

2018-2019 A.P. U.S. History Disclosure Statement

Mrs. R. Andersen

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Course Description:

This course is an advanced placement, college level course in United States History. It is designed to prepare you for a comprehensive year-end exam which will test your ability to analyze and recall historical events in U.S. history from Pre-Columbian societies to the present day. If you successfully pass the exam (earning a score of three, four, or five), you will earn at least six hours of college credit and receive credit towards U.S. History, social science, or humanities general education requirements. The goals of this course in United States History are to develop the following: an understanding of some of the principal themes of U.S. History, an ability to analyze historical evidence, an ability to analyze and to express historical understanding in writing, and, of course most importantly, to pass the A.P. exam in May.

Citizenship and Attendance Policies:

- 1) **Attendance is absolutely imperative to a student's success in an advanced placement course.** An extensive amount of material will be explained and discussed each day, so it is in your best interest to come to class and be on time.
- 2) The school attendance and citizenship policy will be upheld.
 - (a) **Four** or more tardies will result in a "U." Excessive tardiness will result in a referral to the administration.
 - (b) **Three** unexcused absences will result in a "U." Remember that you have 48 hours to clear an absence. Once this time has passed, it will be regarded as an unexcused absence, and you will not be allowed to make up missed work.
 - (c) Cheating and truancies will result in a "U." Cheating includes but is not limited to: presenting something as your own that was really the work of another individual; using resources that you are not supposed to; cutting and pasting from the internet without giving proper credit.
- 3) Class begins at the bell. If you are more than twenty minutes late, you will be marked absent.
- 4) Come to class with appropriate materials and assignments.
- 5) The school's dress code policies will be enforced and upheld at all times.

Grading Policy:

- 1) Scores on assessments, assignments, and participation will be used to calculate your final grade. Your scores on these activities will then be converted to a percentage and assigned a letter grade according to the following scale:

100-94	A	76-74	C
93-90	A-	73-70	C-
89-87	B+	69-67	D+
86-84	B	66-64	D
83-80	B-	63-60	D-
77-79	C+	Below 60	F

- 2) **Late work** will be accepted with the following restrictions:
 - a) All assignments are due at the beginning of class. There will, however, be a **24-hour grace period** where you can turn in an assignment late with no penalty. For example, if you have APUSH on an A day, you have until 2:30 p.m. on B day to turn in the assignment with no penalty. You can also email assignments to me. If the assignment is emailed, you are responsible for making sure the assignment is attached, that it is in **.pdf or .docx format**, that it is sent to the correct address, and that I can open the file. Technological glitches are **NOT** a legitimate excuse for a late assignment.
 - b) Once the unit exam has been administered for a particular unit, no late work for that specific unit will be accepted for credit. However, prior to the unit exam, I will accept late work for **half credit**.
- 3) Ten “free” quiz points will be available to you each term, which may be applied towards your quizzes. Bell quizzes cannot be made up unless you have a **school** excused absence. The free quiz points will help to alleviate some points lost as a result of an absence or tardy.
- 4) All exams and essays must be made up within one week of the original exam/essay date. You are responsible for arranging a make-up time. The best time to make up work is during tutorial, however, since some assignments will take longer to complete, I will be available after school, by appointment.
- 5) If you miss class, go to my website to check on homework and download assignments so that you do not fall behind. You are expected to stay caught up as much as possible even if you are absent. Assignments will also be posted on Canvas, so make sure to check on a regular basis.
- 6) Extenuating circumstances will be dealt with on an individual basis. Keep the lines of communication open. Let me know how I can help if a crisis develops.

Materials Needed:

- 1) Blue or black pen. All essays in class must be written in blue or black pen. Make sure you are always prepared for essays.
- 2) Pencil
- 3) Standard size lined paper

*** Textbooks may be left at home--they are too heavy to carry around! I will have a classroom set available for you to use at school.***

Materials Recommended:

- 1) A three-ring binder specifically for APUSH.
- 2) A review book and / or flashcards. I will give you some suggestions in class.

Class Rules:

- 1) Be respectful. Respect my right to teach and other students' right to learn.
- 2) No excuses. Be responsible for your education, your attendance, and your behavior.
- 3) Don't pack up before the bell; every minute is important!
- 4) No cell phones, calculators, iPods, etc. See school policy for electronic devices.
- 5) No food or drink is allowed in the classroom. Water bottles are OK.

Tutorial:

Tutorial is held every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Tutorial time is reserved for students who need to make up missed assignments, tests, or quizzes, and students who need extra help on assignments. If you come to my class for tutorial, you are expected to be on-task the entire time. No cell phones, iPods, or other electronic devices will be allowed. Students who do not use tutorial time wisely will not be allowed to attend in my classroom. In the spring, my tutorial will be reserved for AP students only.

Tips for Success:

- 1) Keep up—don't fall behind. Plan carefully as many of you are very busy. I will let you know when major exams or assignments are coming, so you can plan ahead.
- 2) If you do fall behind, move on. Don't try to catch up; we'll fill in the gaps later. Focus on what we are doing in class at the moment.
- 3) Follow my advice and trust me! I want you to pass the test and be successful just as much as you do!

Note for those transferring out of A.P. U.S.:

If for some reason you decide that you would rather transfer into a regular U.S. Studies course, be aware that the following things may happen when you move into your regular U.S. Studies class:

- 1) Your grade from A.P. U.S. History will be averaged into your U.S. Studies grade. If you check out with an F in A.P., that F will follow you to your U.S. Studies course and will be averaged with whatever grade you earn in the regular course. If you check out of A.P. right before an exam, you have to take the exam or a "0" will be calculated into your A.P. grade and will follow you to your regular U.S. History course.
- 2) The U.S. Studies teacher may require you to make up all work that you missed before you transferred into the course.

Finally...

Some of you have already taken an A.P. class, so you know what is expected and you know what your goal is—to pass the A.P. test and to challenge yourself. Others of you might be more nervous. I encourage you to help each other, to seek help from me, and to work hard. If you do your part, I will do mine, and the results will be wonderful. I am so excited for this year and for this opportunity, and if we each follow through with our commitments to learning, teaching, and building a community of learners, I promise you that this will be an extraordinary and rewarding experience, even if it is challenging at times.

A.P. U.S. History Disclosure Contract

Please fill out the following information accurately and clearly. List your name as you would like to be called.

Your name _____

Student Number: _____ Class Period: _____

Your e-mail address (print clearly): _____

Parent e-mail address: _____

Please review my course disclosure on my web site. Carefully read each of the following statements. When finished, both student and parent should sign and date the contract. Signing this contract means that you understand and agree to the terms below and that you have read the disclosure carefully.

- I understand that this is a college-level course with college-level expectations.
- I understand that Mrs. Andersen is available and willing to help me during tutorial, and before and after school by appointment.
- I understand that attendance is vital to my success in this class. My parents will excuse my absence within 48 hours, and I will make arrangements to make up missing work as soon as I return to school. If my absence is not excused, I understand that I will not be allowed to make up work that is missed. Excessive absenteeism will have a negative impact on my grade and my ability to succeed.
- I understand that the use of iPods, MP3players, cell phones, and calculators is strictly forbidden. These items will be confiscated and turned over to the administration and will result in a "U" in citizenship (unless, of course, there is an emergency!)
- I understand that I must come to class on time prepared with writing utensils, course materials, assignments, and paper and that I must behave appropriately in class.
- I understand and will abide by the late work policy explained in the course disclosure.
- I understand the policy for transferring into a regular U.S. History course.

Student's Signature

Date

Parent's Signature

Date