

# ADVANCED PLACEMENT UNITED STATES HISTORY

## INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Teacher: David Cummings

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Remind101: Text 81010 w/message \_\_\_\_\_

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

AP United States History is designed to provide high school students with the opportunity to experience the rigor of a college-level American History course, from the beginning of the peopling of the Americas to the present. An emphasis is placed on crafting historical arguments with the use of relevant historical evidence, chronological reasoning, comparison, contextualization and historical interpretation. The course will trace a series of key themes throughout the year, emphasizing the ways in which they are interconnected and examining the ways in which each helps to shape the changes over time that are so important to understanding the United States. Each unit also analyzes how interpretations of events have changed over time, how the issues of one time period have had an impact on the experiences and decisions of subsequent generations, and how such reevaluations of the past continued to shape the way historians see the world today.

## COURSE TEXTBOOK AND REQUIRED MATERIALS

### REQUIRED MATERIALS

- HENRETTA, HINDERTAKER, EDWARDS, SELF.  
AMERICA'S HISTORY, FOR THE AP\* COURSE 8TH EDITION
- Separate 3-ring binder for AP U.S. History
- Notebook Paper
- Blue or black pens (no red ink!)
- Highlighters
- Internet access
- BYOD- Bring your own device

### RECOMMENDED MATERIALS

- Study guides (e.g. Princeton Review, AMSCO, etc.)
- Index cards/box
- Colored pencils and markers
- Multiple folders for student work and primary source reading handout organization.
- Student study groups

The course planner is meant to be a guide to help students plan and anticipate the pace of study and general requirements of the course, including the testing schedule. All dates are subject to change as the need arises throughout the year. This class keeps to a rigorous schedule, and it may be necessary to assign work over holidays and breaks to keep on track.

## SEMESTER ONE

**Unit 1:** Amerindians & European Contact 1491-1607

**Unit 2+ 3:** Jamestown to Jefferson 1607-1800

**Unit 4:** Growth and Conflict- Manifest Destiny 1800-1848

**Unit 5:** Civil War and Reconstruction 1844-1877

**Unit 6:** Gilded Age to Progressivism 1865-1898

## SEMESTER TWO

**Unit 6:** Populism and Progressivism cont. 1865-1898

**Unit 7:** Imperialism – World War II 1898-1945

**Unit 8:** The Cold War and Civil Rights 1945-1980

**Unit 9:** Reagan through Globalization 1980-Modern Day

**Review:** 1 week

\*These dates are approximate and instructor reserves the right to change dates at any time.

**The AP Exam is scheduled for Friday May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

# COURSE INFORMATION AND STRUCTURE

## THE ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAM

The AP United States History Exam is comprehensive, covering material from the entire school year. The exam is 3 hours and 15 minutes long and is comprised of both multiple choice and written essays. Students enrolled in the course are expected to take the Advanced Placement Exam. Students are encouraged to explore the AP website, [www.apcentral.collegeboard.com](http://www.apcentral.collegeboard.com) for additional information. Please explore our classroom website for updated info: <http://www.rooseveltcpush.com/apush.html>

## READING

In this course you will have to read for content, as well as be able to connect material read at home to topics discussed in class. If you fall behind in the reading you will seriously hurt your grade in the course and your chances of passing the exam. You will find this class moves at a fast pace – reading approximately 30-60 pages per week from a college-level textbook in addition to supplemental readings.

## COURSE STRUCTURE

Historical work at the collegiate level requires students to write proficiently. For this reason, writing is emphasized in every unit of this course. Essays, practice “short answer” questions, and DBQs will be graded according to the rubric set forth by the College Board.

- **Bell Ringer (BR):** Students will complete a daily Bell Ringer question. Topics and activities will vary throughout the year – practice multiple-choice questions, short answer questions, essay-writing practice (e.g. writing an introductory paragraph with a thesis; outlining an essay from the posted prompt).
- **Identifications (IDs):** In order to perform well in this course, students must have a working knowledge of a large number of people, places, and events. Students will be given a list of identification terms for each unit that they must know and be able to incorporate into their writing. These terms will be completed on index cards and should be kept for the entire year to practice for the exam.
- **Essential Questions (EQ):** At the beginning of each unit, students will receive a list of Essential Questions, which examine the topics necessary for success in this course. Students will complete these questions for homework, and they will be reviewed at the beginning of each class period. The teacher will identify which IDs and EQ are to be completed each night, as well as pages to be read in the textbook or supplemental readings.
- **Thematic Review (TR):** As a review for each unit, students will work in groups discussing and framing answers to questions based upon the seven themes outlined by the College Board.
- **Flipped Lectures (FL):** In order to keep up with our rigorous schedule, students may be required to watch/take notes for Flipped Lectures for homework, in addition to other assignments. Students are expected to take notes on the lecture, and come prepared with any questions they have to be discussed at the beginning of class. Students will also be asked to watch supplementary videos located on the navigation pages of the website, in addition to their nightly reading to elaborate on topics that are not covered in depth in their textbook. All videos will be linked on the class website.
- **Unit Exams:** In order to prepare students for the AP Exam in May, all Unit Exams will be designed using the same structure as the AP Exam. Unit Assessments will be structured around the College Board’s time requirements.
  - 55 Multiple Choice questions with a 55 minute time limit (40% of Exam)
  - OPTIONS- 3 Short Answer Questions with a 40 minute time limit (20% of Exam)
  - OPTIONS- 1 Long Essay Question with a 40 minute time limit (15% of Exam)
  - 1 Document Based Essay (DBQ) with a 60 minute time-limit (25% of Exam)

## ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Students are permitted and expected to take notes on laptops, tablets, or cellphones as long as they are being used for academic purposes *only*. If electronic devices are being used for non-academic purposes, students will lose the privilege of using them in class.

