Advanced Placement United States History (1491 – Present)

This course will cover United States History from the Age of Exploration to the present. Besides being a more *advanced* course, one of the major ways that this course differs from non-AP U.S. History is how much U.S. History is covered. Non-AP classes start in the late 1800s while the AP course starts in 1491. There is a *significant* amount of content in AP. We have more frequent homework. There is also a significant amount of reading and writing in AP. Sometimes students will be required to read or cover material on their own.

- Please be aware that there are **summer assignments** that students are required to complete for Period 1 during the Summer Break.
- Below you can review the time periods and themes that are included in this course.
- A *sample* syllabus is included on page 2.

Units	Exam Weighting
Unit 1: Period 1: 1491–1607 ← AP starts here	4–6%
Unit 2: Period 2: 1607–1754	6–8%
Unit 3: Period 3: 1754–1800	10–17%
Unit 4: Period 4: 1800–1848	10–17%
Unit 5: Period 5: 1844–1877	10–17%
Unit 6: Period 6: 1865–1898 ← non-AP starts here	10–17%
Unit 7: Period 7: 1890–1945	10–17%
Unit 8: Period 8: 1945–1980	10–17%
Unit 9: Period 9: 1980–Present	4–6%

NOTE: Events, processes, and developments are not constrained by the given dates and may begin before, or continue after, the approximate dates assigned to each unit and topic.

Themes: The themes serve as the connective tissue of the course and enable students to create meaningful connections across units. They are often broader ideas that become threads that run throughout the course. Revisiting them and applying them in a variety of contexts helps students to develop deeper conceptual understanding. Below are the themes of the course.

Theme 1: American and National Identity
Theme 2: Work, Exchange, and Technology
Theme 3: Geography and the Environment
Theme 4: Migration and Settlement
Theme 5: Politics and Power
Theme 6: America in the World
Theme 7: American and Regional Culture
Theme 8: Social Structures

Advanced Placement United States History
SAMPLE SYLLABUS ONLY

Description: This course will cover United States history from the Age of Exploration to the present.

Textbooks:
1. AMSCO: United States History: Preparing for the Advanced Placement Examination (AMSCO) **You will bring this workbook to class with you daily.*
2. *American History* (Brinkley) Textbook used in class

↑ Required workbook fee

Expectations:
Students are expected to:
- *be respectful and have a good attitude
- *attend class on time with all the required materials
- *be seated in your assigned seat and begin the Bell Ringer *(Do Now)* activity when you enter the classroom.
- *work *only* on U.S. history assignments during class
- *follow directions the first time they are given
- *participate in class discussion and activities
- *regularly check and use Canvas as a part of this course
- *read the text, assigned readings, and handouts (classwork & homework)
- *serve as discussion leader or presenter for selected topics
- *complete assignments on time
- *use the technology in the classroom appropriately
- *turn your phones off or place them on silent and put them away *(phones should not be in your lap or pockets)*

Grading Policy:

Major Grades – 66% (Tests, projects, papers, etc.)
Daily Grades -- 34% (classwork, quizzes, homework, source work, binder checks, participation)

Grades can come in many forms: AP courses have fewer grades

Tests count for more than half of your overall grade. For the most part, you will have a test for each unit.

Classwork is simply any work or activities that are done, at least predominantly, in class. There may be times when you will need to finish a classwork assignment for homework. If you do not complete a classwork activity, it will have a negative impact on you grade.

Quizzes are grades that can come in many forms. As long as you do what you are supposed to be doing in class and at home, the quizzes should help your grade. Quizzes can come as reading quizzes, vocabulary quizzes, pop quizzes, etc.

Frequent homework readings

Homework consists of any work done at home, although there will be times when you can get started on homework in class. If you do not complete a homework activity, it will have a negative impact on your grades. *(No late homework is accepted.)*

Important component of the course

Participation is a grade that *should* help all students. Participation grades are received for Do Nows, Exit Slips, and everyday participation in class.

A participation grade is earned if the following takes place:
1. acceptable classroom behavior
2. pay attention in class (no head on desk or sleeping)
3. work only on U.S. History (no English, math, science, etc.)
   (other books, notebooks, notes, research papers, games, etc. will be taken up)
4. complete assignments in class
5. participate in class (group work, assignments, answering questions – "I don't know" is not an acceptable answer)
6. bring your binder and other materials daily
7. complete notebook work for the day
8. use technology appropriately and only for U.S. history classwork

more writing than non-AP classes

Other grades: HBS Case Studies, Canvas module checks, DBQ's, essays, individual and group projects, presentations, group work and participation, binder checks, etc.