

AP US History—Course Guidelines 2024-25

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[Google Sites Class Webpage](#)



Course Description

- Grasp the basic chronology of United States History
- Analyze the interactions between Europeans and indigenous groups throughout the America's
- Analyze the principal political, social, intellectual, and economic themes
- Write clearly and effectively
- Consistently and effectively support a historical perspective on a major issue while introducing pertinent information to defend and secure their opinion
- Evaluate primary and secondary sources by addressing their author, perspective, and biases

Please visit the [College Board AP US History](#) page for more information regarding standards

INSTRUCTION:

Themes, Skills, and Topics

The outlined themes that follow indicate some of the important areas that might be treated in an APUSH course. The ideas suggested do not have to be treated explicitly as topics or covered inclusively, nor should they preclude development of other themes. In addition, questions on the exam will often call for students to inter-relate categories or to trace developments in a particular category through several chronological periods. For this reason, students and teachers need to address periodization in history and to relate periodization, as appropriate, to the following:

THEMES

American and National Identity
Work, Exchange, and Technology
Geography and the Environment
Migration and Settlement

Politics and Power
America in the World
American and Regional Culture
Social Structure

<u>AP HISTORICAL THINKING SKILLS AND REASONING PROCESSES</u>	
AP Historical Thinking Skill	Reasoning Processes
Developments and Processes	Comparison
Sourcing and Situation	Causation
Claims and Evidence in Sources	Continuity and Change
Contextualization	
Making Connections	
Argumentation	

Textbooks

Primary Text: *The American Pageant*, Kennedy, Cohen, and Bailey, Houghton Mifflin Co., 13th Edition, 2006.

Secondary Text: *AMSCO Advanced Placement United States History*, Newman and Schmalbach, Perfection Learning Co., 4th Edition, 2021.

Pacing Guide and Syllabus

Units 1 – Native Cultures	Chapters 1-5 /AMSCO Unit 1	(1491-1754)	[3 weeks]
Unit 2 —Colonial America	Chapters 1-5/AMSCO Unit 2	(1491-1754)	[3 weeks]
Unit 3—The New Nation	Chapters 6-10/AMSCO Unit 3	(1754-1800)	[4 weeks]
Unit 4—The New Republic	Chapters 11-16/AMSCO Unit 4	(1800-1848)	[4 weeks]
Unit 5—Expansion and Division	Chapters 17-22/AMSCO Unit 5	(1820-1877)	[4 weeks]
Unit 6—The Gilded Age	Chapters 23-26/AMSCO Unit 6	(1865-1898)	[4 weeks]
Unit 7—America on the World Stage	Chapters 27-36/AMSCO Unit 7	(1890-1945)	[8 weeks]
Units 8– Cold War	Chapters 37-42/AMSCO Unit 8	(1945-Present)	[4 weeks]
9—Modern America	Chapters 37-42/AMSCO Unit 9	(1945-Present)	[2 weeks]

Materials Needed

- Blue or Black Ink Pens and Pencils
- Paper/Notebook/Binder
- Earbuds (Whenever in the classroom)

Fees

No specific fee for the class BUT there is a registration fee for the AP Exam.

Other Resources

Non-Fiction Works

Possible Video List

• John Adams • America: The Story of US • PBS—Andrew Jackson • PBS—Reconstruction • History Channel—The Spanish American War • PBS—One Woman, One Vote • ABC News—The Century Series • Flyboys • PBS—Unforgettable: The Korean War • CNN—The Cold War • PBS—Freedom Riders • PBS—Eyes on the Prize • Dear America—Letters Home from Vietnam • Bridge of Spies • Various YouTube Videos	<i>If you do not approve of a specific resource listed in this syllabus, please make your request to me in writing and an alternative assignment and/or material will be provided. The request should include your name, the child's name, the specific activity/materials in which you do not want your child to participate or to which you do not want them exposed, and the nature of your objection.</i>
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ASSESSMENT:**Classroom Procedures and Grading**

