



# Course Overview

High School | Social Studies | AP United States History - Last Updated on April 3, 2025

## DESCRIPTION

### K-12 Content Area | Mission & Philosophy Statement

- Social Studies prepares the nation’s young people for college, careers, and civic life.
- Inquiry is at the heart of social studies instruction which involves interdisciplinary applications, deep understandings, concepts, and skills from the disciplines.
- Young people require analytic, strategic, chronological, and critical thinking skills to prepare for participating in democratic decision-making.
- Social studies instruction directly and explicitly connects to the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts.

### Course Description

AP United States History is a year-long course designed to challenge students through an in-depth, college-level study of the political, social, economic, and cultural development of the United States. Emphasizing critical thinking, historical analysis, and effective communication, the course engages students in independent research, seminar discussions, and both written and oral presentations. Beginning with Indigenous societies before European contact and ending with contemporary America, students will explore major themes such as American identity, power and politics, reform movements, and the nation's evolving role in the world. This course provides a strong foundation for students transitioning from high school to college-level coursework and encourages all students to take the Advanced Placement (AP) Exam in U.S. History.

Throughout the year, students will investigate key historical eras, from European colonization and the founding of the nation, to westward expansion, the Civil War and Reconstruction, industrialization, and the country’s emergence as a global power. The curriculum continues into the 20th and 21st centuries, covering the Great Depression, World Wars, civil rights movements, and modern political and economic developments. Using primary and secondary sources, students will develop evidence-based arguments, examine multiple perspectives, and understand the causes and consequences of pivotal events. APUSH also cultivates essential skills in research, reasoning, and civic awareness—preparing students to engage thoughtfully with the past and its relevance to today’s world.

## STANDARDS

### College Board - AP US History - Skills and Objectives (2020)

APUSH.DP.1A

APUSH.DP.1B

APUSH.SS.2A

APUSH.SS.2B

APUSH.SS.2C

APUSH.CES.3A

APUSH.CES.3B

APUSH.CES.3C

APUSH.CES.3D

APUSH.CON.4A

APUSH.CON.4B



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APUSH.MC.5A

APUSH.MC.5B

APUSH.ARG.6A

APUSH.ARG.6B

APUSH.ARG.6C

APUSH.ARG.6D

APUSH.COMP.1.i.

APUSH.COMP.1.ii.

APUSH.COMP.1.iii.

APUSH.CAUS.2.i.

APUSH.CAUS.2.ii.

APUSH.CAUS.2.iii.

APUSH.CAUS.2.iv.

APUSH.CAUS.2.v.

APUSH.CONCHA.3.i.

APUSH.CONCHA.3.ii.

APUSH.CONCHA.3.iii.

APUSH.U1.1A

APUSH.U1.1B

APUSH.U1.1C

APUSH.U1.1D

APUSH.U1.1E

APUSH.U1.1F

APUSH.U1.1G

APUSH.U2.2A

APUSH.U2.2B

APUSH.U2.2C

APUSH.U2.2D

APUSH.U2.2E

APUSH.U2.2F

APUSH.U2.2G

APUSH.U2.2H

APUSH.U2.2I

APUSH.U2.2J

APUSH.U3.3A

APUSH.U3.3B

APUSH.U3.3C

APUSH.U3.3D

APUSH.U3.3E

APUSH.U3.3F

APUSH.U3.3G

APUSH.U3.3H

APUSH.U3.3I

APUSH.U3.3J

APUSH.U3.3K

APUSH.U3.3L

APUSH.U3.3M

APUSH.U3.3N

APUSH.U3.3O

APUSH.U3.3P

APUSH.U4.4A

APUSH.U4.4B

APUSH.U4.4C

APUSH.U4.4D

APUSH.U4.4E

APUSH.U4.4F

APUSH.U4.4G

APUSH.U4.4H

APUSH.U4.4I

APUSH.U4.4J

APUSH.U4.4K

APUSH.U4.4L

APUSH.U4.4M

APUSH.U4.4N

APUSH.U5.5A

APUSH.U5.5B

APUSH.U5.5C

APUSH.U5.5D

APUSH.U5.5E

APUSH.U5.5F

APUSH.U5.5G

APUSH.U5.5H

APUSH.U5.5I

APUSH.U5.5J

APUSH.U5.5K

APUSH.U5.5L

APUSH.U6.6A

APUSH.U5.5M

APUSH.U6.6B

APUSH.U6.6Bi

APUSH.U6.6C

APUSH.U6.6D

APUSH.U6.6E

APUSH.U6.6Ei

APUSH.U6.6F

APUSH.U6.6G

APUSH.U6.6H

APUSH.U6.6I

APUSH.U6.6J

APUSH.U6.6K

APUSH.U6.6L

APUSH.U7.7A

APUSH.U7.7B

APUSH.U7.7C

APUSH.U7.7D

APUSH.U7.7E

APUSH.U7.7F

APUSH.U7.7G

APUSH.U7.7H

APUSH.U7.7Gi

APUSH.U7.7I

APUSH.U7.7J

APUSH.U7.7K



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APUSH.U7.7Bi

APUSH.U7.7L

APUSH.U7.7M

APUSH.U7.7N

APUSH.U7.7O

APUSH.U8.8A

APUSH.U8.8B

APUSH.U8.8C

APUSH.U8.8D

APUSH.U8.8E

APUSH.U8.8F

APUSH.U8.8G

APUSH.U8.8H

APUSH.U8.8I

APUSH.U8.8J

APUSH.U8.8K

APUSH.U8.8L

APUSH.U8.8M

APUSH.U8.8Li

APUSH.U8.8N

APUSH.U8.8O

APUSH.U8.8Ji

APUSH.U8.8P

APUSH.U8.8Q

APUSH.U9.9A

APUSH.U9.9B

APUSH.U9.9C

APUSH.U9.9D

APUSH.U9.9E

APUSH.U9.9F

APUSH.U9.9G

### COURSE OBJECTIVES

Objectives for this course are aligned to the College Board learning objectives for AP United States History.

### ASSESSMENT TYPES

The following assessment types will be used during the course:

- Curriculum-based Measures
- Formative Assessments
- Summative Assessments

### SUGGESTED METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

Below is a list of suggested strategies for high-quality instruction in Social Studies:

- Instructional components outlined in the *Framework for Teaching*
- Lecture/discussion
- Directed research
- Demonstrations
- Inquiry-based instruction



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### RESOURCES

District Approved Program Resources	District Approved Supplemental Resources	District Approved Technology Resources
Kennedy, David M., Cohen, Lizabeth, and Bailey, Thomas A. <b>The American Pageant: AP Edition.</b> 13th ed. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2006.		