Syllabus for Advanced Placement United States History

General Course Information

Introduction

AP U.S. History is a challenging course that is meant to be the equivalent of a freshman college course and can earn students college credit. You will need solid reading and writing skills, along with a willingness to devote considerable time to homework and study, are necessary to succeed. Emphasis is placed on critical and evaluative thinking skills, essay writing, interpretation of original documents, and historiography.

This is essentially a college course that is rather demanding, and is one that requires you to put forth your best effort on a DAILY basis. Due to the challenging nature of the course, an extra grade point will be added to your course G.P.A. You have ample opportunity to demonstrate that you are academically competent learners, effective communicators, productive individuals, culturally aware individuals, and involved citizens.

Class will be a combination of lecture, group work, coverage of discussion questions, and answering student questions. Occasionally student essays, reports, or presentations will be required. Most essays will be scored on a 9-point scale, similar to the one used on the AP exam.

Curricular Requirements

CR1 – Study of political institutions, social and cultural developments, diplomacy, and economic trends in U.S. History.

CR2 – Use of themes and/or broad parameters for structure of the course

CR3 – Analysis of evidence and interpretations in historical scholarship

CR4 – Extensive instruction in analysis and interpretation of a wide variety of primary sources

CR5 – Frequent practice in writing analytical and interpretive essays such as document based questions and thematic essays.

Course of Study

Themes:

- **American Diversity** – The diversity of the American people and the relationships among different groups. The roles of class, ethnicity, and gender in the history of the United States.
- **American Identity** – Views of American national character and ideas about American exceptionalism. Recognizing regional differences within the context of what it means to be an American.
- **Culture** – Diverse individual and collective expressions through literature, art, philosophy, music, theater, and film throughout U.S. history. Popular culture and the dimensions of cultural conflict within American society.
- **Demographic Changes** – Changes in birth, marriage, and death rates; life expectancy and family patterns; population size and density. The economic, social, and political effects of immigration, internal migration, and migration networks.
- **Economic Transformations** – Changes in trade, commerce, and technology across time. The effects of capitalist development, labor and unions, and consumerism.
- **Environment** – Ideas about the consumption and conservation of natural resources. The impact of population growth, industrialization, pollution, and urban and suburban expansion.
- **Globalization** – Engagement with the rest of the world from the fifteenth century to the present: colonialism, mercantilism, development of markets, imperialism, and cultural exchanges.
- **Politics and Citizenship** – Colonial and revolutionary legacies, American political traditions, growth of democracy, and the development of the modern state. Defining citizenship and the struggle for civil rights.
- **Reform** – Diverse movements focusing on a broad range of issues, including anti-slavery, education, labor, temperance, women’s rights, civil rights, war, public health, and government.
- **Religion** – The variety of religious beliefs and practices in America from the colonial era to the twenty-first century; influence of religion on politics, economics, and society.
- **Slavery and Its Legacies** – Systems of slave labor and other forms of unfree labor in Native American societies, the Atlantic World, and the American South and West. The economics of slavery and its racial dimensions. Patterns of resistance and the long term economic, political, and social effects of slavery.

- **War and Diplomacy** – Armed conflict from the colonial period to the twenty-first century; impact of war on American foreign policy and on politics, economy, and society.

These fundamental threads will be woven into the course over the entire year. Students will also be asked to analyze three major themes which incorporate all of the above threads. Those themes are:

1. **The development of an American identity and drive for democracy through cooperation and struggle.** The American identity and drive for democracy has evolved through a series of events despite its racial, ethnic, and religious diversity. This diversity has been a source of strength and tension that has led to the shaping of the democratic society that we live in today. Since its inception, the United States has struggled to define the characteristics of freedom and equality and to create a nation which the ideals of democracy are a reality.

2. **The development of the United States as a leader in the world through diplomacy and war.** The role of the United States as a leader in world politics has ranged from isolationist to imperialist to interventionist to global superpower. This development is the function of both diplomacy and war.

3. **The progression of economic development of the United States through technological development, interaction with the environment, and reliance on human resources.** Since its founding the U.S. has been driven by economic forces that have produced technological change as well as extensive use of natural resources. The human side of U.S. economic development has been a product of immigration and migration.