- Each unit will have a **test**. Some units will be divided into 2 parts and each part will have a separate test.
- Students must complete a **Key Concept Organizer** for each unit assigned. The assignments must be hand-written.
- **"Reading check" and/or "Note" quizzes** may be given every chapter.
- Students must complete periodic progress checks on AP Classroom for a completion grade.
- **Quizzes**, other than RCQs, **may or may not be announced**.
- **Homework and classwork may or may not be graded**. Homework topics (particularly readings) will usually be important the next day in lecture and class discussion.
- There will be projects during the semester. Details will be discussed at a later time.
- There will be other activities that require participation. **All are encouraged to participate.**
- Most grades will be posted within five school days of the assignment being collected; however, due to the sheer amount of writing I have to grade, free-response (including Unit Tests, SAQS, LEQs, and DBQs) may not be graded for up to a one-month period. They will be posted as soon as they are graded. We will randomly grade 25-35% of all free-response questions assigned.

Expectations

- Complete reading assignments in a timely and thoughtful manner.
- Participate in class discussion.
- Pay attention to what I say. I actually know what I am doing.
- Stay POSITIVE! This class is taught at a college level; however, West High School students have done well above the national average in this course.

There's no great mystery to doing well in this course. Read, listen, take notes, try your best, and you will receive a good grade in return and do well on the AP exam.

Grading

Grades will be weighted into the following categories. Assignments within each category could vary by different amounts.

- o Tests/Essays/DBQs/PSRs—55%
- o Daily Grades/Quizzes/Homework?Reading Check Quizzes—25%
- o Cumulative Final Exam—20%
- All students who take the AP US History will receive an **additional five points** added to your final class average. This average counts towards GPA but NOT for the HOPE Scholarship.
 - ***Board policy states that there is to be no extra credit offered.

Make-ups

You are expected to follow the class calendar and submit all assignments when they are due. **If you are absent for an exam or an essay, be prepared to make it up the day you return to class during that class period.** Remember—it is your responsibility to contact the teacher regarding make-up work. Class notes need to be copied from a classmate.

Late Assignments

*If a student in an Honors class turns in an assignment late, the grade automatically drops eleven (11) points. In other words, an "A" cannot be earned for a late assignment. Obviously, this would not apply to an excused absence (as outlined in our attendance policy).

*Students in Honors classes will have the number of days they were absent to make up/turn in late assignments or make arrangements for making up an assessment.

*This applies to every Honors class in every department.

If you have a problem with a due date, speak with me in advance as we can usually work something out.

Content

Some subject matter will be covered in reading assignments, some in class, and some in both. You are responsible for knowing the material in all three cases.

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS:

1. **Mutual respect, appropriate language, and appropriate behavior are required at all times.** Follow all West High School and Knox County Schools policies while in this classroom.
2. **Attendance and Tardy Policy:** Be on time for class and be in your seat when the bell rings. Follow West High School and Knox County Schools policies. Please remain in your seat until the bell rings.
3. **Electronics:** Do not use any electronics during class time without permission.
4. **Honor Code**—Please abide by an honor code

Academic Dishonesty

Plagiarism Policy: According to Harbrace Handbook, 15th edition,

Plagiarism is defined as presenting someone else's ideas, research, or opinion as your own without proper documentation, even if it has been rephrased. It includes, but is not limited to the following:

- o Copying verbatim all or part of another's written work
- o Using phrases, figures, or illustrations without citing the source
- o Paraphrasing ideas, conclusions, or research without citing the source
- o Using all or part of a historical work, film, or website without attributing the work to its creator

Consequence: As plagiarism is a form of stealing and academic fraud, committing such an act carries both a grade penalty and disciplinary action depending on the severity of the incident. A minimal consequence would be a zero on the assignment and a referral to the office.

Teacher Communication and Contact:

Please check Google Classroom and/or Teacher Website frequently for calendar updates and communication. I am also available for appointment through guidance. I am available for extra help upon request.

Email - jsilver@floydboe.net

Advanced Placement United States History - 2032-2024

Student Name (Print) _____

** Turning in this signed parent/guardian notification is required. It is due at the beginning of class on or before Monday August 7, 2023.

I and my child/student have read the attached syllabus and agree to abide by each policy set forth. If I have any questions or concerns, I will contact Mr. Silver via email at **jsilver@floydboe.net**.

Parent/Guardian Signature:

Student Signature:

Parent/Guardian Contact Information: Please indicate which you would prefer to be used with your initials to the side. Thank you.

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____