

# AP United States History

## Syllabus

### Overview

This course is designed to simulate a college-level American history survey course, as well as college-level preparation for students, and prepare students for the AP United States History Exam in May 2011 (cost determined by the College Board annually). The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by full-year introductory college courses. As such, students are expected to work independently and in class, as they must successfully master a wide body of content knowledge, ranging from pre-colonial times to current American events, as well as a variety of skills related to historical scholarship.

This course examines the evolution of the American republic through a variety of topics. These areas to explore include life in colonial America, the development and implementation of revolutionary thought, the foundations of the new nation and constitutional development, Jeffersonian and Jacksonian democracy, and Manifest Destiny. Other topics cover the Civil War and Reconstruction, industrialization, immigration, Populism, American imperialism, Progressivism, World War I, the Roaring Twenties, Great Depression, the New Deal, World War II, the Cold War, as well as the post-Cold War America at the end of twentieth and beginning of the twenty-first centuries.

In providing a college-level experience for students, this course stresses the interpretation of primary and secondary documents. Students will assess these historical materials, and evaluating them for bias, and appraising their relevance towards topics discussed in class. Exploring these resources will help develop the skills necessary for historical scholarship including: chronological and spatial think, historical research, and historical interpretation.

### Thematic Overview

This course will put emphasis on a number of significant themes over the duration of the school year. The College Board identifies these themes as essential to a clear, comprehensive study of American history. The following themes will be discussed:

- |  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| A. American identity                       | F. War & Diplomacy        |
| B. American culture                        | G. Politics & Citizenship |
| C. American diversity                      | H. Globalization          |
| D. Slavery and its legacies in No. America | I. Environment            |
| E. Economic transformations                | J. Reform                 |

These themes drive discussions in each unit of study. Assessments use these themes to provide structure and focus.

## Course Objectives

Students will:

- Demonstrate a mastery of a broad body of historical knowledge
- Use historical evidence to defend and support basic arguments and positions
- Interpret and draw conclusions from various pieces of historical data including
- original documents, cartoons, graphs, etc.
- Demonstrate an effective use of analytical skills of evaluation, cause-and-effect relationships, and compare and contrast
- Prepare for the AP U.S. History Exam

## Textbook and Supplemental Materials

### Primary:

Kennedy, David M., Lizabeth Cohen, and Thomas Bailey. *The American Pageant*. 11<sup>th</sup> ed. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1998.

### Supplemental:

Bailey, Thomas, and David M. Kennedy. *The American Spirit, vol. I & II*. 9<sup>th</sup> edition. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1998.

Carroll, Andrew, editor. *Letters of a Nation: A Collection of Extraordinary American Letters*. New York, NY: Kodansha International, 1997.

Johnson, Michael P., editor. *Reading the American Past: Selected Historical Documents, vol. I & II*. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Boston, MA: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2005.

Shi, David E., and Holly A. Mayer., *For the Record: A Documentary History of America, vol. I & II*. New York, NY: W. W. Norton Co., 1999.

## Grading Policies

The following will be 50% of a students' quarter average: unit tests, review exams, DBQ essays, and projects. Unit tests will include a portion of questions from previous test topics as a review. Every effort will be made to simulate the conditions of an AP exam when doing tests and review exams in class, including test format and time constraints. Another 30% of a student's average is determined by the student's grades on quizzes and historical and free response essays. The remaining 20% of a students' average includes homework assignments, participation in class discussions, and any computer lab activities. Each quarter average will count as 20% of a student's final average, with the other 20% made up of the mid-term exam (10%) and final exam (10%). Both the mid-term and final exams are designed to match the AP exam.

## Curriculum Plan

All readings should be completed by the beginning of the week during which they will be discussed. Test dates may be rescheduled, but any changes will be announced in advance (except in the case of a snow day). It is the student's responsibility to complete the independent reading and any independent assignments on time.

Units involve discussion and writing providing students the opportunities to build skills in interpreting events, evolving understandings of events over time, how issues of one period impact the actions and choices of future generations of Americans, identifying biases, and how evaluation of the past continues to shape the way the world is viewed today. These class discourses take place throughout the course to help scaffold students' understanding of topics.