**Topic Outline**

- Discovery and Settlement of the New World 1492-1650
- America and the British Empire 1650-1754
- Colonial Society in the Mid-Eighteenth Century
- Road To Revolution 1754-1775
- The American Revolution 1175-1783
- Constitution and New Republic 1776-1800
- The Age of Jefferson 1800-1816
- Nationalism and Economic Expansion
- Sectionalism
- Age of Jackson
- Territorial Expansion and Sectional Crisis
- Creating an American Culture
- The 1850's: Decade of Crisis
- Civil War
- Reconstruction to 1877
- New South and Last West
- Industrialization and Corporate Consolidation
- Urban Society
- Intellectual and Cultural Movements
- National Politics 1877-1896: The Gilded Age
- Foreign Policy 1865-1914
- Progressive Era
- The First World War
- New Era: 1920's
- Depression 1929-1933
- New Deal
- Diplomacy in the 1930's
- The Second World War
- Truman and the Cold War
• Eisenhower and Modern Republicanism
• Kennedy's New Frontier; Johnson's Great Society
• Nixon
• The United States since 1974

Textbook

Supplemental Books and Readings:

Attendance
Regular attendance is ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL in this class. I will strictly enforce the school attendance policy. Students with persistent attendance problems will be transferred to another class.

Classroom Management
I can not overstate the importance of taking excellent class notes. They will be of great help not only for the test preparation this year, but also for reviewing for the AP test in May. Each one of you is expected to take an active part in class on a daily basis. When you enter this room, be prepared to think, ask questions, and make comments. If you have difficulties in this class, feel free to drop by for extra help. If special problems arise, see me as soon as possible, so that we can work things out. If you are having “one of those days”, let me know before class begins so that I can accordingly make allowances.

Grades
I use the following grading scale as is published in the school agenda. Effort and improvement are considered in the grading process.

\[
\begin{align*}
A &= 95-100 \\
A- &= 92-94 \\
B+ &= 89-91 \\
B &= 85-88 \\
B- &= 82-84 \\
C+ &= 78-81 \\
C &= 74-77 \\
C- &= 70-73 \\
D+ &= 67-69 \\
D &= 63-66 \\
D- &= 60-62 \\
F &= \text{Below 60}
\end{align*}
\]

Your nine weeks grade will be based on the following factors:

- Test scores: 40%
- Free Response and Document Based Question scores: 30%
- Quizzes and Daily Work Scores: 30%

Your semester and final grade will be determined by the following factors:

- Semester: quarter grade 40% - quarter grade 40% - semester exam 20%
- Final: Grade First Semester grade 50% - Second Semester grade 50%
Homework
Expect nightly reading assignments. **TAKE THESE SERIously**! If you do not read, you will not do well in this course. Read to understand; do not read just to "get it done". Late work is usually not accepted. If you are going to be absent, you are responsible to see me as soon as possible to find out what you missed and if there are any assignments that do not appear on the syllabus.

Tests/Quizzes
Tests will be a combination of multiple choice and essay questions. The tests will be in this form to simulate the style of the AP Exam. Tests will be used to check your knowledge of historical data and to show that you can apply that knowledge to draw conclusions about the information’s importance in a larger historical sense. Quizzes may consist of objective type questions as well as free response questions.

Reading and Work Schedule

Reading and Writing Assignments
Each chapter in the text is to be read by the beginning of each week. You will then be given a multiple choice quiz on the reading assignment at the end of the week. In addition to covering the text material, you may be required to complete a variety of other assignments (readings, essays, projects, and activities) that deal with the material of the time period assigned.

Text book readings are due by the first class meeting of the week that they are assigned. Other assignments will be given due dates as they are assigned.

**Week One:** Exploration, Discovery, and Settlement/The 13 Colonies and the British Empire
- **MT1-** What was the impact of the Indians, Europeans, and Africans when each of their previously separate worlds “collided”?
- **MT2-** In what ways might the European encounter with the Americas be seen as a disaster or a tragedy, and in what ways might it be seen as an inevitable development in history with long-run positive results?
- **MT3-** Compare and contrast the early colonial empires of Spain, England, and France in terms of motives, economic foundations, and relations with Indians.

