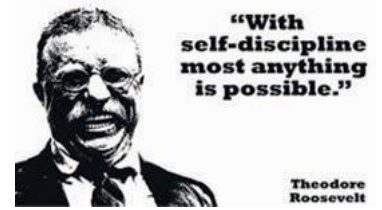




Advanced Placement (AP) United States History Periods 1 & 3



Mr. Gavin Hall, M.A. American History
Room 2312

Office Hours: Before School, By Appointment, & 3:30 – 4:00 PM M, T, Th.

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Course Description

AP U.S. History (APUSH) is a RIGOROUS, INTENSIVE, and CHALLENGING course that is designed to be the equivalent of a freshman-level college course and can earn successful students' college credit. It is a two-semester survey of American history, from the pre-Columbian era to the present era. Students will use and develop critical thinking skills and use their writing skills to investigate, as historians do, by analyzing primary sources and supplemental readings, while also engaging in debates and class discussions. It is, in some ways, more difficult than a college course in that our curriculum must be finished a month before the end of the school year and culminates in a rigorous, College Board-administered exam. All of these elements will help students in their preparation for the AP US History Exam. All students in the course are expected to take the APUSH Exam in May.

Student Expectations

Students are responsible for their own learning and success in the course and, ultimately, on the APUSH Exam. Only bright, motivated, independent, disciplined students who ENJOY history can expect to thrive. Students accustomed to getting A's for simply showing up and doing their homework may be in for a rude awakening. Students must master content and demonstrate what they have learned on exams and essays. Such mastery requires a level of hard work and study that will be new and challenging to many students. This course requires students to have extensive background knowledge in U.S. History.

Most students struggle in the first semester, particularly the first couple of months, as they attempt to adapt to college-level work. However, students who persevere usually learn a great deal about U.S. History and about the skills they will need to succeed in college. On the other hand, students taking this course for the wrong reasons (i.e., parental or peer pressure or to boost their G.P.A.) are likely to struggle and be disappointed with their choice. Those students involved in extracurricular activities, other AP classes, or who are employed should carefully weigh the demands of this course against their other commitments.

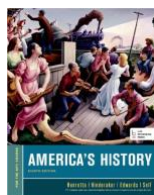
Reading is the MOST IMPORTANT component of the APUSH course. Readings of the textbook and supplemental materials should be done prior to class. Ample time outside of class should be given to reading the text and outlining the material. The reading timeline is managed so that students have roughly 3 days to read one chapter. This builds from AP Euro where students were given blocks of specific pages to read per night.

Using Historical Thinking Skills

Winthrop University (SC) defines *Historical Thinking* as “developing a firm grasp of the multiplicity and intricacy of historical causes and effects, and understanding of how knowledge is a human construct, an ability to think from a global perspective, and an appreciation for the variety of approaches of historical interpretation.”

Students should be able to exhibit an **intellectual curiosity** about U.S. History, make connections rather than memorize, independently research the unknown, and act as investigators to piece events, people, and times together.

Textbook:	<i>America's History, 8th Edition</i> – James Henretta
Online eText:	LaunchPad - BFW Publishers
Recommended Study Guide:	<i>United States History-Preparing for the Advanced Placement Exam</i> , Newman, John J. and John M. Schmalbach, AMSCO Publications, Latest Edition, perfectionlearning.com - \$19.95
Study Skills/Test Prep	AP Classroom



Course Requirements

- 1) **Participation** - Students are required to attend class. Class attendance and participation counts for **10%** of your course grade. Parent excused absences are OK. Unexcused absences (aka truancy) are **NOT**. I do not repeat class notes or lectures outside of class. You are personally responsible for all pertinent material if you are absent.
 - a. You start the 1st Semester with 37/50 Participation Points, 2nd Semester with 41/55. It is your job to earn the remaining points by participating. Points can be earned by participating in classroom sessions (Asking appropriate questions, making a point, extending an argument, etc.). You may earn up to 10 points extra credit by exceeding the point total.
- 2) **Homework** is similar to a college course. Students can expect to spend *45 minutes to an hour* each night on reading and outlining material from the textbook. Students will read 1-2 chapters per week. Outline notes should be done individually to assist with the Guided Reading Activities that will count for Homework. Homework may also include primary source readings from sources given in class. Homework assignments are **15%** of your course grade. Work that is submitted late by the next period receives 75% credit. Work submitted after one class period receives zero credit.
- 3) Various **classroom** activities will be completed that correspond with work completed outside of the classroom. This could include documentary videos, activities, primary source analysis, and writing assignments. Writing will be done throughout the year at varying levels. Classwork is **15%** of your course grade.
- 4) Students are required to take their **unit exam** on the scheduled exam days. You must write your Short Answer Questions (SAQ), Long Essay Questions (LEQ), and Document Based Questions (DBQ) in **pen**. Make up tests are given the day that you return to class. Each exam counts for **30%** of your course grade.
- 5) **Final exams** covering material from each semester will be given in December and June. Each Final Exam is worth **30%** of your overall grade. **THIS IS A HUGE CHUNK OF YOUR GRADE - MEANING - STUDYING FOR YOUR FINAL IS VERY IMPORTANT!**

ALL WORK MUST BE COMPLETED IN PEN (EXCEPT FOR SCANTRON TESTS).

