## **APUSH Course Syllabus Fall 2015**

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### Course Purpose

Advanced Placement United States History is a college level survey course that introduces students to the rich political, cultural, social, and intellectual heritage of the US. It is part of a cooperative endeavor by high schools, colleges, and The College Board that provides highly motivated students the challenge and opportunity to earn college credit during their high school years. Performance on the College Board’s APUSH exam determines a student’s eligibility for up to six hours of college credit (the equivalent of two-semester courses). Course curriculum, materials, and expectations are designed to prepare students for success with this three-hour test. The purpose of the course, however, extends beyond the possibility of earning college credit by providing students with the opportunity to develop skills and knowledge that will form a useful foundation for their continuing educational endeavors.

**Essential Skills and Knowledge**

In addition to providing a basic exposure to the factual narrative, the goals of APUSH are to develop (a) an understanding of some of the principal themes in modern history, (b) an ability to analyze historical evidence, and (c) an ability to express that understanding and analysis in writing.

Students in this course are expected to demonstrate knowledge of basic chronology of major events and trends from the arrival of Columbus in 1492 to the contemporary time period. The broad themes of intellectual-cultural, political-diplomatic, and social-economic history form the basis of the course within that chronology.

This course includes both the study of history as content and methodology. Emphasis is placed on students developing intellectual and academic skills including (a) effective analysis of primary sources, including documents, maps, statistics, pictorial, and graphic evidence, (b) effective note taking, (c) clear and precise written expression, and (d) the ability to weigh evidence and reach conclusions on the basis of facts.

### Course Requirements

Students enrolled in this course should be aware that AP classes are taught and graded at the college level and significantly exceed the demands and expectations of other courses. ***No late work is accepted***. Exams are given in a combination format of objective multiple choice questions and free response essays. Quizzes may be given on all reading assignments at any time, announced or unannounced. This includes the previous day’s notes. Therefore, it is imperative to complete assigned readings to be prepared for this class. Each student is expected to keep a 3-ring notebook (with pockets if possible) of all materials in chronological order according to chapters read. The purpose of the notebook is to help students organize and maintain the resources needed for class tests, semester exams, and the AP exam. It should include all chapter exercises, lecture/class notes, and class work including maps, worksheets, and charts. Notebook checks will occur randomly. Document–based questions will also be included as part of the essay writing assignments throughout the year. A mid-term exam will be given (December 2014) as well as a final exam (May 2015). The College Board AP exam (May 2015) is a comprehensive exam, covering material from the entire school year. This is a challenging exam and on-going preparation **is a must** throughout this school year.

**Assignments:** Assignments will be given throughout the semester that may include, but not limited to, the following: class notes, reading assignments, map work, group discussions, oral presentations, and study guides. **Assignments will count for 20 percent of your grade.**

**Quizzes/Exams:** Quizzes will generally be given to ensure that you, the student, are reading and comprehending the material. These may be both announced and unannounced as need be. **You should always be ready for a quiz**. Exams will cover material from one chapter and will be given roughly every 3-4 weeks depending upon the amount of material needing to be addressed. **Quizzes and exams will count for 80 percent of your grade.** Exams/quizzes will check for learning of the chapter objectives as well as other content material relating to the objectives.

### Attendance

Attendance is very important in AP courses. Students should be on time daily and avoid scheduling appointments during this class period whenever possible. Tardiness to class is not acceptable. Students are expected to be in the room when the bell rings. The school tardy policy, as noted in the student handbook, will be enforced.

### Conduct

Appropriate conduct is expected at all times. Further information will be provided in class, i.e., right now.

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|  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **APUSH 2015-2016** | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Reading and Testing Schedule | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | **Week** | **Ch.** | **Assessment Type** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Aug 24-28 | 1 | Assessment #1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Aug 31-Sept 4 | 2 | Period 1 Exam |  | **Notes:** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Sept 8-11 | 3 | Assessment #2 |  | Period exams include content from that week's chapter. | | | | | | |  |  |  | | Sept 14-18 | 4 | Period 2 Exam |  | Assessments and exams take place on the last class day of the week. | | | | | | | |  |  | | Sept 21-25 | 5 | Assessment #3 |  | \*Thanksgiving Break: Chapter 14 is assigned over break but tested the following week with Ch. 15. | | | | | | | | | | | Sept 28-Oct 2 | 6 | Assessment #4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Oct 5-9 | 7 | Assessment #5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Oct 12-15 | 8 | Period 3 Exam |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Oct 19-22 | 9 | Assessment #6 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Oct 26-30 | 10 | Assessment #7 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Nov 2-5 | 11 | Assessment #8 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Nov 9-13 | 12 | Period 4 Exam |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Nov 16-20 | 13 | Assessment #9 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Nov 22-23\* | 14 | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Nov 30-Dec 4 | 15 | Assessment #10 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Dec 7-11 | 16 | Assessment #11 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Dec 14-18 | - | **First Sem. Final** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Jan 6-8 | 17 | Assessment #12 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Jan 11-15 | 18 | Assessment #13 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Jan 19-22 | 19 | Assessment #14 |  | **Notes:** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Jan 25-29 | 20 | Period 6 Exam |  | \*Alternate assignment (no chapter). | | | | |  |  |  |  |  | | Feb 1-5 | 21 | Assessment #15 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Feb 8-12 | 22 | Assessment #16 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Feb 15-18 | 23 | Assessment #17 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Feb 22-26 | 24 | Period 7 Exam |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Feb 29-Mar 3 | 25 | Assessment #18 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Mar 7-10 | 26 | Assessment #19 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Mar 11-20 | Other\* | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Mar 21-25 | 27 | Assessment #20 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Mar 28-Apr 1 | 28 | Assessment #21 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Apr 4-8 | 29 | Period 8 Exam |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Apr 11-15 | 30 | Assessment #22 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Apr 18-22 | 31 | Period 9 Exam |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | Apr 25-29 | - | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | May 2-6 | - | **EXAM: MAY 6** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
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