

Troy High School Course Profile

Course Title: Advanced Placement (AP) U.S. History

Course Prerequisites: Please Refer to Registration Presentation

Course Description: The AP U.S. History course focuses on the development of disciplinary practices and reasoning skills and an understanding of content organized around seven themes:

1. American and National Identity
2. Politics and Power
3. Work, Exchange, and Technology
4. Culture and Society
5. Migration and Settlement
6. Geography and the Environment
7. America in the World

The course is divided into nine chronological periods (some units overlap chronologically due to the different concepts covered in each unit):

1. 1491-1607
2. 1607-1754
3. 1754-1800
4. 1800-1848
5. 1844-1877
6. 1865-1898
7. 1890-1945
8. 1945-1980
9. 1980-present

In this course, you'll develop the AP history disciplinary practices and reasoning skills:

- Practice 1: Analyzing historical evidence
- Practice 2: Argument development
- Skill 1: Contextualization
- Skill 2: Comparison
- Skill 3: Causation
- Skill 4: Continuity and change over time

AP United States History will:

- Provide you with the reasoning skills and enduring understandings necessary to deal critically with the main issues and documents of U.S. history
- Prepare you for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon you equivalent to those made by full-year introductory college courses
- Enable you to assess historical sources — their relevance to a given interpretive problem, their reliability, and their importance — and to weigh the evidence and interpretations of the past presented in historical scholarship
- Develop the skills necessary to arrive at conclusions on the basis of an informed judgment and to present reasons and evidence clearly and persuasively in an essay format
- Train you to analyze and interpret primary sources, including documentary materials, maps, statistical tables, and pictorial and graphic evidence of historical events
- Teach you to take notes from both printed materials and lectures or discussions, to write essay examinations, and to write analytical and research papers
- Enable you to express yourself with clarity and precision and know how to cite sources and credit the phrases and ideas of others

Students entering this course should already have a mastery of the following concepts and possess the following skills:

- How to write a Document Based Question
- How to write a Long Essay Question
- How to read primary and secondary sources
- Have taken a stimulus based question test

Workload Expectations for this course (list typical amount of homework, projects, presentations, papers, etc.):

- Period packets with definitions for each vocabulary terms
- Unit packets with video guides and supplemental material to support student in studying.
- Develop their independent study skills by reading books nightly, studying for weekly quizzes.
- Will take an exam, and have 1-2 writing components (SAQ, LEQ, or DBQ) per unit.
- Two comprehensive final exams.