Grading Scale

Your grade in this course will be based upon the combination of points earned in the following categories. **IDO NOT ROUND GRADES**. There is no begging, pleading, or bargaining. The grade you **EARN** is the grade you receive. (*Subject to Change*)

GRADING SCALE

A	90%
B	80%
C	70%
D	60%
F	59.999% and below

GRADING WEIGHTS

Homework	15%
Classwork	15%
Tests/Assessments	30%
Participation	10%
Semester Final Exam	30%

- ◆ Students can earn extra points by writing and verbally explaining an opinion on the weekly Freedom of Speech Board (2 points a week) and answering extra credit questions given during Unit exams. Extra Credit **WILL NOT** be given for failing to do assigned work.
- ◆ Grades are posted outside my classroom typically after we complete a unit of study. I DO NOT use the Q Parent/Student Portal. Parents may also email me for grades.
- ◆ If there is no name that is submitted with your assignment, or you submit a blank document for credit, you receive zero credit - **NO NAME, NO CREDIT**.

Academic Honesty

Plagiarism & Cheating - **DO NOT** copy any homework, classwork, or test answers from anyone! **DO NOT** "lend" your work to someone else! **DO NOT** cut and paste from online sources and claim that it is your work. **DO NOT** photograph someone else's work and claim it as your own. Copied work results in a zero (0) for all involved. Referrals will be submitted to the appropriate Assistant Principal. Cheating could also result in being dropped from the class. This is an ethical violation as well as a violation of trust between teacher and student.

I also regularly communicate with your AP Euro and World History teachers, as well as other teachers on campus.

☺ *Cheating - To "cheat" means to deceive someone, to be dishonest, to fool or mislead someone. In this class to "cheat" means to obtain answers, or homework from someone else and lead the teacher to believe that the answers or work are your own.*

Cell Phones & Technology

Cell Phones are placed on the charger at the start of class and stay there for the remainder of class. Headphones, AirPods, etc. are placed in the backpack for the entire period. Bluetooth watches need to have notifications silenced.

Tablets: you may use an app similar to *Good Notes* to take notes electronically, but not typed.

NOTE: NO CELL PHONES, BLUETOOTH WATCHES OR HEADPHONES, INTERNET SEARCH, TABLETS, NOTES, BOOKS, ETC., MAY BE USED DURING EXAMS. 1st violation = -1 Participation Point, 2nd violation = -2 Participation Points, 3rd violation = -3 Participation points, etc. Phones in violation are sent to the AP office to pick up after school.

Class Conduct, Rules, & Expectations

- ☺ Arrive to class on time.
- ☺ Please respect each other's time by refraining from disruptive behavior.
- ☺ Act like adult ladies and gentlemen.
- ☺ Do not wait until the end of the semester to inquire about your overall grade.
- ☺ **Never** be afraid or embarrassed to ask any question or ask for clarification.
- ☺ Be **curious** about learning and prepare to take risks.
- ☺ Participate in class and **DO NOT BE AFRAID TO FAIL**.

Attendance Policies

If you are absent, you are personally responsible for all pertinent material you missed. Students with excused absences may complete any missed work for full credit in accordance with classroom policy. You have one (1) day per missed absence to complete your assignments. Assignments as a result of unexcused absences will receive no credit (0). Missed quizzes will not be made up. Missed exams will be taken the day you return to class, as the exam calendar is set for the year. **Any assignment with an extended due date is due on the assigned day, regardless of the reason for absence.**

If your absence is a truancy, I will not accept any work that is due on that day. **(Parents/Guardians have FOUR (4) days to excuse an absence)** If it is an exam day, you will not be able to make up your test and your grade is recorded as a zero (0), which is an F. *This is also a retroactive rule.*

- ☺ **Truancy Policy** = -5 Participation Points each truancy. Truancies are calculated for my gradebook during the last week of the semester, according to GUSD attendance records (Q attendance program).
- ☺ **Absence Policy** = excused -OK. -2 participation points each absence. Five (5) unexcused absences automatically drops your Participation Point total to zero (0).
- ☺ On your 6th unexcused absence, you **lose your extra credit options.** (FOS board)
- ☺ **Late Policy** – 1st tardy is free; each subsequent late/tardy results in -1 Participation Point.
- ☺ **Participation Points** – *remember that you can earn points to make up points that you lost.*

Suggestions for Success

- ☺ With self-discipline, ANYTHING is possible!
- ☺ Always maintain a positive attitude!
- ☺ Always come to class prepared!
- ☺ Don't be afraid to ask for help when you need it. *Not IF you need it, but WHEN!*
- ☺ Find a study group to work with. Working as a team helps TREMENDOUSLY!!
- ☺ Work hard during the week – **there is NO WORK over the school breaks!!**

Ethnic Studies - Language Disclaimer:

Students in this course will be exposed to some sensitive and upsetting events by analyzing primary and secondary sources. All sources used in this class will allow students to examine the historical record critically. Within these records, students will encounter puzzling and derogatory language integral to the historical context. This type of language is unacceptable and wrong, but it does give the students a robust understanding of the people and periods we will be studying so we can create a more inclusive future together.

Additional information

If you have any problems or questions, please come by and see me during my office hours to clear them up as soon as possible. Remember that you are also here to learn. That can only be accomplished if there is a clear understanding of my expectations, your responsibilities, and an earnest desire to do so.

Grades are not an entitlement simply because you enrolled in an AP course. They must be earned and earned by YOU!

Learning from your mistakes is an integral part of this course. If you make a mistake - learn from it, correct it, and move on.

Suggested Classroom Materials

- ☺ Textbooks – *see page 1*
- ☺ Binder or folder to keep APUSH papers
- ☺ Red, Blue, and Black pens
- ☺ Highlighters – multi-colored
- ☺ College-ruled spiral notebook AND/OR college ruled notebook paper

The College Board

The curriculum guidelines, content, and pace of the course is set by the College Board, not GUSD.

Join **AP Classroom** for content and study support.

Visit **apcentral.collegeboard.com** for detailed information and updates on all Advanced Placement courses.