



***Course Description***



In AP U.S. History, students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes in nine historical periods from approximately 1491 to the present. Students develop and use the same skills and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; developing historical arguments; making historical connections; and utilizing reasoning about comparison, causation, and continuity and change. The course also provides eight themes that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: American and national identity; work, exchange, and technology; geography and the environment; migration and settlement; politics and power; America in the world; American and regional culture; and social structures.

***Course Big Idea:***

*Throughout its history, the United States has been a symbol of both progressive and regressive democratic values.*

***Course Essential Question:***

*Has the United States moved toward or away from its foundational ideals/values since 1776?*

***Text***

AMSCO - Advanced Placement United States History, 4th edition.

Author: John J. Newman

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***Major Course Topics and Essential/Guiding Questions***

***Note: Topics and questions are subject to change.***

| ***Unit / Periods*** | ***Essential/Guiding Questions*** |
| --- | --- |
| * **Unit 1: Freedom**
	+ **Period 1 :** 1491-1607 Native America’s, European Exploration, “Discovery,” Columbian Exchange
	+ **Period 2:** 1607-1754 European and America
	+ **Period 3:** 1754-1800 From Rebels to New Governments
 | **To what extent has the US lived up to its founding ideal of EQUALITY.** |
| * **Unit 2: Rights**
	+ **Period 3:** 1754-1800 From Rebels to New Governments
	+ **Period 4:**
		- 1800-1848 Democratic-Republicans in Power
		- **1**800-1848: The Market Revolution
	+ **Period 5: 1844-1877 Manifest Destiny**
 | **To what extent has the US lived up to its founding ideal of RIGHTS.**  |
| * **Unit 3: Opportunity**
	+ **Period 6:**
		- 1865-1898 Conquering a Continent
		- 1865-1898: Industrial America
		- 1865-1898: Urbanization
		- 1865-1898: The New South
		- 1865-1898: American Culture in the Gilded Age
		- :1865-1898: Politics of the Gilded Age

Period* + **Period 7**: 1890-1920 Progressivism
 | **To what extent has the US lived up to its founding ideal of Opportunity?** |
| * **Unit 4: Liberty**
	+ **Period 7** :
		- 1890-1945: The US becomes a World Power and WWI
		- 1890-1945: The 1920’s
		- 1890-1945: The Depression and the New Deal
	+ **Period 8:** 1945-1980: Cold War America
	+ **Period 8**:
		- 1945-1980: The Civil Rights Movement
		- 1945-1980: The 1960’s
		- 1945-1980: The 1970’s
	+ **Period 9**: 1980’s to the present
 | **To what extent has the US lived up to its founding ideal of Liberty?** |
|  |  |

***Participation***

Students are expected to come to every class prepared to engage in class discussions and activities and to take notes. They are expected to bring a device [laptop/pad] to each class.\* Students should behave in a respectful manner in order to maintain a positive learning environment, including following the dress code as it is stated in the student handbook and not using a cell phone during class unless directed to do so.

*\*Smartphones are not allowed.*

***Assignments***

Assignments, including preparation, will be addressed in class and posted on **Google Classroom**. Responses on all assignments must be appropriate and relevant. If a student has any difficulty understanding or completing the assignment, he/she should speak with me in school or contact me via email prior to the assignment’s due date. It is the student’s responsibility to ask for work when she/he has been absent and to submit the work in a timely manner agreed to by the teacher if the absence is anticipated (ex: travel, school field trips, etc.). Students must also obtain the notes/materials for missed classes and are encouraged to utilize extra help to clarify those notes. 

***Film & Literature***



Throughout this course we will occasionally support the curriculum with film and literature. While the department only utilizes movies in good academic taste, occasionally the films are rated R due to violence and language. In addition, we will be reading excerpts from literature/graphic novels. Like some of the movies we may view, these may include violent descriptions and inappropriate language. Should you not give consent for your child to participate in this enrichment and accompanying assignments, please mark the contract sheet accordingly and an alternative assignment will be provided.

***Tests & Quizzes***

Major tests and quizzes will be given in each marking period with a study guide prior to most major tests. All assessments will be completed via Google Classroom/Forms. If any student needs additional help, he/she should speak with me in school or send me a note via email to let me know how I can be of assistance. It is the student’s responsibility to make up tests and quizzes when she/he has been absent. Please be aware that make-up tests and quizzes may be formatted differently from the original.

***Grades***

| ***Grading Percentages*** |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Homework**  | 15% |
| **Participation / Classwork**  |  35% |
| **Assessments (Test, Quizzes)**  | 30% |
| **Performance task (Essays, projects)** | 20% |

| *Homework Grading Scale* |
| --- |
| * ***++***
 | *100* |
| * ***+***
 | *95* |
|  | *85* |
| * ***-***
 | *75* |
| * ***0***
 | *F* |

***Notes****:* ***Assignments submitted late will result in 10 points lost per day.***

*Participation grade is 10 points per week with 1 point lost per tardy.*

***Extra Help***

It is **MOST** important for your parents to keep up with your progress online . Grades are posted regularly and both parent and student are expected to carefully follow your progress. If you or your parent do not have access to your grades, you should contact TCS’s Parent Coordinator immediately to gain access to this important tool.

Students are always encouraged to schedule and attend extra help sessions. Please tell me when you would like to receive extra help in advance.

***Key Class Reminders***

1. *Cell phones are off and out of sight during class unless the teacher requires their use for a lesson.*
2. *All assignments due for class are due on the assigned due date/time.*
3. *E-mail should be brief, specific, and clear. Expect teacher responses within 36 - 48 hours.*
4. *Respect the individual given the opportunity to speak and do not speak over them.*
5. *Google Classroom should be viewed daily for homework, review sheets, exam/quiz dates, etc.*