## FINAL EXAMS

At the end of the first term, all students will take a final exam covering all topics up to that point. At the end of the second term, all students who did not take the AP Exam will be required to take a final exam in the style of the actual AP Exam that covers the entire course.

## CLASSROOM RULES AND EXPECTATIONS

Students are expected to adhere to all district and school rules. Discipline will follow district guidelines.

1. Students will take themselves and their classmates seriously as scholars.
2. Be prepared for class - bring your notebook, device and supplies to class every day.
3. Be attentive during class. No cell phones/Air Pods, MP3 players, or other electronics should be on during class time, unless being used for academic purposes. No sleeping in class!
4. Keep it clean! This means your language, your desk area, and your personal grooming.
5. Six bathroom passes will be issued each semester. These are not to be used for food/drinks, and abuse of them will result in detention, retention after class, etc. If a student uses all their passes, they will lose participation points for each bathroom trip. Each unused pass is worth 5 points extra credit at the end of the semester.
6. TREAT EVERYONE AND EVERYTHING IN THIS CLASSROOM WITH RESPECT.
7. Grade Boosts: 1% for zero absences, 1% for zero tardies per semester, if applicable\*.
8. It is the student's responsibility to communicate with the teacher when problems occur or when class time will be missed. Remind 101 or Email are both appropriate forms of communication

## ATTENDANCE

Attendance in this class is essential, especially with block scheduling; each class meeting counts as two traditional classes. If you are absent, **you** are responsible for any missed work. Lectures and assignments will be posted on the class website. You will have an equitable amount of time to complete missed assignments as classes missed. If you know in advance you will be absent, please let me know as soon as possible to have adequate time to prepare work for you so you don't fall behind.

## CLASSWORK – HOMEWORK POLICY

- All work is due the following class period at the beginning of the period (unless otherwise stated) or it is considered late.
- Late work receives half credit.
- Work that is not completed in class is to be taken home for homework.
- If I can't read it, I won't grade it.
- "No Name" papers will be posted and kept for a week before they are thrown away.
- Missed tests will be entered as a zero until they are made up.
- Students may do test corrections and re-writes within one week for a better grade.
- Teacher-led study sessions will periodically be offered after school. Dates and all other important information will be posted on the class website.

## ACADEMIC HONESTY

There is a strict academic honesty policy enforced for this course. If any student is caught cheating in any manner, which includes plagiarism, **they will receive a zero for the assignment**, which cannot be made up. In addition, parents and administration will be notified of this disrespectful and unethical act.

## EXTRA CREDIT

Extra credit may be intermittently offered throughout the semester, however, students should not rely on it to save their grade – it may be counted for *up to* 3% on top of your overall grade. Extra credit will be entered into the grade book as it is offered or completed so students may check they have received appropriate credit. However, no extra credit will be counted in the grade until the end of the semester. I will also be implementing a zero-absence/zero tardy policy. A Student may earn a 1% grade boost for never missing class, as well as a 1% boost for never being late.

## GRADE BREAKDOWN

Students will be graded using the following percentages:

- 100% -- 89.5% = A
- 89.4% -- 79.5% = B
- 79.4% -- 69.5% = C
- 69.4% -- 59.5% = D
- 59% and below = F

Grades will be determined based on the following category weights:

Classwork/Homework	10%
Tests and Quizzes	40%
Essays	30%
Classroom Projects	15%
Participation	5%
Semester Points	= 100%

**Dear Parents,**

Please take a moment and review this class syllabus with your student, as well as review the special notes for parents below. When you are finished I would appreciate you and your student filling out the contact information and signing this page and returning it to me so I may file it in my records.

**Special note on Cheating and Plagiarism:**

Many students see the internet as a great time-saver for homework. However, many of them also use other people’s ideas and words to cut corners on their own assignments. I expect my students to take their education seriously, so **any** form of cheating or plagiarism WILL NOT be tolerated. Students caught cheating will receive a **zero** for the assignment and **will not** be allowed to make it up.

**Special Note on cell phones and Air Pods:**

District policy states that Air Pods and other music players are not allowed at school. It is expected that students will not bring these to school. If a student uses these in class and learning is disrupted, appropriate consequences will result.

Cell phones will occasionally be used in class as an academic tool, but should be otherwise stowed away. Text messaging during class time is considered a method of cheating and is absolutely prohibited. Persistent text messaging during class-time could result in disciplinary action and have a negative effect on your child’s participation grade in this course. Please do not text or call your student during class time.

**Special Note on videos/movies shown in class:**

From time to time film **clips** will be used from various sources, including unrated and rated PG-13 and R movies (e.g. *Gangs of New York, Birth of a Nation, Saving Private Ryan*). All clips are **educationally appropriate** and relate directly to classroom instruction and objectives. If you do not wish to allow your student to view these clips, please indicate below and I will excuse your child from the viewing.

**Special Note**

I will be using my classroom website ([www.Rooseveltcpush.com](http://www.Rooseveltcpush.com)) to instruct and update the students on a 24/7 basis. I will post the class calendar as I update it on the front page throughout the school year as well. Please feel free to email me if you have any questions.

\*\*If you have any other important information I should know about your student, please email me at [David.Cummings@cnsd.k12.ca.us](mailto:David.Cummings@cnsd.k12.ca.us) To join our class Remind101: Text 81010: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your cooperation, and I look forward to an outstanding year together!

Mr. David Cummings  
AP U.S. History Instructor

I have read and understand all parts of the Syllabus for Advanced Placement US History.

Parent(s) Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Parent email: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Movie Release:**

- Yes, my student may view these films
- No, my student may not view these films