is available in several places; local libraries carry it, and if you want to buy it, you can find it in paperback at local bookstores and at Amazon.com. The story is about an actual village in England where the bubonic plague erupted in 1665-1666. The author uses information about mining, religion, midwives, witches, economic differences, and cultural depictions of the time as a backdrop for her character development.

While you read the story take notes on the social, cultural, medical, political, and economic developments that occurred in England at that time.

Write a two-page paper (typed, Times New Roman 12 point font) on the following topic:

Based upon your reading, describe the various responses to the plague, and explain why people in the town reacted in such different ways.