Advanced Placement United States History Course Syllabus

Department:	History Department
Instructor:	Mr. Kevin Carey
Education:	BA History, emphasis in United States History and emphasis in Latin American History. University of San Francisco, '97. MA Education, University of San Frac , '10. California State Credential Single Subject History/Social Science & California State Multiple Subject Credential.
Textbook:	Kennedy, David and Lizabeth Cohen. *The American Pageant*. 16th ed. Boston: Cengage Learning, 2015. Newman, John J. and John M. Schmalbach, *United States History: Preparing for the Advanced Placement Examination*. New York: AMSCO Publications, INC. 2020.

Course Description:
AP U.S. History is a survey course covering American history from the Pre-Columbian period to the present. The class is taught in accordance with the AP U.S. History curriculum framework, and is designed to prepare students for the AP U.S. History Exam in May. UC/CSU Approved 2025-2026, Social Science Area A.

Additional Required Materials:
- An open, thinking mind and a positive attitude
- A large binder with tabs for handouts, notes, essays etc.
- Notebook
- Binder Paper
- Black or Blue Pens/Highlighter
- Laptop/Computer Device
- Headphones

Department Outcomes:

At the completion of the required coursework a student should be able to:

- Recognize and describe the origins, developments and significance of major world cultures and civilizations.
- Recognize and describe major social, economic, political and geographic themes in human history.
- Demonstrate competence in outlining, summarizing and note-taking of written materials.
- Demonstrate competence in the research, organization and writing of formal expository, comparative and argumentative essays.
- Communicate clearly and participate in discussions, debates and presentations.

Course Outcomes:

Students will:

- master a broad body of historical knowledge
- demonstrate an understanding of historical chronology
- use historical data to support an argument or position
- interpret and apply data from original documents including graphs, cartoons, letters, etc.
- effectively use analytical skills of evaluation, comparing, and contrasting, and determining cause and effect.
- work effectively with others to produce projects and solve problems.
- prepare for the Advanced Placement Exam.

Technology and Taking Pictures, Videos, and Audio Recording:

- The Junipero Serra Student-Parent Handbook outlines an explicit policy regarding the use of technology in the classroom - including personal electronic devices. Personal electronic devices include but are not limited to cell phones, ipads, ipods and any music and/or recording devices. All electronic devices must be silenced and out of sight unless required by a teacher for an educational purpose. The student's personal electronic device must be used in a manner consistent with the School Acceptable Use Policy.
- Please note: "Students may not use any device to take pictures, videos or audio recordings at any school event unless previous authorization has been granted by the school. Any improper use of technology where a device has been used to take an inappropriate picture of another person or a picture has been taken without consent is considered disruptive and harmful to the Junípero Serra High School community. This includes but is not limited to improper snapshots of people, places, phone/computer contents, items, tests and other documents. Students who film, photograph or record anything without expressed consent from a teacher or administrator will be subject to immediate suspension and/or expulsion." (p.54 of the Student-Parent Handbook).
- All electronic, communication or recording devices are not allowed in your possession during tests. If a student is found to have a prohibited device in his possession during a test, he will receive an extra 3 hours of detention on top of an honor code violation and its associated penalties (p.23 of Student-Parent Handbook). If devices are stored in a designated area during class time, students are responsible for retrieving their own devices from the teacher. Likewise, the teacher is not responsible for any damage that might occur to the phones while they are being stored.
- Students are not permitted to leave the classroom with their phones during class time. The teacher will set up a location for storing phones while students are out of the classroom.
- As stated in the Student-Parent Handbook, "For the safety and good order of the school wireless headphones, earbuds and similar technology will only be allowed during class and/or independent study periods when permission is granted by a teacher or staff member." (p.52 of Student-Parent Handbook).

Homework Policy:

- Home and class assignments will include notes, questions, reviews, worksheets, map studies, current events, and other assignments. Students will have homework every night, success will be ensured to students who thoroughly read and reread the assigned material.
- It is expected that all students complete all assignments and turn them in on time.
- The course website is another important tool for information. Students will be required to use it to download worksheets, reading materials and homework assignments. Students should bookmark this website and check it daily. A link has also been provided on the Serra webpage. With the course pacing guide, class calendar and Website there are no excuses for falling behind.