American Pageant: Chapters 1 and 2
Newman: Chapters 1 and 2.
Cover syllabus and reading schedules, Introduce DBQ Activity (PERSIA)
Quiz #1

**Week Two:** Colonial Society in the 17th and 18th Centuries
- **MT1-** Compare and contrast the New England and middle colonies in terms of motive for founding, religious and social composition, and political development.
- **MT2-** Compare patterns of relationships between colonists in New England and Pennsylvania. Why did attempts at friendly relations fail?
- **MT3 –** In what ways did the Europeans and Africans who came to America in the 17th and 18th century shape their society and way of life to fit the conditions they faced in the New World?

American Pageant Chapters 3, 4, and 5
Newman - Chapter 3
Nash, Gary B. – “The Transformation of European Society” – Oates pp. 56-69
Quiz #2 –
DBQ Activity with 1993 DBQ (compare and contrast NE and Chesapeake colonies), Analyzing Primary Source Activity [APSA] – How to interpret visuals.

**Week Three:** Imperial Wars and Colonial Protest
• MT1- Explain why Britain’s success in defeating the French empire laid the foundations for future failures in dealing with its colonial subjects.
• MT2- Discuss why the British and their American colonial subjects win the contest with the French for control of North America.
• MT3- What was the theory and practice of mercantilism? What were the its actual impact in promoting protest amongst the colonists? How did salutary neglect lead to economic independence of the colonies?

Rubrics and Grading: Classroom activity on how AP Essays are graded by the College Board.
American Pageant Chapter 6 and 7
Newman Chapter 4
Quiz #3

Week Four: The American Revolution and Confederation
• MT1- What were the causes and consequences of the American Declaration of Independence? Specifically how did independence impact the social order in regard to women and blacks in America?
• MT2 – Describe the different courses of the War in New England, the Middle Atlantic, and the South.
• MT3 – To what extent were the Articles of Confederation’s demise a result of its inability to deal with key economic problems created by independence?
American Pageant Chapters 8 and 9
Newman Chapter 5

Week Five: The Constitution and the New Republic
• MT1- What were the most important issues facing the new federal government, and how did the Washington administration address them?
• MT2- What were the basic goals of Washington’s and Adams’ foreign policies, and how successful were they in achieving them?
• MT3- What were Hamilton’s basic economic and political goals, and how did he attempt to achieve them?

Week Six: The Age of Jefferson
• MT1- What was the significance of the Jeffersonian “Revolution of 1800” in relation to the new republican experiment and the fierce political battles of the 1790’s?
• MT1- How did the conflict between Federalists and Republicans over the judiciary lead to a balance of power among political interests and different branches of government?
• MT3- What were the political and economic consequences of the Louisiana Purchase?

DOCUMENT ANALYSIS: Jefferson’s Secret Message to Congress Regarding the Lewis & Clark Expedition
American Pageant Chapter 11
Newman Chapter 7
Quiz #5
FR: What was the significance of the Jeffersonian Revolution of 1800? To what extent was it truly a revolution?

Week Seven: War of 1812 / Nationalism and Economic Development
- MT1 - How did the forces of nationalism compete with sectional interests in the economic and judicial struggles of this period?
- MT2 – What were the causes of the War of 1812? To what extent did the results of the war address the causes?
- MT3 - Examine the economic results of Madison’s decision to go to war against Great Britain in 1812.

DOCUMENT ANALYSIS: Treaty of Ghent
American Pageant Chapter 12
Newman Chapter 8
Larkin, Jack - The Personal Side of a Developing People- Oates Vol. 1 - pp. 144-162
Test #2

Week Eight: Sectionalism
- MT1 - What were the factors that led to development of sectionalism?
- MT1 - Why did regional beliefs cause tensions among Americans?
- MT3 – Examine regional difference in regard to labor and perception of land use.

