

Advanced Placement U.S. History Syllabus 2025-2026

Hueneme High School

Mr. Laubacher

michael.laubacher@oxnardunion.org

Classroom: C5

Office Hours: 7:30am-8:30am, nutrition & lunch, or by appointment

Exam date ~ Friday, May 8th, 2025 8:00am

Course Description

The study of the cultural, economic, political, and social developments that have shaped the United States from c. 1491 to the present. You'll analyze texts, visual sources, and other historical evidence and write essays expressing historical arguments.

College Board Curriculum Time Periods

Unit 1: Period 1: 1491–1607

You'll learn about Native American societies as well as how and why Europeans first explored, and then began to colonize, the Americas.

Topics may include:

- Native American societies before European contact
- European exploration in the New World
- The Columbian Exchange
- Labor, slavery, and caste in the Spanish colonial system
- Cultural interactions between Europeans, Native Americans, and Africans

Unit 2: Period 2: 1607–1754

You'll study the colonies established in the New World by the Spanish, French, Dutch, and British.

Topics may include:

- How different European colonies developed and expanded
- Transatlantic trade
- Interactions between American Indians and Europeans
- Slavery in the British colonies
- Colonial society and culture

Unit 3: Period 3: 1754–1800

You'll explore the events that led to the American Revolution and the formation of the United States and examine the early years of the republic.

Topics may include:

- The Seven Years' War
- The American Revolution
- The Articles of Confederation
- The creation and ratification of the Constitution
- Developing an American identity
- Immigration to and migration within America

Unit 4: Period 4: 1800–1848

You'll examine how the young nation developed politically, culturally, and economically in this period.

Topics may include:

- The rise of political parties
- American foreign policy
- Innovations in technology, agriculture, and business
- Debates about federal power
- The Second Great Awakening
- Reform movements
- The experience of African Americans

Unit 5: Period 5: 1844–1877

You'll learn how the nation expanded and you'll explore the events that led to the secession of Southern states and the Civil War.

Topics may include:

- Manifest Destiny
- The Mexican–American War
- Attempts to resolve conflicts over the spread of slavery
- The election of 1860 and Southern secession
- The Civil War
- Reconstruction

Unit 6: Period 6: 1865–1898

You'll examine the nation's economic and demographic shifts in this period and their links to cultural and political changes.

Topics may include:

- The settlement of the West
- The "New South"
- The rise of industrial capitalism
- Immigration and migration
- Reform movements
- Debates about the role of government

Unit 7: Period 7: 1890–1945

You'll examine America's changing society and culture and the causes and effects of the global wars and economic meltdown of this period.

Topics may include:

- Debates over imperialism
- The Progressive movement
- World War I

- Innovations in communications and technology in the 1920s
- The Great Depression and the New Deal
- World War II
- Postwar diplomacy

Unit 8: Period 8: 1945–1980

You'll learn about the rivalry between the Soviet Union and the United States, the growth of various civil rights movements, and the economic, cultural, and political transformations of this period.

Topics may include:

- The Cold War and the Red Scare
- America as a world power
- The Vietnam War
- The Great Society
- The African American civil rights movement
- Youth culture of the 1960s

Unit 9: Period 9: 1980–Present

You'll learn about the advance of political conservatism, developments in science and technology, and demographic shifts that had major cultural and political consequences in this period.

Topics may include:

- Reagan and conservatism
- The end of the Cold War
- Shifts in the economy
- Migration and immigration
- Challenges of the 21st century

Textbook

Foner, Eric. *Give Me Liberty!: An American History*. 7th edition WW Norton, 2012.