## **Unit 1: Transatlantic Encounters and the Colonial Period**

**August 26**

### ***American Pageant*: Chapter 1, New World Beginnings-pages 4-24**

Pre-Columbian cultures, early explorations, introduction of slavery, Spanish and French claims, the rise of mercantilism (addresses themes A, C, D, E, I)

### **Chapter 2, The Planting of English America-pages 25-41**

The Chesapeake (Virginia, Maryland, Delaware), southern English Colonies, ties with the Caribbean economy, British mercantilism (themes A, C, D, E, F, H)

**August 30**

### ***American Pageant*: Chapter 3, Settling the Northern Colonies-pages 42-63**

New England, Puritans, religious disputes, early colonial politics the middle colonies (themes A, B, D, C)  
Primary Document Analysis-Mayflower Compact, *Letters of a Nation*: John Winthrop to his wife Margaret on "Passing through Hell" to get to the "Heaven" of the New World (p. 4) and Roger Williams to the town of Providence, RI (p. 6)

### **Chapter 4, American Life in the 17th Century-pages 64-81**

Tobacco and rice colonies, African-American culture, colonial family life, dissent in New England and the Witch trials (themes A, B, C, D, E)

Primary Document Analysis-*Letters of a Nation*: Cotton Mather to his Uncle John Cotton, regarding a recent execution of witches and an earthquake in Jamaica (p. 8)

**September 6**

### ***American Pageant*: Chapter 5, Colonial Society on the Eve of the Revolution-pages 82-104**

The changing Atlantic economy, American colonial immigration, the Great Awakening, the Enlightenment (themes A, C, E, F, H)

### **Chapter 6, The Duel for North America-pages 105-120**

Canada, French fur trade, Europe, America, and the first "world wars," the French and Indian War, the treaty of Paris 1763 (themes B, C, F, H)

Document Analysis-The of Terms Treaty of Paris, 1763

**September 13-Unit Test-Chapters 1-6-** Test format includes both multiple choice and essay questions.

## **Unit 2: Revolution and Creating a New Republic**

**September 14**

### ***American Pageant*: Chapter 7, the Road to Revolution-pages 121-141**

The Stamp Act, Townshend Acts, Boston Tea Party, Intolerable Acts, committees of correspondence, the Continental Congress, Lexington and Concord (themes A, F, H)

## September 20

### **American Pageant: Chapter 8, America Secedes from the Empire-pages 142-163**

The Revolution in 1775, Declaration of Independence, Patriots and Loyalists, New York, the French alliance, Yorktown, Treaty of Paris, 1783 (themes A, F, H, J)

Primary Document Analysis: Declaration of Independence (read aloud), *Letters of a Nation*: Benjamin Banneker to Jefferson on whether or not the statement *All Men are Created Equal* includes blacks (p. 83) and Jefferson's response to Banneker (p. 87)

### **Chapter 9, The Confederation and the Constitution-pages 166-188**

Articles of Confederation, states' rights, American economic troubles, Shays' Rebellion, the Northwest Ordinance, the Constitutional Convention, Ratifying the Constitution, Federalists and Antifederalists (themes A, B, D, E, G, I)

Primary Document Analysis: *Federalist Papers* 10, 51, 85

**September 29-Unit Test-Chapters 7-9-** Test format includes both multiple choice and essay questions.

## Unit 3: The Early Republic

### September 30

### **American Pageant: Chapter 10, Launching the New Ship of State-pages 189-209**

The Bill of Rights, Washington's Presidency, Hamilton's Economic Policies, Whiskey Rebellion, the impact of Jay's Treaty, Washington's Farewell Letter, and the French Revolution, the Alien & Sedition Acts, The Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions (themes A, B, E, F, G, H)

Primary Document Analysis: *Letters of a Nation*, Hamilton to Washington regarding the New Constitution and the need for a "Strong" and "Energetic Government (p. 73), Jefferson to Madison regarding the "Oppressiveness" of an "Energetic" Government and the need for a Bill of Rights (p. 75)

Washington's Farewell Address

### **Chapter 11, Triumphs and Travails of Jeffersonian Democracy-pages 210-232**

"Revolution of 1800," John Marshall, Judicial Review, Barbary Pirates, Louisiana Purchase, the Embargo Act, War Hawks (themes A, B, F, H, I)