DOCUMENT ANALYSIS: Missouri Compromise of 1820
Newman Chapter 9
Quiz #6

Week Nine: The Age of Jackson
- MT1 – How did changes in the size and character of the population affect American social and political life from 1820-1840?
- MT1- How did Andrew Jackson change the office of the presidency?
- MT3 – What were the effects of the new factory and corporate systems of production on early industrial workers?

DOCUMENT ANALYSIS: President Andrew Jackson’s Message to Congress on Indian Removal
American Pageant Chapter 13
Newman Chapter 10
Remini, Robert V. - The Jacksonian Revolution - Oates Vol. 1 pp. 236-248
Quiz #7
FR – (2001) The Jacksonian Period (1824-1848) has been celebrated as the era of the “common man.” To what extent did the period live up to its characterization? Consider TWO of the following in your response: Economic development, Politics, Reform movements.

Week Ten: Society, Culture, and Reform 1820-1860
- MT1- What were the successes and failures of the many American reform movements of the early 19th century?
- MT1- Describe the complex structure of southern society. What role did plantation owners, small slaveholders, independent white farmers, poor whites, free blacks, and black slaves each have in the southern social order?

DOCUMENT ANALYSIS: Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions – Seneca Falls Convention
American Pageant Chapters 15 and 16
Newman Chapter 11
Test #3

Week Eleven: Territorial and Economic Expansion 1830-1860
- MT1- Most Americans believed that expansion across North America was their “destiny”. What social impact did territorial expansion have on American identity?
- MT3 – What led to the rise of “Manifest Destiny” in the 1840’s?

DOCUMENT ANALYSIS: Compromise of 1850
American Pageant Chapters 14 and 17
Newman Chapter 12
Week Twelve: The Union in Peril 1848-1861

- MT1 - To what extent did regional identity impact American politics during the ante-bellum period?
- MT2 - What efforts were made to avoid armed conflict between the regions? To what extent were these efforts successful and to what extent were they a failure?
- MT3 - How did the slave debate raise issues with immigrants?

DOCUMENT ANALYSIS: Dred Scot v. Sanford, Lincoln’s 1st Inaugural Address
American Pageant Chapters 18 and 19
Newman Chapter 13

Test #4

Week Thirteen: The Civil War 1861-1865

- MT1 - Explain the social impact of the Civil War on women, immigrants, and African-Americans.
- MT2 - What were the primary military strategies of each side, and how did each side attempt to carry out their goals?
- MT3 - Examine the impact of the war on the nation’s economy. Be specific in addressing regional differences in regard to this impact.

DOCUMENT ANALYSIS: Tables of agricultural exports 1840-1900, General Order 143, Gettysburg Address
American Pageant Chapters 20 and 21
Newman Chapter 14
McPherson, James M. - Why the Union Won - Oates Vol. 1 pp. 380-390
Quiz #9

FR: During wartime the rights of individual private citizens have often been curtailed. Discuss how this occurred during the Civil War. What was the response of the Courts?

Week Fourteen: Reconstruction

- MT1 & MT3 - What were the major problems facing the South and the nation after the Civil War? How did Reconstruction address them or fail to do so?

DOCUMENT ANALYSIS: 14th Amendment, Freedman’s Bureau Bill
American Pageant Chapter 22
Newman Chapter 15
Test #5

Semester Exam ????

Week Fifteen: The Last West and the New South

- MT1 - What social, ethnic, environmental factors made the trans-Mississippi a unique region?
- MT2 - How was the Indian question handled in the post war era?
- MT3 - To what extent was technology and geography a factor in the settlement of the West?

DOCUMENT ANALYSIS: Dawes Act
American Pageant Chapter 26
Newman Chapter 16
Brown, Dee - Women First Won the Right to Vote in the American West - Oates Vol. 2 - pp. 43-52
Quiz #10

FR - (1999) How were the lives of the Plains Indians in the second half of the 19th century affected by technological developments and government actions?
**Week Sixteen:** The Rise of Industrial America

- MT3-What was the impact of industrial combination on economic growth and labor?
- MT3-What early efforts were made to control the new corporate giants and how effective were these measures?