Grades

Grades are based on mastery of the subject matter through assessments such as multiple-choice exams, free-response and DBQ exams, quizzes, classwork and homework. Grades will use the following scale:

100-90=A	79-70=C	59-0=F
89-80= B	69-60=D	

Homework/Classwork = **35%** of final grades

Essays & Projects = **30%** of final grades

Test and Quizzes = **35%** of final grades

Exams & Quizzes

Exams and quizzes are essential components of the course, designed to prepare students for the rigor and format of the AP United States History Exam. Quizzes are administered regularly to reinforce essential material and key vocabulary. These short assessments help students solidify foundational knowledge and ensure ongoing engagement with the course content, which is critical for success both in class and on the AP exam. Exams are rigorous and intended to challenge students at the AP level. They provide frequent practice with multiple-choice questions, free-response questions, and document-based questions, all of which mirror the format of the AP exam. This regular testing encourages students to stay current with textbook and supplementary readings, maintain thorough and organized notes, and continuously check for understanding.

Homework

While formal homework assignments are rarely given, students are expected to complete any classwork not finished during the school day on their own time. In addition, students are required to read the textbook outside of our scheduled class periods. A suggested reading schedule is provided to help students pace their reading and stay on track with course content.

Students are also encouraged to review key vocabulary terms regularly outside of class to reinforce understanding and retention. On average, students should plan to spend approximately **one hour per week** on course-related work outside of class. Staying consistent with reading and review will be essential for success in both the class and the AP exam.

Make-Up Work

- Attendance is an important factor in achieving success in the classroom, and will be monitored.
- When absent, assignments and necessary links can be found on Canvas. *Do not ask for missed assignments during class. You are responsible for retaining the missed materials and speaking to Mr. Laubacher outside of class time, if necessary.*
- If you are absent for ANY reason (including field trips, sports, ASB Responsibilities, etc.), you have 3 school days to make up the homework or classwork.
- If homework is due the class that you missed, you must turn in your homework the next class you are present.
- If you miss a test or quiz, you will have one week to make up the test or quiz. Make-up times are during Lunch.
- Failure to make up tests and quizzes within the specified time will result in a half credit grade for the test or quiz. No quizzes can be made up after we have completed the Unit Exam.
- You have access to the gradebooks on STUDENTVUE and Canvas, and therefore there is NO EXCUSE at the end of the Semester for missing work. Be vigilant about looking at your grades, if you miss an assignment because you are absent, it is your responsibility to make it up.
- Failure to turn in assignments or complete tests by the end of the semester will result in a grade of zero.
- Exceptions will be granted only for extenuating circumstances once a conversation with Mr. Laubacher has taken place.

Code of Conduct:

1. Students must be respectful to the teacher, their peers, and any guests. Students must quietly and actively listen to the teacher or guest, in addition to any peer who has been granted permission to speak by the teacher.
2. Profanity/negative comments will NOT be tolerated!
3. Students must be in their seats when the bell rings. Tardies result in reduction of points.
4. Students are required to remain seated at all times unless permission has been granted by the teacher. Exception: Kleenex
5. Students must ALWAYS clean up after themselves.
6. No hats or hoodies on during class time. And as per school policy, no professional sports team attire or other symbols that can be deemed gang related.
7. No food, gum, or drinks allowed in class. Exception: water.
8. No use of cosmetics or hair combing during class time.
9. Earbuds should be put away and out of sight.
10. No cell phones allowed except for when stated by Mr. Laubacher
**If there is an emergency or extenuating circumstance where you will need to keep in contact with a parent I will need to be made aware of this instance before class begins or via email. Otherwise your phone will be confiscated.

Discipline Policy: (Dependent Upon Severity of the Behavior/Action)

1. Teacher Warning: Verbal
2. 1 on 1 Meeting with Student
3. Email to Parent/Phone Call/Letter Home
4. Notification to Administration
5. Parent Conference

Plagiarism/Cheating:

Plagiarism will not be tolerated! Copying and/or turning in work that is not your own is not acceptable. Students will receive no credit on any plagiarized assignment and parents will be notified. School administration will be notified upon repeat offenses.

Classroom Materials:

In order to be successful in this class, students will need to come to class prepared. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Chromebook with enough charge to last the entire period
- Pen or pencil for writing
- Notebook/loose leaf paper for notes
- Headphones for watching videos on AP Classroom
- Any other materials as required by the teacher (prior notice will be given)