

Syllabus

AP US History

Instructor: Mr. Myers

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480.224.2895

Room C225

Office Hours:

M/W A Lunch

T/TH 2:15-2:45

Course Overview and Format

APUSH is an introduction to US History. It is a rigorous and intensive course that moves at a rapid pace. The scope of the course begins with the emergence of Colonial America (1400s), and continues through the end of the Cold War in the 20th Century. In this course, we will study patterns of social, religious, economic, technological, and political change. We will also be looking for the threads of continuity that tie each of these concepts together. (See attached Course Outline.)

This class will be demanding. Students enrolled in this course are expected to do a considerable amount of reading from both the major text and from supplementary sources. This reading will be done outside of class, and class time will be spent in applying the outside reading to the content and themes of this course. We will do this in a variety of ways, including analysis of Primary and Secondary sources, class discussions, writing, and other activities. All of these are designed to help students achieve success in their academic pursuits and in the Advanced Placement program.

Supplies

Positive Attitude

Blue/Black ink pens

3-ring binder

Hi-lighters (Orange, Blue, Green, Yellow)

Laptop*

These supplies are to be brought with you to class every day.

Objectives

1. To develop an appreciation for the study of United States history
2. To develop an understanding for processes and methods of historical inquiry
3. To construct a personal understanding of United States history
4. To improve writing, research, and critical thinking skills
5. To hone thinking skills, analyzing and identifying multiple sides to arguments
6. To develop a better understanding of the present day United States and the relationship of the individual citizen to the country
7. To prepare students for success on the AP US History Exam

Course Texts and Readings

David M. Kennedy, Lizabeth Cohen, and Thomas A. Bailey. The American Pageant: A History of the Republic 14th Edition (Boston: McDougal Littell/Houghton Mifflin, 2006).

Thomas A Bailey and David M. Kennedy, The American Spirit Volumes I and II (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1998).

Howard Zinn and Anthony Arnove. Voices of a People's History of the United States. (New York: Seven Stories Press, 2004).

Grades and Assignment Policies (subject to change)

- Grades will be earned using a straight point value, beginning with zero at each quarter.
- Semester grades will be tabulated using a 40%, 40%, 20% formula. Each quarter is worth 40% of the semester grade and the final valued at 20%. A: 90-100% B: 80-89% C:70-79% D:60-69% F:0-59%.
- If you are taking an excused absence when an assignment was due, you must hand in the assignment at the next class meeting.
- If you take an excused absence when an assignment was given, you will have the same total number of days to complete the assignment.
- If you are taking an excused absence when an exam or quiz is given, you must schedule a make up time with the instructor. The make up must occur within one week of the original date; otherwise students will earn a zero for the assignment.
- **Assignments turned in after the due date will only be worth PARTIAL credit.**
- If you are having trouble with time management, staying on top of things, or understanding work, come and talk to me before or after school. I can find ways to help you.

Assignments and Assessments

The most taxing component of APUSH is the reading schedule. Students are expected to have read text assignments thoroughly and attentively for homework. Each unit will be assessed through Advanced Placement style multiple-choice questions. Class time will be spent analyzing perspectives of primary and secondary sources, relating content and ideas to the themes of the course.

Reading Quiz Schedule (subject to change)

8/12 – Reading Quiz: Period 2 (Chapters 3-5)
9/22 – Reading Quiz: Period 3 (Chapters 6-10)
TBA – Reading Quiz: Period 4 (Chapters 11-17)
TBA – Reading Quiz: Period 5 (Chapters 18-22)
TBA – Reading Quiz: Period 6 (Chapters 23-26)
TBA – Reading Quiz: Period 7 (Chapters 27-35)
TBA – Reading Quiz: Period 8 (Chapters 36-39)
TBA – Reading Quiz: Period 9 (Chapters 40-41)

Dual Enrollment

The subject matter that will be covered in this course will help prepare students for the AP Exam and for Dual-Enrollment credit through Chandler-Gilbert Community College.

College Board Account

In order to participate in some activities in this class, as well as signing up for the AP Exam, you **MUST** have an account with College Board. If you do not already have an account, you can use the URL below to create an account. This should be done as soon as possible.

<https://www.cbaccount.collegeboard.org/iamweb/smartRegister>

Film/Video list for AP US History

These films/videos are shown in part or whole throughout the year in AP US history. All of them are directly tied to Arizona State standards. This list is subject to change.

Please initial next to the ones you do NOT want your child to view.

- _____ **Crash Course US History** No Rating (Youtube)
John Green teaches you the history of the United States of America in 47 episodes!
- _____ **America the Story of US** No Rating (History Channel)
A 12-part, 9-hours documentary-drama television miniseries that portrays more than 400 years of American history (with emphasis on how American creation of new technologies has had effects on the nation's history and, by implication, the world). It spans time from the successful English settlement of Jamestown beginning in 1607, through to the present day. Narrated by Liev Schreiber, the series recreates many historical events by using actors dressed in the style of the period and computer-generated special effects.
- _____ **John Adams (2008)** No Rating
The life of one of the USA's Founding Fathers, its second President, and his role in the nation's first 50 years.
- _____ **Lincoln (2012)** Rated PG-13 (brief language)
As the Civil War continues to rage, America's president struggles with continuing carnage on the battlefield and he fights with many inside his own cabinet on the decision to emancipate the slaves.
- _____ **Eyes on the Prize (2006)** No Rating (aired American Experience on PBS)
Through contemporary interviews and historical footage, this documentary series traces the civil rights movement from the Montgomery bus boycott to the Voting Rights Act; from the early acts of individual courage through the growing mass movement and its eventual split into factions. **Historical footage does contain racial language and violence.**

Student/Parent Acknowledgement

PARENT

I have received a copy of Mr. Myers' syllabus and have discussed it with my student.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

STUDENT

I have received a copy of Mr. Myers' syllabus and know what is expected of me. I agree to contribute to a positive learning environment in this class.

Student signature _____ Date _____