**DOCUMENT ANALYSIS: Sherman Anti-Trust Act**
American Pageant Chapter s 24 and 25
Newman Chapter 17
Heilbroner, Robert L. -The Master of Steel: Andrew Carnegie - Oates Vol. 2 - pp. 54-67
Smith, Paige - How the Other Side Lived - Oates Vol. 2 - pp. 68-79
Quiz #11

**Week Seventeen:** The Growth of Cities and American Culture

- MT1- What was the impact of immigration on American culture, politics, and economics?
- MT1- What new social problems did urbanization create? How did Americans respond to these problems?
- MT1-How did American social criticism, imaginative writing, and art all relate to the urban industrial changes of the late 19th century?

**DOCUMENT ANALYSIS: Excerpts of Riis’ *How the Other Half Lives***
American Pageant Chapter 25
Newman Chapter 18
Quiz #12

**Week Eighteen:** National Politics in the Gilded Age

- MT1-What were the results of the Compromise of 1877 for race relations? How were the political, economic, and social conditions for southern African-Americans interrelated?
- MT3-What caused the rise of the “money issue” in American politics?

**DOCUMENT ANALYSIS: Pendleton Civil Service Act**
American Pageant Chapter 23
Newman Chapter 19
Burns James MacGregor -The Populist Protest - Oates Vol. 2 - pp. 94-106
Test #6

**Week Nineteen:** Foreign Policy 1865-1914

- MT2-What were the essential principles of Theodore Roosevelt’s foreign policy, and how did he apply them to specific situations?
- MT3- How was the U.S. overseas imperialism from 1867-1914 similar to and different from earlier American expansion across North America (manifest destiny)?
- MT3- What were the key arguments for and against U.S. imperialism?

**DOCUMENT ANALYSIS: Joint Resolution to Provide for Annexing the Hawaiian Islands to the U.S., Theodore Roosevelt’s Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine**
American Pageant Chapter 27
Newman Chapter 20
Kohler, David R. and James W. Wensyel - America's First Southeast Asian War: The Philippine Insurrection Oates Vol. 2 - pp. 107-120
Quiz #13

**Week Twenty:** The Progressive Era 1901-1918

- MT1- Explain how the Progressive Era expanded democracy and provided social and economic justice for Americans on both the national and local level.
- MT2- How as Wilson’s foreign policy an attempt to expand idealistic progressive principles from the domestic to the international arena? Why did Wilson’s progressive democratic idealism lead to the kind of U.S. interventions he professed to dislike?
- MT3- How did the Progressive movement impact labor?

**DOCUMENT ANALYSIS: Keating-Owen Child Labor Act of 1918, 19th Amendment**
American Pageant Chapters 28 and 29
Week Twenty-one: World War I
- MT1- Did WWI substantially alter American society and culture or were its effects primarily an alteration of American ideas and world views?
- MT2- What caused American entry into WWI and how did Wilson turn the war into an ideological crusade?
- MT3- How did America economically address WWI?

DOCUMENT ANALYSIS: President Woodrow Wilson’s 14 Points
American Pageant Chapter 30
Newman Chapter 22

Fussell, Paul - “Hell Cannot Be So Terrible”: Trench Warfare on the Western Front - Oates Vol. 2 - pp. 152-164
Quiz #14

Week Twenty-two: A New Era: The 1920's
- MT1- How was the diverse American “melting pot” affected by the political and cultural changes of the 1920? How did the new films, literature, and music of the 1920’s affect Americans’ values?
- MT3- How did the automobile and other new products create a mass-consumption economy in the 1920’s?

DOCUMENT ANALYSIS: Excerpts from the 1927 Sears and Roebuck Catalog
American Pageant Chapter 31
Newman Chapter 23
Oates Vol. 2 - Henry Ford: Symbol of an Age pp. 176-185
Test #8

Week Twenty-three: Politics of Boom and Bust
- MT1- What were the effects of the Great Depression on the American people, and how did President Hoover attempt to balance his belief in “rugged individualism” with the necessities of the time?
- MT3- How did some of the economic practices of the 1920’s and 1930’s help cause and deepen the depression?

