

Solon High School Advanced Placement United States History Syllabus & Course Expectations

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COURSE DESCRIPTION (modified from www.apcentral.collegeboard.com)

Advanced Placement United States History (APUSH) is designed to provide students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in US history. The class prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by full year introductory college courses. Students should learn to assess historical materials (their relevance to a given interpretive problem, reliability, and importance) and to weigh the evidence and interpretations presented in historical scholarship. APUSH should, thus, develop the skills necessary to arrive at conclusions on the basis of an informed judgment and to present reasons and evidence clearly and persuasively in essay format.

The course will be taught at a difficulty level equivalent to that required of students in a college freshman or sophomore U.S. History course. Students are expected to participate in class through discussions of textbook readings, assigned primary source documents. Students will be actively engaged in debates of key issues and role playing of historic figures. Furthermore, students are expected to continually develop their writing skills through Short Answer Questions (SAQs), Long Essay Questions (LEQs), and Document Based Questions (DBQs). The volume of material is immense and the historical thinking skills we develop will require regular participation, engagement and diligence in your studies.

PHILOSOPHY:

I believe all students can learn and succeed and we will work to that end for each and every student in my class by fostering a sense of ownership in each student for their own learning. I believe in creating an environment in which all students are valued and feel safe to learn and express their viewpoint in an appropriate manner on issues discussed in class. I believe that communication between the teacher and the student's home is essential to the success of this endeavor and will strive to foster that relationship. I believe that the study of history is invaluable to a student's ability to comprehend the world around him or her today and make decisions about how to negotiate the challenges that will be faced in today's world. Remember, this course is what you make of it.

UNITS OF STUDY

- Unit 1: Period 1: 1491–1607
- Unit 2: Period 2: 1607–1754
- Unit 3: Period 3: 1754–1800
- Unit 4: Period 4: 1800–1848
- Unit 5: Period 5: 1844–1877
- Unit 6: Period 6: 1865–1898
- Unit 7: Period 7: 1890–1945
- Unit 8: Period 8: 1945–1980
- Unit 9: Period 9: 1980–Present

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In APUSH, the APUSH Curriculum Framework is designed to approximate the 9 Historical Periods. We will use the APUSH Curriculum Framework during each unit of study as our study guide. Some of our units of study have aspects that overlap chronologically. Our goal is to spend the approximate amount of time in each period based on the estimated percentage each period is for testing purposes on the AP Exam in May.

HISTORICAL REASONING SKILLS:

AP History is designed to develop a student’s thinking and writing skills through the study of United States History. The skills on which we will focus are:

- Contextualization
- Comparison
- Causation
- Continuity & Change Over Time

Additionally, students will develop the skills of analyzing both primary and secondary documents and developing the skill of argument development.

THE AP EXAM – REQUIRED AS PART OF THIS COURSE

The AP exam is 3 hours and 15 minutes long and includes both a 95 minute multiple choice/short answer section (Part I) and a 100 minute free-response section (Part II). Each section is divided into two parts. Student performance on these four parts will be compiled and weighted to determine an AP exam score. **Assessments in this course will be designed to reflect the testing format utilized on the AP Exam.**

Section	Question Type	Number of Qs	Timing	% of Exam Score
I – A	Multiple choice	55	55 min.	40%
I – B	Short Answer	3 Total 1 Required: Per. 3-8 1 Required: Per. 3-8 1 Choose b/w Periods 1-5 or 6-9	40 min.	20%
II – A	Document Based	1 – Periods 3-8	60 min (incl. 15 min. reading period)	25%
II- B	Long Essay	1 – Same theme choose Per. 1-3 or 4-6 or 7-9	40 min.	15%

REQUIRED TEXTS & MATERIALS

- AMSCO Advanced Placement Edition United States History, 4th Edition 2020, Perfection Learning - must be purchased.
- Chromebooks will be used DAILY in class and you are expected to use it appropriately according to school and classroom rules.
- Google Classroom & AP Classroom - both of these will be used frequently. You’ll be given codes to join class sections in both.
- CamScanner - a free App you’ll need to submit handwritten assignments to Google Classroom

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- **ADDITIONAL MATERIALS:**
 - Textbook - Kennedy, David M.; Cohen, Lizabeth. *The American Pageant*. 16th ed. -you'll have access to both hard copy and electronic version of the book.
 - Various other primary and secondary sources to be determined.
 - A binder with tabs for each unit of study
 - A writing folder that may go into the binder.
 - Blue and black pens and No. 2 pencils

ASSESSMENT & ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

- **Grades follow the high school grading scale** (90 =A, 80=B, 70=C, 60=D, 59.9% = F) assessment of how you are learning takes place on a regular basis in the classroom. There is **NO** rounding of grades.
 - Grades can, and should be, checked online.
 - This is a yearlong course for final grade purposes
- **Grading is weighted in this course:** Tests/Quizzes = 85%, In class work/homework = 15%
- **Each quarter assignments will vary and may include the following:** Unit tests (consisting of multiple choice and/or short answer questions (SAQs), long essay questions (LEQs) given randomly, document based questions (DBQs) given randomly, research projects and papers based on unit material as well as outside readings, debates, investigative projects, cooperative work, multimedia projects, and participation
- **Academic Integrity:** Cheating enables a student to acquire an unfair advantage over others. Cheating includes, but is not limited to:
 - Receiving help when it is not allowed,
 - Allowing someone to copy your work
 - Copying the work of others with or without their permission
 - Hand gestures, written notes and/or noises to communicate the answers
 - Making false statements
- Plagiarism consists of copying someone else's work, with or without his/her consent. Any form of plagiarism yields an automatic referral to the administration. This includes, but is not limited to:
 - "Copy and pasting" information without citing it
 - Stealing someone else's idea and claiming it as your own
 - Quoting someone improperly or without proper identification
 - Failing to use citations
 - Calling someone else's work your own
- **Cheating and plagiarism** are unacceptable and will result in a score of 0 on that assignment, communication with a parent/guardian, plus a referral for further action by the high school administration.
 - A second offense, in any course, will result in a failure for that quarter in that course.
- **Late Work:** Unless a prior arrangement has been made with me, **NO** late work is accepted

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- **Making Up Work if Absent:** One day for each day absent for each day of excused absence only. It is the responsibility of the student to approach me for any make-up work.
 - **Check the online website calendar** – documents you missed will usually be linked to that day so you can do your best to keep up.

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS - remote specific rules will be shared in Google Classroom

- You are expected to treat everyone in our room with respect.
- We all play a role in creating a learning environment that gives everyone the opportunity to succeed; therefore, we each have the responsibility to one another to never prevent someone else from learning each day.
- All school rules will be strictly enforced, including no cell phones, no food or drink (unless otherwise told) and no disruption of the class or disrespect of anyone in the classroom.
- **NO CELL PHONES SHOULD BE SEEN OR HEARD UNLESS YOU HAVE EXPLICIT PERMISSION FROM YOUR TEACHER OR THE SUBSTITUTE TEACHER.**
- **Come prepared to learn**
 - This means bringing all required materials with you (a key part of your participation grade)
 - This means coming mentally prepared to learn and putting forth your best effort.

History, despite its wrenching pain, cannot be unlived, but if faced with courage, need not be lived again.

Maya Angelou

This syllabus must be shared with your parent/guardian. All rules must be followed throughout the year.