

AP United States History (3050) Course Overview Curriculum Document

Course Description

This course provides a sophisticated look at America’s history and the strategies of historiography. Students will develop their skills in studying and writing about our nation’s history. Historical issues are examined in depth, using primary source materials. Students are expected to prepare papers and presentations regarding significant dimensions of our nation’s development and ongoing change. Students will explore how an individual contributes to, and is affected by, the actions of others. The course is designed to assist students in preparing for the Advanced Placement History tests.

Credits	Prerequisites
1	None
Board Approved	Revised
May, 2004	May, 2014; August, 2022

Required Assessments

District-wide, standards-based common summative assessments

Textbooks/Resources

TEXTBOOK- America’s History for the AP Course. Henretta, Hinderaker, Edwards, & Self, 2014 (ISBN 1457696665)
 TEACHER RESOURCE- AP US History Teacher’s Survival Guide. Bedford, 2014 (ISBN 1457678756)
Sources for America’s History Vol. I: To 1877 (8th ed.)
Sources for America’s History Vol. II: 1877-to Present (8th ed.)
 College Board AP US History: Course and Exam Description (rev. 2019)

Course Essential Understandings

Course Essential Questions

- As a result of successfully completing this course, students will:
- Apply historical thinking skills and reasoning processes
 - Describe similarities and/or differences between different historical developments or processes.
 - Describe and explain causes and/or effects of a specific historical development or process.
 - Explain the difference between primary and secondary causes and between short- and long-term effects.
 - Explain how a relevant context influenced a specific historical development or process.
 - Describe and explain patterns of continuity and/or change over time.
 - Chronologically identify, explain and make connections between events, processes, and transformations
 - Make connections to the eight historical themes across U.S. History including:
 - American and National Identity
 - Work, Exchange, and Technology
 - Geography and the Environment
 - Migration and Settlement
 - Politics and Power
 - America in the World
 - American and Regional Culture
 - Social Structures

How do individuals contribute to, and are affected by, the actions of others?

How has America continued to evolve politically, geographically, economically, socially, and culturally to form a unique identity?

In what ways have interactions with other countries and cultures influenced America’s role in the world?

Unit Overviews

Unit Name	Unit Description	Unit Essential Question	Instructional Standards	Assessed Standards
Unit One: Foundations of American History (1491 to 1800)	Students will start the unit by analyzing the pre-Columbian North American continent controlled by American Indians. Then students will explore contact and conflicts among the peoples of Europe, the Americas, and West Africa that created a new world. Students will continue with analyzing how Europeans and American Indians maneuvered and fought for dominance, control and security in North America. Students will evaluate the emergence of distinctive colonial and native societies. Moving into the mid 1700s students will assess the impact of British imperial attempts to reassert control over its colonies and the colonial reaction to these attempts. Finally students will measure how independence produced a new American republic, along with struggles over the new nation’s social, political and economic identity.	How did the contact and conflicts between different groups impact the founding and ideals of the Early Republic?	Argumentative Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● AP U.S. History Standard 1.1 ● AP U.S. History Standard 1.2 AP U.S. History Standard #2 AP U.S. History Standard #3	AP U.S. History Rubrics
Unit Two: American Growth and Disunion (U.S. 1800-1877)	Students will explore how the new republic struggled to define and extend democratic ideals in the face of rapid economic, territorial, and demographic changes. Students will analyze how the nation expanded and its population grew which resulted in regional tensions, especially over slavery. Then students will evaluate the historical developments that led to a civil war, and the aftermath of which transformed American society.	How did the expansion of America lead to growing divisions and ultimately the Civil War?	Argumentative Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● AP U.S. History Standard 1.1 ● AP U.S. History Standard 1.2 AP U.S. History Standard #2 AP U.S. History Standard #3	AP U.S. History Rubrics
Unit Three: The Consequences of Industrialization and Global Conflict (U.S. 1890-1945)	Students will analyze the transformation of the United States from an agricultural to an increasingly industrialized and urbanized society. Students will connect that transformation to the significant economic, political, diplomatic, social, environmental, and cultural changes which occur within the United States. Students will	How did both domestic and global transformations shape the economic, political, and social growth of America?	Argumentative Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● AP U.S. History Standard 1.1 ● AP U.S. History Standard 1.2 AP U.S. History Standard #2	AP U.S. History Rubrics

	evaluate America's role in the World as it faced profound global challenges. Students will explore an increasingly pluralistic United States that led to growing domestic challenges which prompted debate over the proper degree of government activism.		AP U.S. History Standard #3	
Unit Four: American Power and Protest (U.S. 1945-present)	Students will examine how after World War II the United States grappled with prosperity and unfamiliar international responsibilities while struggling to live up to its ideals. Students will analyze how the United States transitioned to a new century filled with challenges and possibilities while experiencing renewed ideological and cultural debates. Students will evaluate how the U.S. sought to redefine its foreign policy, and adapt to economic globalization and revolutionary changes in science and technology.	How did post World War II America adapt to its new international responsibilities and domestic challenges?	<p>Argumentative Writing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● AP U.S. History Standard 1.1 ● AP U.S. History Standard 1.2 <p>AP U.S. History Standard #2</p> <p>AP U.S. History Standard #3</p>	AP U.S. History Rubrics