

IB History HL2 Information sheet

To: All Current 11th grade students interested in taking IB History HL2 (History of Americas)

If you are currently in AP US History and are interested in taking IB History HL2 in the 2021-2022 school year, continue reading for more information.

1. **What is IB History HL2?** It is the second year of the Higher Level History course for IB. The exam in May of 2022 will cover material learned over the two years. Taking this course after completing AP US History as a junior also satisfies the gov/econ requirement. The course is taught by Mr. Robinson. If you have questions, he can be reached at grobinson@nmusd.us.
2. **Will I earn an extra GPA bump on my transcript?** Yes, if you earn a letter grade of “C” or higher.
3. **What does the course cover?** The course begins with each student doing research and then writing a 2200 word research paper on a topic of their choosing. Then, the class takes an in-depth study of 20th century authoritarian leaders. Then, we study the Cold War. Then we cover the US Civil Rights movement and also the apartheid era in South Africa. The IB exam will take place in May 2022. After the IB test, we will cover economics topics.
4. **What skills will I learn?** Candidates need to assume the persona of an historian. This means to be not only critical of secondary sources, but to detect point of view and bias in primary sources and to exhibit a comprehension of the divergent views of historians. Historians need research skills, a questioning nature, the ability to see both sides of an issue, and to communicate their findings and opinions in a clear and succinct manner. In addition, as this is an international baccalaureate class, candidates need to exhibit a global view in order to excel.
5. **Is this a hard class?** The difficulty of the course material is subjective and you won't get the same answer from everyone. However, the requirement to write a research paper proves to be very difficult for some students.

If you are going to register for this course in Aeries, [then you must complete this *Google Form*](#) [prior](#) to registration so that we have a list of students. The Google Form must be completed by Monday, February 8th.