



“History is a guide to navigation in perilous times. History is who we are and why we are the way we are.”

“You can't be a full participant in our democracy if you don't know our history.”

— David McCullough

“You have to know the past to understand the present.”

— Dr. Carl Sagan

Course Description

AP U.S. History is designed to be the equivalent of a two-semester introductory college or university U.S. history course. 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, practices, and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; developing historical arguments; making historical comparisons; and utilizing reasoning about contextualization, causation, and continuity and change over time. The course also provides seven themes that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: American and national identity; migration and settlement; politics and power; work, exchange, and technology; America in the world; geography and the environment; and culture and society. **To succeed in this course students require solid reading and writing skills and a willingness to devote considerable time to independent practice and study. Significant outside reading and assignments should be anticipated as part of the course**

Course Objectives

The objectives of this full-year course are to present opportunities through classroom and out-of-class activities that will enable students to:

- Master a broad body of historical knowledge
- Demonstrate an understanding of historical chronology
- Use historical data to support an argument or point of view
- Interpret and apply data from original documents including cartoons, graphs, maps, letters, speeches, etc.
- Effectively use analytical skills of evaluation, cause and effect, and compare and contrast
- Work effectively with others to solve problems
- Prepare for and successfully pass the AP U.S. History exam in May
- Prepare for and successfully pass the New York State Regents exam in June

Course Textbook

By the People: A History of the United States AP® Edition, James Fraser ©2015

Materials

A three-ring binder with loose leaf paper
A folder
A pen

Homework

Homework assignments will vary from reading, writing, analyzing, etc. The assignments may be used to review material learned that day, or to introduce concepts for the next class. Homework dittos will be shared on Google Classroom and my website every Monday. Homework must be completed! Late assignments will only be accepted for half credit.

Class Participation

Class participation is an important part of a student's grade. Class participation includes raising your hand to participate in a class discussion, contributing and taking part in group work and assignments, and listening to the teacher or other students when the teacher or students are talking during class discussions. Students are encouraged to participate daily and to complete all class work. Group work and activities will also count towards your class participation grade.

Classroom Rules

The DPHS code of conduct is to be followed at all times, NO EXCEPTIONS. Be respectful of yourself, classmates, and teachers.

Raise your hand if you wish to speak.

Use appropriate language.

All cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off!

Extra Help

Extra help will be available every week. Days of extra help sessions will vary. You will be notified on your homework ditto (every Monday) when extra help sessions will be for that week.

Grading Policy

Tests - 45%

Quizzes - 25%

Homework - 20%

Participation - 10%

Late Work Policy

Graded assignments that are submitted late will receive a 10 point penalty for each day late. Late homework assignments will only receive half credit.

This year's AP US History Test will be on Friday, May 11, 2018. Students enrolled in an Advanced Placement course must sit for the AP exam. The AP U.S. History Exam is 3 hours and 15 minutes in length.

Section I - Part A: Multiple Choice | 55 Questions | 55 Minutes | 40% of Exam Score
YOU MAY NOT return to the section after the 55 minutes.

- Questions appear in sets of 2-5.
- Students analyze historical texts, interpretations, and evidence.
- Primary and secondary sources, images, graphs, and maps are included.

Section I - Part B: Short Answer | 3 Questions | 40 Minutes | 20% of Exam Score

- Questions provide opportunities for students to demonstrate what they know best.
- Some questions include texts, images, graphs, or maps.

Section II - Part A: Document Based | 1 Question | 60 Minutes | 25% of Exam Score

- Analyze and synthesize historical data.
- Assess written, quantitative, or visual materials as historical evidence.

Section II - Part B: Long Essay | 1 Question | 40 Minutes | 15% of Exam Score

- Students select one question from three options.
- Explain and analyze significant issues in U.S. history.
- Develop an argument supported by an analysis of historical evidence.

ALL IMPORTANT CLASS INFORMATION INCLUDING HOMEWORK CAN BE FOUND ON MY WEBSITE WWW.MSSCHWINT.COM

Excused Absence Grading Procedures for Deer Park High School

If you are legally absent, you are responsible for making up missed assignments within two weeks of your return to school (quiz, test, homework or a project). **Assignments that are not made up within this time frame will result in a score of zero being factored into your average.** If you are absent the day before a test, you will be required to take the test at the regularly scheduled time. If you are absent the day of the test, you are responsible to make up the test the day you return. Please see me to make arrangements. **If you are illegally absent from class you will receive a zero as a grade on any missed assignments.**

The Code of Conduct States:

Students are eligible to make-up work that is missed during an **excused absence** only. It is the student's responsibility to meet with the teacher to make up work. Any work that has not been made up will result in a score of zero for that assignment.

It is the teacher's responsibility to provide the student with the opportunity to make up missed work.

Students must meet with the teacher immediately upon return to school to make arrangements to make up work.

Please sign below to indicate that you read and understand the USHG syllabus and the absentee policy and expectations.

This form is to be signed and returned no later than **Friday, September 8th**.

Student Name (Please Print) _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Contact Information (Please indicate the best method to be contacted.)

Mother/Father's Name (Please Print) _____

Phone Number () _____

E-mail Address _____

If you ever have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.