

## Advanced Placement United States History

### Course Description:

The Advanced Placement program in United States History is designed to provide students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials of United States History. The course prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by full-year introductory college survey courses. In this pursuit, the acquisition of factual knowledge is the beginning point of the process, not the end. Students will learn to interpret and evaluate the relative significance of primary and secondary source material, and to present their evidence and conclusions clearly and persuasively in an essay format. This class requires a level of participation and effort beyond the ordinary high school level. We cover a large amount of content and must move quickly, always mindful of our target date--the date of the **APUSH exam is in early MAY 2016!**

### Things to Consider

The key to success in APUSH is that the student be an independent learner! With the numerous time constraints placed on the typical high school class period, coupled with the number of weeks to prepare for the exam, there is not enough time to cover the large amount of material necessary in class. Therefore, students must independently research topics and content outside of the materials that is discussed in class.

The amount of work per week varies; however, the class covers approximately 1-2 chapters a week. There is at least one writing assignment each unit and skill assignments throughout the school year. Due to time constraints, homework (whether reading, preparing for a quiz, or working on a writing skill) will be assigned several times a week. . In addition to your weekly assignments, students should expect to have homework over school breaks throughout the year.

### Words of Wisdom from past students:

1. Buy an AP US History Review book as soon as possible
2. Review your material nightly--do not get behind
3. Read the textbook and do the study guides
4. The course is not for "slackers." Smart people can sometimes get away without studying. This class is not the case-always study ☺
5. Forming study groups is helpful.

### Expectations:

1. Be in class regularly and participate in class discussions and activities. (The days that you are absent—you must come by and pick up assignments).
2. Have a positive attitude.
3. Prepare for and take the Advanced Placement US History Exam
4. Prepare for and take the US History course final exam.

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*Sign below (detach) to indicate that you have read the course description, received the summer assignment and understand the expectations for APUSH.*

Student Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Student email (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent email (print): \_\_\_\_\_