AP US History
2026-27
11th Grade
Instructional Plan

August 10, 2026

Contact Information

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WHAT IS AP (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)?

AP courses aim to teach students the skills and information needed to pass an end of year exam given by the College Board. Any student who receives a score of three (or above) on College Board's five-point grading system typically receives college credit by most public colleges.

Moreover, regardless of exam score, many colleges and universities view participation in the AP program as a sign of a motivated student. The course is advanced not only in reading and writing, but in the depth of the material. Students taking this course will learn at an accelerated pace and must exhibit responsibility, good work ethic, and a drive to learn to achieve college readiness skills and (potential) college

COURSE ACTIVITIES (What we will be doing)

Below you will find descriptions of the most common activities that students will participate in during the course of each semester.

Throughout the year, students will:

- **Videos and Notes -** Students will start each week's study by reading and taking notes. I ask students to study and use these notes with in-class activities. All in-class assignments build from the videos and reading, so completing outside work is paramount. Please note that all assignments and material will be linked through Google Classroom.
- **Unit Tests-** At the end of each unit we will have a test that resembles the format of the APUSH exam.
    - The writing assessment will reflect the writing portion of the AP exam (SAQ, LEQ, DBQ).
    - The AP style multiple choice questions.
    - Each count as part of a major grade.
    - Tests will be curved using the square root method.
    - Although "retakes" are not allowed in AP Classes, I encourage everyone to complete corrections on their Unit Tests, as they are preparing us for the Exam in the Spring.

GRADES - Click here for → YWLA Grading Policy

Major (Test, Projects, Writing)	60%
Minor (Notes, Daily Work)	40%

Classroom Resources

- AP Textbook
- Google Classroom
- Heimler Videos on Youtube
- Crash Course AP US History

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AP US History Exam Date: Friday May 7th

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND TOPICS

Course and Exam Periods:

Pre-Columbian Contacts (1491-1607) 4-6%
Colonial Settlement and Expansion (1607-1754) 6-8%
Revolution and Constitutional Origins (1754-1800) 10-17%
Early National Period (1800-1848) 10-17%
Sectionalism, Civil War, and Reconstruction (1844-1877) 10-17%
Industrialism and Economic Expansion (1865-1898) 10-17%
Progressivism and U.S. Imperialism (1890-1945) 10-17%
The Cold War Era (1945-1980) 10-17%
United States and Globalization (1980-Present) 4-6%

Optional Materials/Resources

Textbook and Supplemental Resources:

- *American Pageant,* AP Edition 16th Edition by David M. Kennedy, Lizabeth Cohen - *AMSCO Advanced Placement United States History*, 4th Edition by John J. Newman, John M. Schmalbach

The Exam:

Question Type **Number** **Time** **Percentage of Exam** Multiple Choice 55 55 minutes 40% Short-Answer Questions 3 40 minutes 20% Document-Based Question 1 65 minutes 25% Long-Essay Question 1 40 minutes 15%

Course Design:

Our AP classroom is designed as an active learning, flipped classroom. Below you will find descriptions of the terminology and an overview of how our class functions.

- **Flipped Classroom:** a mode of instruction where students complete the easier version of the work (reading\videos, identifying key terms, & notetaking) at home or on their own. We then use class time to apply and use the content learned at home.
- **Active Learning:** an instructional approach where students are expected to be more involved in the learning process instead of being passive recipients of information.

News:

- Students are required to regularly watch/read the daily news. Most, if not all, sources are available online. If students are unable to watch programs at their regular schedules, access their programming from their websites.

Television: NBC Nightly News, Meet the Press, Face the Nation, The Daily Show, Last Week Tonight

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Newspaper and Magazines: The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, Time, Newsweek, The Economist
Online: Politico.com, npr.org, c-span.org, gallup.com, reuters.com, bbc.com, thehill.com

Please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns. We are excited to work together to make this a successful year of learning!