DOCUMENT ANALYSIS: Photographs of the Great Depression (National Archives)
American Pageant Chapter 32
Quiz #15

Week Twenty-four: The Great Depression and the New Deal
- MT1- How did the Great Depression cause the American people to lose faith in government? Was FDR able to regain that faith?
- MT3 – How did the early New Deal legislation attempt to achieve the three goals of relief, recovery, and reform?

DOCUMENT ANALYSIS: President Roosevelt’s Annual Message to Congress (Four Freedoms)
American Pageant Chapter 33
Newman Chapter 24
Test #9

CR5 2003 DBQ: Analyze the responses of FDR’s administration to the problems of the Great Depression. How effective were these responses? How did they change the role of the federal government? Limit your answer to the period of 1929 to 1941.

Week Twenty-five: Foreign Diplomacy 1920-1941
- MT2- Discuss the effects of U.S. neutrality on both American foreign policy and the international situation in Europe and East Asia.

DOCUMENT ANALYSIS: Lend Lease Act
Week Twenty-six: World War II 1941-1945

- MT1- Ever since WWII, historians and other scholars have commonly spoken of “postwar American society.” How was American society different after the war than before?
- MT2- How did the U.S. and its allies develop and carry out their strategy for defeating the Axis powers?
- MT3- What effects did WW II have on the American economy? What role did American industry and agriculture play in the war?

DOCUMENT ANALYSIS: Servicemen’s Readjustment Act, Manhattan Project Notebook

Week Twenty-seven: Truman and the Cold War

- MT1 & MT2 Explain the steps that led to the long-term commitment of the U.S. in major overseas military commitments, including NATO and the Korean War. How did expanding military power and the Cold War affect American society and ideas.
- MT3- How have economic and population changes impacted the U.S. since World War II?

DOCUMENT ANALYSIS: Truman Doctrine, Marshall Plan

Week Twenty-eight: The Eisenhower Years

- MT1 & MT3- How did television and other technological innovations of the “consumer age” affect American politics, society, and culture in the 1950’s?
- MT2-What were the dynamics of the Cold War with the Soviet Union in the 1950’s, and how did Eisenhower and Khrushchev combine confrontation and conversation in their relationship?

DOCUMENT ANALYSIS: President Dwight D. Eisenhower’s Farewell Address

Week Twenty-nine: Promises and Turmoil: The 1960’s

- MT1 – What factors created an anti-war sentiment amongst the American people?
- MT1- How was the cultural upheaval of the 1960’s related to the political and social changes of the decade?

DOCUMENT ANALYSIS: President Kennedy’s First Inaugural Address, Tonkin Gulf Resolution, Voting Right Act

1995 DBQ: Analyze the changes that occurred during the 1960’s in the goals, strategies, and support of the movement for African American civil rights. Use the documents and your knowledge of the history of the 1960’s to construct your answer.
**Week Thirty:** The Stalemated Seventies

- **MT1** – In what ways did Nixon’s domestic policies appeal to Americans’ racial and economic fears and in what way did he positively address the problems like discrimination and inflation?
- **MT2** – What policies did Nixon pursue with Vietnam, the Soviet Union, and China, and what were the consequences of these policies?

**DOCUMENT ANALYSIS: SALT I, SALT II**
American Pageant Chapter 39
Newman Chapter 29

**Week Thirty-one:** The Conservative Resurgance 1980-1991

- **MT2** – Describe major changes affecting American Foreign Policy from 1982-1992 in Central America, the Middle East, and Eastern Europe.
- **MT3** – Some historians have compared the “Reagan revolution with the New Deal because of the way it seemed to transform radically American economics and politics. Is this a valid comparison?”

**DOCUMENT ANALYSIS: Ronald Reagan’s Berlin Wall Speech**
American Pageant Chapter 40
Newman Chapter 30

**Week Thirty-two:** America Confronts the Post-Cold War Era 1992

**MT1** – Practice Test #1 - Released 2001 AP United States History Exam -- Analyze test results and specific questions.

**Week Thirty-three:** Review

**MT1** – Practice Test #2 - Released test 1996 AP United States History Exam – Analyze test results and specific questions.

**Week Thirty-four:** National Test

**Week Thirty-five:** Hall of Fame

**Week Thirty-six:** Hall of Fame