

# AP United States History

## Syllabus

This course is designed to provide students with a college-level experience and prepare them for the AP Exam in May. Throughout the duration of this course, students will develop many skills such as analyzing historical information/evidence, interpreting data, and writing essays. Topics covered in this course include: Colonization, Revolution and Securing Independence, the New Republic, Jeffersonianism, Slavery and Sectional Conflict, the Civil War, and Reconstruction and Westward Expansion. In the latter half of this course, topics of interest are Industrialization and Urbanization, Progressivism, World War I, developments of the 1920s, the Great Depression, the New Deal, World War II, the Cold War, post-Cold War Era, and the twenty-first century for the United States.

This class is reading intensive. All students are expected to read the text, historical scholarship, and various primary sources.

Grading:

50% - Unit Tests and FRQs

40% - Quizzes, Essays, DBQs

10% - Homework (text/discussion questions, vocabulary cards, primary source analysis guides, article/book reviews)

### Unit Assignments

Each unit will have the following homework components:

1. Vocabulary Terms - Within the reading you will come across the terms on the vocabulary list. You need to write these terms on note cards. The front side should list the term. The reverse side should contain information regarding “who, what, when, where, and significance.”
2. Chapter Questions - These questions are found in your pacer or at the top of the page in your book. Your answers should be complete sentences with detailed explanation.
3. Outline Packet - This packet should be filled out as you are reading the chapter assignments.
4. Test Corrections - Any test that IS NOT at least a **B** will have to be corrected following this format:
  - a. go over the test, analyze the questions missed, write the missed question, write the missed answer, explain why the answer was incorrect, write the correct answer, and explain why the answer is correct
  - b. If a student elects not to do test corrections he/she will have 10% deducted from their previous exam.

All four of these assignments are due on Review days. Review always precedes the multiple choice test.

## Grading Scale

100 - 85 (A)  
84 - 75 (B)  
74 - 60 (C)  
59 - 50 (D)  
49 - 0 (F)

## Course Material

Paul S. Boyer, Clifford E. Clark and Joseph F. Kett. *The Enduring Vision: A History of the American People*, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2006).

Accompanying workbooks with map/graph/political cartoon activities.

Davidson, James West, and Mark Hamilton Lytle. *After the Fact: The Art of Historical Detection*. 5<sup>th</sup> ed. Boston: McGraw-Hill, 2004.

Dudley, William, ed. *Opposing Viewpoints in American History*. San Diego: Greenhaven Press, 1996.

Edmund S. Morgan. *The Birth of the Republic: 1763-89*. Chicago, The University of Chicago Press, 1992.

Mary Silliman's War. Video.

Ronald Takaki. *A Different Mirror: A Historical of Multicultural America*. Back Bay Books; Reissue edition. June 1, 1994.

Arthur S. Link and Richard L. McCormick. *Progressivism*. Arlington Heights, IL. Harlan Davidson, 1983.

Richard Hofstadter. *The American Political Tradition: And the Men Who Made It*. Vintage; Reissue edition. April 23, 1989.

Roberta Leach and Augustine Caliguire. *AP U.S. History 1 & 2*. The Center for Learning. 1999.

Howard Zinn. *A People's History of the United States: 1492 - Present*. New York: HarperCollins Publishers, Inc., 1980.

Assorted Primary Sources, Articles and Handouts.

Past AP US History Multiple Choice Tests and Writing Portions.

## Course Themes

These major themes will be present throughout unit discussions:

American Diversity  
American Identity  
Development of American Culture  
Demographic Changes  
Economic Transformations  
Environmental Issues  
Creation of Political Institutions  
American Citizenship  
Social Reform Movements  
Influence of Religion  
History of Slavery and its Legacy  
War and Diplomacy  
Globalization

## Course Outline

### Unit 1: Colonization (1492 - 1750)

Aug. 16 - Sept. 2

- *The Enduring Vision*: Chapter 2, The Rise of the Atlantic World  
African and European Backgrounds, Europe and the Atlantic World, Footholds in North America
- The First Charter of Virginia - King James I; primary source and question
- *The Enduring Vision*: Chapter 3, The Emergence of Colonial Societies  
Chesapeake Society, Puritanism in New England, The Spread of Slavery: The Caribbean and Carolina, The Middle Colonies, Rivals for North America: France and Spain
- Map of New England, Middle and Southern Colonies - analyze map and answer questions
- *The Enduring Vision*: Chapter 4, The Bonds of Empire  
Rebellion and War, Colonial Economics and Societies, Competing for a Continent, Public Life in British America
- A Letter Regarding Relations with the Indians - Samuel Sewall, primary source and question
- Europeans Encounter the New World - document packet
- Howard Zinn - Ch. 1: Columbus, the Indians, and Human Progress
- Multiple Choice Exam - 80 Questions
- FRQ

