**AP United States History**

**Syllabus**



Instructor: Ms. Emily Durbin

Room #: 327

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**Course Description**: Advanced Placement U.S. History is a college-level introductory course, which examines the nations’ political, diplomatic, intellectual, cultural, social, and economic history from 1491-present. A variety of instructional approaches are employed and a college-level textbook is supplemented by primary and secondary sources.

**AP EXAM**: The Advanced Placement exam for U.S. History will take place on Friday, May 6, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. This exam is highly recommended for students to receive college credit with a passing grade of 3 or above on the exam. This exam consists of 55 multiple-choice questions, 4 short answer questions, a document-based question essay (DBQ), and a free-response question (FRQ) essay. The exam lasts approximately three hours and fifteen minutes.

The cost of the exam is $89. \*\*Fee reduction available for families that qualify for free/reduced lunch

**END OF INSTRUCTION EXAM:** Each student is required by the state of Oklahoma to take an End of Instruction exam in U.S. History. Students are required to pass 4 of 7 EOI exams in order to receive their high school diploma. All students enrolled in U.S. History WILL take the EOI exam.

**Rules and Expectations:**

1. Reciprocity (respect others and they will respect you back)
2. Be on time
3. Be prepared
4. Common sense cell phone rule
5. Have an open mind

**Textbooks, Supplemental Texts, and Resources:**

* Kennedy, David and Lizabeth Cohen. ***The American Pageant***. 15th Edition. Boston: Wadsworth, Cengage Learning, 2013.
* Loewen, James W. ***Lies My Teacher Told Me: Everything Your American History Textbook Got Wrong*.** New York: New, 1995.

**Materials:**

**\*\*BRING TO CLASS EVERYDAY**

**Failure to bring these materials will result in a zero participation grade for the class period.**

* Pen and/or pencil
* Composition book or spiral for daily “Do Now”
* One-inch binder (this binder will be ONLY for this class)
* Binder dividers (optional)
* Notebook paper
* Highlighter(s)

**Make up work/Late work policies:**

If you are going to be absent for class, please inform the teacher **by email** AHEAD OF TIME if possible. Make up work will be allowed with an ***excused absence*** and will be due one day following the student’s return to class (\*unless indicated by the teacher). The student is responsible for contacting the teacher regarding make up work. Make up work will **NOT** be allowed for truancy or an unexcused absence. The student will receive a zero for daily participation points as well as any work completed in class that day.

\*\*\*Make up quizzes and exams will be allowed for students with an ***excused absence***. Please inform the teacher ahead of time (if possible). The student is responsible for scheduling a time **before or after school** to make up the quiz or exam.

\*\*\*Projects and term papers are due on the assigned deadline. NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR THESE ASSIGNMENTS.

**Course Assignments and Activities:**

Daily Participation points- Students will receive 5 points in class every day for being an active participant in their learning experience. Points will be deducted for the following: tardiness, not bringing materials to class, disrespect or any disruptive behavior. The student will be given a grade for participation on a weekly basis (total of 15 points a week).

Weekly reading quizzes- Students will be assigned textbook reading and/or videos to watch every week. Students will take a vote at the beginning of the year to determine when the quizzes will take place. Quizzes will be **timed** and consist of multiple choice questions and/or short answer questions similar to what will appear on the AP exam. STUDENTS CAN USE NOTES FROM THEIR READING ON THE QUIZZES. However, notes from their reading will not be included in their grade for the course. *At the end of each quarter, the teacher will drop the lowest quiz score for each student*.

In-class activities- various strategies will be used in class to strengthen students’ knowledge of U.S. History and their ability to use the historical thinking skills. These strategies include lectures, videos, analyzing primary and secondary sources, class discussions, debates, projects, presentations, etc. ***Students will keep their lecture notes and other handouts in their AP U.S. History binder****.*

Term papers- Students will complete one term paper per semester worth 200 points each. The teacher will give students a handout detailing the expectations for the term paper.

Exams- Students will be given 6 unit exams throughout the year. A tentative exam schedule is included in the course outline. Each exam is worth 100 points.

**WEEKLY POINTS**

**Students will earn 100 points per week**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **In Class-Activities** | **60 points** |
| **Weekly Reading Quizzes** | **20 points** |
| **Participation** | **15 points** |
| **Do Nows** | **5 points** |

**AP U.S. HISTORY COURSE OUTLINE**

**9 time periods for**

**AP U.S. History exam**

**Period 1: 1491-1607 Period 2: 1607-1754 Period 3: 1754-1800**

**Period 4: 1800-1848 Period 5: 1844-1877 Period 6: 1865-1898**

**Period 7: 1890-1945 Period 8: 1945-1980 Period 9: 1980-present**

**Units of Study:**

Each unit of study will address the concept questions as related to the time period.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Themes** | **Concept Questions** |
| Identity | How has the American national identity changed over time? |
| Work, Exchange, and Technology | How have changes in markets, transportation, and technology affected American society? |
| Peopling | How have changes in migration and population patterns affected American life? |
| Politics and Power | How have various groups sought to change the federal government’s role in American political, social, and economic life? |
| America in the World | How has U.S. involvement in global conflicts set the stage for domestic social change? |
| Environment and Geography | How did the institutions and values between the environment and Americans shape various groups in North America? |
| Ideas, Beliefs, and Cultures | How have changes in moral, philosophical, and cultural values affected U.S. History? |

**Historical Thinking Skills:**

AP courses are designed to focus on critical and analytical thinking.

**Chronological Reasoning**

--Historical Causation

--Patterns of Continuity and Change over Time

--Periodization

**Comparison and Contextualization**

--Comparison

--Contextualization

**Crafting historical arguments**

--Historical Argumentation

--Appropriate Use of Relevant Historical Evidence

**Historical interpretation and synthesis**

--Historiography

Tentative Exam Schedule

**SEMESTER 1**

Exam One

(Period 1 & 2 1491-1754)

Exam Two

(Period 3 & 4 1754-1848)

Exam Three

(Period 5 & 6 1844-1898)

**SEMESTER 2**

Exam Four

(Period 7 1890-1945)

Exam Five

(Period 8 1945-1980)

Exam Six

(Period 9 1980-Present)

**AP EXAM**

**FRIDAY, MAY 6, 2016 at 8:00am**