

APUSH Syllabus

Course: Advanced Placement United States History

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Textbook: Amsco Advance Placement, 4th Edition, and *The American Pageant*

Fees and Materials: \$22 –Amsco Advance Placement, 4th Edition, Binder for notes, assignments, etc.

Introduction: Welcome to Advanced Placement United States History! You have **chosen** to take what is undoubtedly the most educating, exciting, mystifying, challenging, sarcastic, laugh-filled course you will ever take in your academic career! Okay, so more than likely only one of those was true, but you have **chosen** to take this course. You may have heard that it was difficult, challenging, maybe even overwhelming. I will be honest. It is tough. I make it that way intentionally. This is a course that is meant to prepare you for college. I want it to be an experience that you remember because it made you work. But I also want it to be enjoyable. If you apply yourself, I believe you will learn more in here than in any other course that this school offers. If you invest in the course and myself as your teacher, you will have at least one or two good laughs nearly every day (excluding test days). My goal in teaching this course is that at the end of the year, you will look back and be happy that you chose the more difficult path. Because it was worth it. And deep down, you'll see that it was a lot more enjoyable than that lame regular US History course and that boring college professor your friends had.

Additional Information: 1. To succeed in this course, you will need to work outside of the classroom. I will be attempting to digitize much of my course. I will try to make all my notes, PowerPoints, activities, primary sources, etc. on Microsoft OneNote and Teams. This will free time in the classroom to focus on key topics and activities, but it may require more outside preparation from you. I am hoping this will make the class more accessible for you.

Course Description: The course will cover the history of the United States from the Pre-Columbian Era through modern times. The material will be divided into nine time periods.

1. Period 1: 1491-1607 – Before America was colonized by Europeans
2. Period 2: 1607-1754 – European powers struggle for control of the American continent
3. Period 3: 1754-1800 – Warfare leads to American independence and the two-party system
4. Period 4: 1800-1848 – As the US spreads west, Americans argue over the role of the government
5. Period 5: 1844-1877 – Buildup to the Civil War leads to bloodshed and Reconstruction
6. Period 6: 1865-1898 – As industrialization occurs, the US finally turns its attention outward
7. Period 7: 1890-1945 – Modern US is shaped through domestic and foreign issues
8. Period 8: 1945-1980 – US struggles idealistically with the USSR while domestic changes reshape the nation
9. Period 9: 1980-2000 – Cold War ends leaving the US with foreign supremacy and a domestic identity crisis

College Credit: Students have the chance to earn college credit. This is accomplished by passing the exam given by College Board in May. Students will not be required to take the exam, although it is encouraged.

Activities: In order to cover the standards provided by the state and prepare the students for the End of Course exam, the teacher will utilize various activities including the following:

1. Oral and PowerPoint Presentations
2. Individual and Group projects
3. Reading and analyzing primary sources
4. Short Answer Questions (SAQ), Document Based Question (DBQ), and Long Essay Question (LEQ)

Grading Policies: Grades will be decided by the following mixture of class work, homework, and testing:

1. **Quizzes** will be given throughout the. These will typically be given once a week to cover a small unit of information. Quizzes will count for **30%** of your final grade.
2. **Unit Tests** will be given after 3-5 smaller units have been covered. Tests will count for **40%** of your final grade.
3. **Classwork/Homework** will account for **15%** of your final grade. Classwork includes bell ringers, primary source readings, daily work, and small group activities. All homework will be graded based upon completion.

4. **Final Exam** will be given at the end of each nine weeks and will account for 15% of your final average. They will be cumulative for that nine weeks.
5. **Extra credit** will be available to students throughout the course; however, it will only be offered to students who have turned in all their classwork, homework, and assessments.

Grading Scale 2022-2023 School Year

A-90-100

B-80-89

C-70-79

D-60-69

F-0-59

Classroom Procedures:

1. My classroom follows school policies for dress code, attendance/tardies, and devices.
2. Bell ringers will be displayed on the white board before class begins. Students will be expected to begin working once they arrive in the classroom.
3. In most instances, work will be collected by the teacher. The teacher may also ask for the students to place their work in bins located around the classroom at the teacher's direction.
4. Once assignments have been graded, the teacher will hand back the graded work to the students. It is the students' responsibility to keep their work, although the teacher will not require the papers to be handed back in once they are graded.
5. Late work will be accepted after the due date, but will be penalized 10 points for each day behind schedule. If the student does not turn the work in within five days, a zero will be given.
6. Following an absence, **it is the responsibility of the student to ask the teacher for missed assignments and notes.** Assignments will be counted late the following day for unexcused absences and three days following an excused absence.
7. Students leaving the classroom must have the teacher's permission and must take a hall pass. This can be either a written note, sports' bobblehead, or a teacher's mug.
8. When given group work, the teacher expects each group to stay on task. Group members will not be assigned, thus, the student will be responsible for choosing partners' wisely. If a group is unruly or unable to stay on task, the teacher may choose to remove points from the group's score or dismantle the group and require the members to work individually.

Coach Szydlowski's Classroom Rules:

- 1) Be on time!
- 2) Bring your materials to class every day.**
- 3) My classroom follows school policies for dress code, attendance/tardies, and electronic devices.
- 4) Do not text or be on your phone while I am teaching. Student will be given appropriate technology breaks during class that will curtail distractions while allowing students access to communication.**
5. Do not include me or my class in a picture/video/Snapchat or any other form of media without my permission. This is a violation of my privacy and it will not be tolerated.
- 6) Upon entering the classroom, look at the board for any work. If there is something written, I expect you to begin once the bell rings.**
- 7) Respect the teacher, and he will respect you!
- 8) The Golden Rule: Any unkind behavior toward the teacher or a fellow student will NOT BE TOLERATED!!!
Treat others how you would like to be treated.**

9) Bring a good attitude, and I promise this class will be enjoyable!

Return this paper signed by your parents for a grade:

Student Name: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Parent's Signature: _____