

AP US History Syllabus 2014-2015

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Welcome to AP US History. APUSH is an in-depth and rigorous course that will cover the history of the United States from the Age of Exploration through the present era in preparation for the AP exam in May.

This course will be conducted as a college seminar with a great deal of class discussion and greater responsibility on you than perhaps any course you have taken thus far in High School. Outside reading is essential to student success in this course. Because of the nature of an AP course, we cannot discuss all items contained in your assigned reading, so please be aware you will be quizzed/tested on some items that are not discussed in class. This is necessary to ensure that there will be sufficient class time to work on developing skills that are necessary to do well on the exam and will benefit you in your future academic life. These skills include writing analytically, interpreting historical documents, evaluating history from multiple perspectives, speaking and presentation skills, and so on.

The course content is vast – Pre-Columbian Societies (1450) to the year 2015 is on the multiple-choice section of the AP exam. If you are not organized you will quickly fall behind and become a lost soul. You must have an organized notebook and keep everything in order by unit.

Materials:

1. One 3 inch 3 ring binder in any color to be kept at home.
2. One 1 inch 3 ring binder in any color with the student's name on it.
To be brought to class every day.
3. College rule notebook paper
4. Blue or black ink pens. Work completed in any other color will not be accepted.
5. One red pen to be used for in-class grading and peer editing.
6. One set of multi colored highlighters. (At least four colors.)
7. Pencil case for pens and highlighters that fits inside binder.
8. 5 tabbed dividers for in-class notebook. (It is also suggested that you have duplicate set for your at-home notebook.)

Textbook and Additional Readings

The American Pageant, Fourteenth Ed., David Kennedy & Lizbeth Cohen, Houghton Mifflin, 2010

The American Spirit: United States History as Seen by Contemporaries, Volumes I & II, Twelfth Edition, David Kennedy & Thomas A Bailey, Wadsworth Cengage Learning, 2010

Taking Sides: Clashing Views in United States History, Volumes I & II, Larry Madaras & James M. SoRelle, McGraw Hill, 2013

Winter Break Reading

The Strange Career of Jim Crow, C. Vann Woodward, 3rd Revised Edition, Oxford, 2002

Assignments and readings will be posted in class and on the class web page on a weekly basis.

The Online Classroom

The NEHI APUSH Focus/Portal page is an integral part of this course. Any device with an internet connection will be able to access the class website through Portal. Students are expected to visit the class website on a daily basis. From this page students will download assignments including weekly Chapter Themes charts, participate in forum discussions, upload student assignments, link to online/YouTube lectures and videos, and access additional online reading.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty is not only ethically wrong and unfair to students who work/study legitimately, but prevents you from learning the information necessary to do well on the AP exam.

COLLABORATION vs. CHEATING: Collaboration is the discussion of material and assignments for the purpose of attaining clarification and producing deeper insight. *Collaboration* is encouraged in this class. When collaborating, all explanations and answers should reflect one's own thinking and ideas. Cheating is the division of the assignment designed to limit how much work one student must do; cheating is also the acquirement or providing of one's individual work to be replicated by another. Work that is replicated will receive a "0" for both the student that acquired and provided the assignment.

Chapter Theme Charts, Quizzes, Essays and some projects are to be completed individually. Some Projects will be completed as a group, but you will be specifically instructed which ones.

Grades

Your grade will be by a point system (in other words each assignment, test, etc, is given a point value and all points are averaged together) final grades will be determined as follows:

A- 90%-100%; B- 80%-89%; C- 70%-79%; D-60%-69%; F-59%-below

A student whose quarter grade ends within one percentage point of a higher letter grade may appeal for the higher grade by presenting a completed notebook and providing they meet the following requirements:

- 1. Three or fewer unexcused absences.*
- 2. No more than one tardy.*
- 3. No zeroes in the gradebook.*

A student who misses an assignment or assessment due to absence will be given the number of days equal to the absence to make arrangements with the teacher to make up the missing grade.

Late work will be accepted once during a quarter. Work will only be accepted the day following the assigned due date and will be assessed a 10% penalty.

AP Test

This year the APUSH Exam will be given Friday, May 8, 2015. The format is as follows:

Section I: 55 multiple choice questions and 4 short answer questions--100 minutes to complete

Section II: DBQ Essay (Document Based Question) -- 60 minutes to read documents and write essay.
Long Essay—35 minutes to complete

A Typical Week in APUSH

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
In Class (typically)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test on previous week's instruction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Day • Direct Instruction or Content Synthesis Activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B Day • Direct Instruction or Content Synthesis Activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Day • Direct Instruction or Content Synthesis Activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B Day • Direct Instruction or Content Synthesis Activities 		
At Home (suggested)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Download New Chapter Themes Chart From Portal • Begin Weekly Reading & Chapter Themes Chart 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly Reading & Chapter Themes Chart • Review Online Lectures, Quizlet, Course Notes, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly Reading & Chapter Themes Chart • Review Online Lectures, Quizlet, Course Notes, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly Reading & Chapter Themes Chart • Review Online Lectures, Quizlet, Course Notes, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete Chapter Reading • Finish Chapter Themes Chart • Study for Test on Monday. • Review Notes, Handouts, Online Lectures 		

Themes

While the course follows a narrative structure supported by the textbook and web-based materials, the following seven themes described in the AP U.S. History Course and Exam Description are woven throughout each unit of study:

1. Identity (ID)
2. Work, Exchange, and Technology (WXT)
3. Peopling (PEO)
4. Politics and Power (POL)
5. America in the World (WOR)
6. Environment and Geography (ENV)
7. Ideas, Beliefs, and Culture (CUL)

Each week students will be required to identify examples of these themes in their assigned readings.

Historical Thinking Skills

These skills reflect the tasks of professional historians. While learning to master these tasks, AP U.S. History students act as “apprentice historians.”

Chronological Reasoning

- Historical Causation
- Patterns of Continuity and Change Over Time
- Periodization

Comparison and Contextualization

- Comparison
- Contextualization

Crafting Historical Arguments from Historical Evidence

- Historical Argumentation
- Appropriate Use of Historical Evidence

Historical Interpretation and Synthesis

- Interpretation
- Synthesis

Questions based on these Historical Thinking Skills will be attached to each weeks reading and Chapter Theme Chart.

Semester 1 Reading Schedule

Week of:	Test On:	Content Covered:	Outside Reading:
August 18		Chapter 1	Chapter 2
August 25	Chapter 1	Chapter 2	Chapter 3
September 1		Chapter 3	Chapters 4 & 5
September 8	Chapters 2 & 3	Chapters 4 & 5	Chapter 6
September 15	Chapters 4 & 5	Chapter 6	Chapters 7 & 8
September 22	Chapter 6	Chapters 7 & 8	Chapter 9
September 29		Chapters 7, 8 & 9	Chapter 10
October 6	Chapters 7 & 8	Chapter 10	Chapter 11
October 13	Chapter 10	Chapter 11	Chapter 12
October 20		Chapter 12	Chapter 13
October 27	Chapters 11 & 12	Chapter 13	Chapter 14
November 3	Chapter 13	Chapter 14	Chapters 15 & 16
November 10	Chapter 14	Chapters 15 & 16	Chapters 17 & 18
November 17		Chapters 17 & 18	Chapters 19 & 20
November 24	Thanksgiving Break		Chapters 21 & 22
December 1		Chapters 19 & 20	Exam Study Guide
December 8	Chapters 17, 18 & 19	Chapters 21 & 22	Exam Study Guide
December 15	Chapters 1-22	Chapters 1-22	