



Southern Lehigh School District

High School Syllabus

AP US History 2014-2015

Course Description:

The ADVANCED PLACEMENT course in UNITED STATES HISTORY is intended for qualified students who wish to complete studies equivalent to a college introductory course. The course covers the economic, cultural, intellectual, social, and political themes and events that shaped U.S. history from the colonial period in the 1600's to the late 20th Century. The course will focus on developing the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in United States history.

Because of the demanding nature of this course, it should only be attempted by students that are highly motivated and committed to academic work. Students are advised to consult with their parents, teachers and guidance counselors before selecting any AP course. Students will be administered the AP exam for college credit at the end of the course at their own expense. Tenth grade students may elect this course in lieu of US CULTURES II. This is a weighted class.

Course Content:

- 1) 1491-1607: New World Beginnings
 - a. Chapter 1
- 2) 1607-1754: Colonial Beginnings
 - a. Chapters 2-5
- 3) 1754-1800: Revolution and The Early Republic
 - a. Chapters 6-10
- 4) 1800-1848: The New Republic Shaping and its Economic, Social, and Political Issues
 - a. Chapters 11-17
- 5) 1844-1877: Causes of the Civil War, the Civil War, and its Aftermath
 - a. Chapters 18-22
- 6) 1865-1898: Industrial Revolution and its Effects
 - a. Chapters 23-26
- 7) 1890-1945: Struggle for Justice at Home and Abroad
 - a. Chapters 27-35
- 8) 1945-1980: Shaping of Modern America
 - a. Chapters 36-39
- 9) 1980-Present: Americas Modern Role
 - a. Chapter 40-42

Required Textbooks and/or Other Reading/Research Materials

American Pageant by David M. Kennedy, Lizabeth Cohen, and Thomas A. Bailey
Houghton Mifflin, 2006

Course Requirements:

The objective of this course is to increase the student's understanding of United States history with the goal of having each student pass the AP Examination. In the beginning of May students will have the opportunity to take the AP Exam given by College Board. The three hour and five minute exam consists of 80 multiple-choice questions and three essays. If students perform well on the exam, they can receive college credit for the course. The areas of concentration include historical, political and economic history coupled with an intense study of cultural and intellectual institutions and their development. These areas will be studied from a variety of perspectives with the hope of providing a balanced view of history. This course is taught at the college level. The major difference between a high school and college history course is the amount of reading and depth of focus. You will be required to cover material on your own. Moreover, the AP curriculum stresses higher order thinking skills within a rigorous academic context. Thus, the student will be required frequently to analyze, synthesize, and evaluate primary and secondary historical sources in addition to memorizing, comprehending, and applying facts.

Grade Components/Assessments:

Summative Assessments: 40%

Writing Assessments: 40%

Homework: 20%

Each marking period is worth 20% of a student's overall grade. The final exam is worth 20% of a student's overall average:

Quarter 1	20%
Quarter 2	20%
Quarter 3	20%
Quarter 4	20%
Final	20%

Required Summer Reading/Assignments:

Summer assignment includes the completion of the first five chapters of the textbook with the corresponding assignments.