**October 8-Unit Test-Chapters 10 & 11-**Test format will include only multiple choice questions

## Unit 4: The Transformation of American Society and Politics

### October 12

### **American Pageant: Chapter 12, The Second War for Independence (The War of 1812) and the Upsurge of Nationalism, pages 233-255**

The War of 1812, impressments, Treaty of Ghent, The Hartford Convention, nationalism, *The American System*, *The Era of Good Feelings*, Missouri Compromise, Adams-Onis Treaty, John Marshall's Supreme Court, Monroe Doctrine (themes A-F, H)

### October 18

### **American Pageant: Chapter 13, The Rise of Jacksonian Democracy, pages 256-273**

Election 1824: Adams-Clay Corrupt Bargain, The Tariff of Abominations, Jackson's Election and Election Reform in 1828, Jacksonian Democracy, Spoils System, Webster-Hayne Debates (themes A, C, E, G, J)

### **Chapter 14, Jacksonian Democracy at Flood Tide, pages 274-296**

Nullification Crisis in South Carolina, Jackson and the Bank of the United States, Indian Removal Act, Texan Revolution, The Whig Party, Van Buren and the Panic of 1837, William Henry Harrison and the election of 1840, the beginning of the modern 2-party system (themes A-C, E-G)

**October 22-29-Jackson DBQ-Follow MLA guidelines, due Oct. 29**

**October 25-Unit Test-Chapters 12-14-**Test format will include only multiple choice questions

## **Unit 5: Social Reform and the Changing Population in Antebellum America**

**October 25**

***American Pageant: Chapter 15, Forging the National Economy, pages 297-328***

Westward expansion, European immigration, Irish and Germans, Nativism, market economy, the factory system, transportation revolution, commercial agriculture in the South, the emergence of a continental economy (themes A-E, I, J)

**Chapter 16, The Ferment of Reform and Culture, pages 329-357**

Revivals and the Second Great Awakening, Mormons, Education reform, Temperance, Women's Rights, Utopian societies, Artistic and Literary expression of the American identity (themes A, J)

Primary Analysis: *Letters of a Nation*, Thoreau to Emerson on Death and Nature (p. 362)

**November 1- Unit Test-Chapters 15-16-**Test format includes multiple choice and essay questions.

## **Unit 6: Abolition, Slavery, Manifest Destiny, and Sectionalism**

**November 3**

***American Pageant: Chapter 17, the South and the Slavery Controversy, pages 360-379***

King Cotton, poor whites, free blacks, abolitionism and the Southern response (themes A, D, E)

Primary Document Analysis: Hinton R. Helper, excerpts from *The Impending Crisis of the South*

**November 8**

***American Pageant: Chapter 18, Manifest Destiny and its Legacy, pages 380-399***

Annexing Texas, Polk the "Dark Horse," and the Mexican American War (themes A-D, F-H)

**Chapter 19, Renewing the Sectional Struggle, pages 400-419**

Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo, Popular Sovereignty, California Statehood, the Compromise of 1850, the Fugitive Slave Act, Douglas and the Kansas-Nebraska Act (themes A, B, D, G)

**November 12- Unit Test-Chapters 17-19-**Test format includes multiple choice questions only

## **Unit 7: The Union in Crisis**

**November 15**

***American Pageant: Chapter 20, Drifting Toward Disunion, pages 420-443***

*Uncle Tom's Cabin* and the spread of abolitionism in the North, Bloody Kansas, *Dred Scott* case, 1857, Lincoln-Douglas Debates, the raid on Harpers Ferry, the election of 1860, secession (themes A, D, F, G, J)

Primary Document Analysis: *Letters of a Nation*, John Brown to his Pastor on being "One of the Best and one of the Worst Men" (p. 107), Jefferson Davis to Franklin Pierce on the "inevitability" of civil war (p. 109)

**Chapter 21, Girding for War: The North and the South, pages 444-460**

Fort Sumter, Border States, threat of European intervention, Lincoln and civil liberties, economic impact on the war, women and war, war finances