Schedules/Website:

- A class schedule will be handed out the first day of school. This schedule will cover the entire semester and what to expect in the class. (Class work/ Homework/Due Dates etc) Schedules are key if students are absent from class. Most assignments will be linked on the class schedule or linked on Google Classroom.
- Mr. Carey's **website** is another important tool for information. Students should bookmark this website and check it daily. A link has also been provided on the Serra webpage. With the **Schedule, Website and Google Classroom** there are no excuses for falling behind.

Attendance:

- At some time or another this year, a student may be absent. Excused absences are required to make up a test and must be arranged for make-up within three days of the absence. If students are absent or miss part of a class due to an early dismissal, it is their responsibility to find out what the class assignment/ homework is and complete it on time! There is no excuse to fall behind! The successful student exchanges contact info with classmates and follows up with the teacher when he returns. It is very important that students communicate with the instructor if an absence occurs and refer to the website and/or Google Classroom if assignments/information is needed. Attendance and Grading Policies: (p. 10-13, 27-33 of the Student-Parent Handbook)

Late Work Policy:

Major (summative) Assignments:

- These assignments are given to assess student achievement of the learning outcomes of the course. In general they constitute a significant part of the student's grade, and may also be given well in advance of the due date.
- Examples may include tests, research papers, major projects or presentations, and major writing assignments.
- 10% will be deducted from the final grade each class day the assignment is late.

Minor (formative) Assignments:

- These assignments are given in order to prepare students for a specific class, but may have limited value to assess student learning if they are turned in late.
- Examples may include reading analysis, quizzes, daily homework assignments, or preparatory assignments for class discussions.
- Students can earn partial credit (up to 70%) if the assignment is submitted before the end of the unit. If the unit has been completed, the work will not be accepted. For example, if the unit exam is on a Friday - any late work would need to be submitted before the end of class for partial credit.

Whether or not late work will be accepted in such circumstances is up to the teacher's discretion. This policy excludes tests & quizzes.

Additional Support:
Students are always free to seek help from me during Office Hours and support is also available in the Academic Success Lab in the Stinson Center, Monday through Thursday, 2:40-3:30 PM. Drop-ins are welcome.

Honor Code:
It is expected that all students adhere to the established honor code of conduct at Junípero Serra High School as outlined in the student handbook. The Honor Code, as reviewed at the start of each semester, will be enforced and upheld. Academic Honor Code: (p.22 of Student-Parent Handbook)

Artificial Intelligence

- Students are expected to complete assignments, projects, and assessments using their own thoughts, research, and understanding.
- Using AI-generated content for the purpose of completing assignments is strictly prohibited and constitutes plagiarism unless otherwise specifically instructed by the teacher for each particular assignment.
- If student work is suspected of being AI-generated, the burden of proof will be on the student to substantiate that the work is his.

Evaluation:

Semester grades will be comprised of two components:

- Coursework 80%
- A comprehensive final exam 20%

Grade Scale:

A = 93	B = 83 - 86	C = 73 - 73	D = 63 -66
A- = 90 - 92	B- = 80 - 82	C- = 70 - 72	D- = 60 - 62
B+ = 87 - 89	C+ = 77 - 79	D+ = 67 - 69	F = 0 - 59

Extra Credit:
Extra credit opportunities may be given that require outside of class time commitment. Extra credit assignments are not mandatory and their undertaking is a decision made by the student and parents/guardians. Parents/guardians and students may be required to travel on their own via their own means of transportation. Students are reminded that they are still subject to the norms of student conduct & the code of Christian Conduct (Refer to page 10 of the Student handbook). Neither Serra High School nor the Archdiocese of San Francisco will be responsible for any injuries or damages that occur during the voluntary participation of extra credit activities.

Classroom Behavior:
It is expected that all students adhere to the established code of conduct at Junipero Serra High School. Refer to page 9 of the Student handbook. School policy as outlined in the student handbook will be enforced. Differences of opinion will exist and it is important that these are handled in a mature and courteous manner. Likewise, disruptions are not acceptable. They are unfair to both the teacher who has prepared the lesson and to the other students who want to learn. We must always remember that our actions and attitude greatly impact others and that we are all in this together.

ALL RULES/POLICIES ARE SUPERSEDED BY JUNIPERO SERRA HIGH SCHOOL'S RULES AND REGULATIONS.