**November 23 & 24-Unit Test-Chapters 20 & 21**

## **Unit 8: Civil War and Reconstruction**

**November 29**

***American Pageant: Chapter 22, The Furnace of Civil War, pages 461-486***

The Northern and Southern Societies at War, Military Strategies (Bull Run, Peninsula Campaign, Total War, Antietam, Gettysburg, Sherman's March, the war in the West), Emancipation and the role of African Americans during the war, Appomattox, Lincoln's Assassination (themes A-G)

**December 6-13-DBQ-Civil War, due Dec. 13**

## **December 13**

### ***American Pageant: Chapter 23, the Ordeal of Reconstruction, pages 487-509***

Presidential, Military, and Radical reconstruction, Southern states defeated, Johnson and Congress, freed slaves, Freed African Americans in politics (themes A-G, J)

### **Chapter 24, Politics in the Gilded Age, pages 512-522**

Grant's presidency, corruption in the post-Civil War era, 1870s economic depression, partisan politics, the Compromise of 1877 (themes B, E, G)

**December 22 & 23-Unit test Chapters 22-24 (to p. 522), test will include multiple choice and essay questions**

## **Unit 9: Industrialization and Urbanization**

### **January 3**

#### ***American Pageant: Chapter 24, Politics in the Gilded Age, pages 522-535***

Class and ethnic conflict (1870s and 1880s), Garfield assassination, Cleveland and the Tariff (themes C, E)

#### **Chapter 25, Industry Comes of Age, pages 536-564**

Railroads, speculation, government regulation, Industry in the South, rise of trade unions (themes B, E)

### **January 10**

#### ***American Pageant: Chapter 26, America Moves to the City, pages 565-597***

Urbanization, the lure of the city, tenements and social workers, nativism and immigration, political machines, art, music and entertainment in urban America (themes A-C, E, G, J)

**Unit test will make up the majority of the mid-term exam**

### **January 18-21: Mid-term Exams**

## **Unit 10: Development of the West and Populism**

### **January 24**

#### ***American Pageant: Chapter 27, The Great West and the Agricultural Revolution, pages 598-622***

Conflict with Native Americans, mining, cattle ranchers, and the railroads: competition in the West, industrialization of agriculture, the Frontier, Populist protest (themes A, B, E, G, I)

#### **Chapter 28, Revolt of the Debtor, pages 623-640**

Challenge from the People's Party (agrarian discontent), Panic of 1893, Pullman Strike, 1894, Bryan vs. McKinley (themes A, B, E, G, I)

Primary Document Analysis: Bryan's *Cross of Gold* speech

**January 28-Unit Test, Chapters 27 & 28, test will include multiple choice and essay questions**

## **Unit 11: American Imperialism**

### **January 31**

#### ***American Pageant: Chapter 29, The Path to Empire, pages 641-661***

Cleveland and Venezuela, the Spanish-American War, Acquisitions of Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the Philippines (themes A-C, F, H)

#### **Chapter 30, America on the World Stage, pages 664-681**

Filipino insurrection, Teddy Roosevelt, Panama Canal, Roosevelt Corollary (themes A, B, H)

**February 4-Unit Test, Chapters 29 & 30, test will only include multiple choice questions**

## **Unit 12: American Progressivism**

**February 7**

***American Pageant*: Chapter 31, Progressivism and the Republican Roosevelt, pages 682-702**

Roosevelt, and Taft as Progressive Presidents, muckrackers, Roosevelt, labor and the trusts, Women's reform movements, "dollar diplomacy" under Taft (themes A-C, E-H, J)

**February 14**

***American Pageant* : Chapter 32, Wilsonian Progressivism at Home and Abroad, pages 703-722**

Wilson as a Progressive President, New Freedom vs. New Nationalism, diplomacy with Mexico, War in Europe and American neutrality (themes A, G, H)

**Chapter 33, The War to End War, pages 722-745**

The First World War at home and abroad, workers, blacks and women on the home front, Treaty of Versailles, Senate's rejection of the Treaty (themes A, C, G, H)

**February 18-Unit Test, Chapters 31-33, test includes multiple choice and essay questions**

## **Unit 13: The 1920s**

**February 23**

***American Pageant* : Chapter 34, American Life in the *Roaring Twenties*, pages 746-770**

*Red Scare*, nativism and immigration restrictions, the consumer economy, automobiles, radio, movies, Prohibition, fundamentalism, Twenties music and literature, Harlem Renaissance (themes A-E)

Primary Document Analysis: *Letters of a Nation*, Helen Keller to Eugene V. Debs, on "the Horror" of War, and the Need for a Socialist "Revolution" (p. 139)

**February 28**

***American Pageant* : Chapter 35, the Politics of Boom and Bust, pages 771-794**

Isolation, politics of Harding, Coolidge, and Hoover, international debt, market crash (themes E, G)

**March 4-Unit Test, Chapters 34 & 35, test will only include multiple choice questions**

## **Unit 14: The Great Depression and the New Deal**

**March 7**

***American Pageant* : Chapter 36, The Great Depression and the New Deal, pages 795-824**

Hoover and the Great Depression (from Ch. 35), the Hundred Days Congress, FDR and the New Deal, the NRA, AAA, Social Security Act, labor and unions in the New Deal, criticism from the political Left and Right regarding the New Deal (themes A, B, E, G, J)

**March 15-Unit Test, Chapter 36, test includes multiple choice and essay questions**

**March 15-22, New Deal DBQ**

## **Unit 15: World War II**

**March 16**

***American Pageant* : Chapter 37, Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Shadow of War, pages 825-846**

German and Japanese aggression, American neutrality, Lend-Lease program, Pearl Harbor (themes F-H)

**March 21**

***American Pageant* : Chapter 38, America in World War II, pages 847-877**

War: a multi-front war, D-Day, America as a world power in an Atomic Age, Hiroshima/Nagasaki

Home front: Internment, mobilizing the economy, women in wartime, wars effects on African Americans, Native Americans, and Mexican Americans, expansion of government power, civil liberties and civil rights during WWII (themes A-C, E-H)

**March 25-Unit Test, Chapter 37-38, test includes multiple choice and essay questions**

## **Unit 16: The United States during the Early Cold War**

**March 28**

***American Pageant* : Chapter 39, The Cold War Begins, pages 880-907**

Postwar prosperity, the move to the suburbs, the baby boom, origins of the Cold War, the UN, NATO, Truman Doctrine and containment doctrine, Marshall Plan, Korean War (themes B, F-H)

**Chapter 40, the Eisenhower Era, pages 908-935**

Eisenhower's election, McCarthyism, Suez Canal crisis, the space Race, JFK defeats Nixon, desegregation, civil rights, changing economic roles of men and women, consumerism (themes A-G)

**April 1-Unit Test, Chapters 39 & 40, test will only include multiple choice questions**

## **Unit 17: The Sixties and Seventies**

**April 4**

***American Pageant* : Chapter 41, The Stormy Sixties, pages 936-963**

The Kennedy Spirit, Cold War confrontation in Latin America (Bay of Pigs) and Asia (Vietnam), civil rights movement, LBJ and the Great Society, counter culture and antiwar movements (themes A-D, F-J)

**Chapter 42, The Stalemated Seventies, pages 964-989**

Nixon and Vietnam, the USSR, and China, Arabs, Israelis and oil, Watergate, Ford and Carter, the energy crisis, and the Iran hostage crisis (themes A-C, E-H, J)

## **Unit 18: America at the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century and in the Post-Cold War World**

**April 11**

***American Pageant* : Chapter 43, The Resurgence of Conservatism, pages 990-1020**

Reagan's "New Right," Gorbachev and Reagan summits, Iran-contra, Reagan's economic legacy, the end of the Cold War, the Gulf War, reforms of the Clinton administration, baby boomers retiring, the communication and computer revolutions, modern American society (themes A-H)

**Chapter 44, The American People Face a New Century, pages 1024-1033**

The post-industrial economy, feminism, the new American family, the newest immigrants, America on the global stage, environmental issues (themes A-J)

**April 15-Combined Unit 17 & 18 test- test will only include multiple choice questions**

**April 25-Review Exam: Units 1-6, multiple choice**

**April 26-Review Exam corrections**

**April 27- College Board released essays (in class)**

**April 28-Review Exam: Units 7-12, multiple choice**

**April 29-Review Exam corrections**

**May 2- College Board released essays (in class)**

**May 3- Review Exam: Units 13-18, multiple choice**

**May 4- Review Exam corrections**

**May 5 to AP Exam Date-REVIEW, REVIEW, REVIEW**