### Unit 2: Revolution & Securing Independence (1744 -1788)

Sept. 3 - Sept. 21

- *The Enduring Vision*: Chapter 5, Roads to Revolution  
Triumph and Tensions: The British Empire, Imperial Authority, Colonial Opposition, Resistance Resumes, The Deepening Crisis, Toward Independence
- *The Enduring Vision*: Chapter 6, Securing Independence, Defining Nationhood  
The Prospects of War, War and Peace, The Revolution and Social Change, Forging New Governments, Toward a New Constitution

- Video - Mary Silliman's War and essay question
- *Going to the Source*: Ch. 6: Debating the Constitution
- Multiple Choice Exam - 80 Questions
- FRQ

### **Unit 3: New Republic & Jeffersonianism (1789 - 1823)**

**Sept. 22 - Oct. 5**

- *The Enduring Vision*: Chapter 7, Launching the New Republic  
Constitutional Government Takes Shape, Hamilton's Domestic Policies, The United States in a Wider World, Parties and Politics, Economic and Social Change
- "Washington's Farewell" - *The Farewell*
- *The Enduring Vision*: Chapter 8, Jeffersonianism and the Era of Good Feelings
- The Age of Jefferson, The Gathering Storm, The War of 1812, The Awakening of American Nationalism
- Marbury v. Madison, McCulloch v. Maryland, Gibbons v. Ogden, Dartmouth College v. Woodward - Supreme Court hand outs
- Multiple Choice Exam - 80 Questions
- FRQ

### **Unit 4: Transformation of American Society (1815 - 1860)**

**Oct. 6 - Oct. 26**

- *The Enduring Vision*: Chapter 9, The Transformation of American Society  
Westward Expansion, The Growth of the Market Economy, The Transportation Revolution: Steamboats, Canals, and Railroads, Industrial Beginnings, Equality and Inequality, The Revolution in Social Relationships
- *The Enduring Vision*: Chapter 10, Democratic Politics, Religious Revival, and Reform  
The Rise of Democratic Politics, The Bank Controversy and the Second Party System, The Bank Controversy and the Second Party System, The Rise of Popular Religion, The Age of Reform
- *The Enduring Vision*: Chapter 11, Technology, Culture, and Everyday Life  
Technology and Economic Growth, The Quality of Life, Democratic Pastimes, The Quest for Nationality in Literature and Art
- Analytical Summary covering the Takaki book - Chapter 4: Toward the Stony Mountains; From Removal to Reservation
- Worcester v. Georgia - Supreme Court hand out
- Multiple Choice Exam - 80 Questions
- FRQ
- APPARTS with the DBQ

### **Unit 5: Slavery & Sectional Conflict (1800 - 1860)**

**Oct. 27 - Nov. 10**

- *The Enduring Vision*: Chapter 12, The Old South and Slavery  
King Cotton, The Social Groups of the White South, Social Relations in the White South, Life Under Slavery, The Emergence of African-American Culture
- Mexican American War Maps
- *The Enduring Vision*: Chapter 13, Immigration, Expansion, and Sectional Conflict  
Newcomers and Natives, The West and Beyond, The Politics of Expansion, The Mexican-American War and Its Aftermath
- The Mexican War documents - hand out
- Multiple Choice Exam - 80 Questions
- FRQ

**Unit 6: From Compromise to Civil War (1861 - 1877) Nov. 11 - Nov. 29**

- *The Enduring Vision*: Chapter 14, From Compromise to Secession  
The Compromise of 1850, The Collapse of the Second Party System, The Crisis of the Union, The Collapse of the Union
- *The Enduring Vision*: Chapter 15, Crucible of Freedom: Civil War  
Mobilizing for War, In Battle, Emancipation Transforms the War, War and Society, North and South, The Union Victorious
- John Brown - Martyr or Madman? - Reading Packet
- Multiple Choice Exam - 80 Questions
- FRQ

**Unit 7: Reconstruction & Westward Expansion (1840 - 1860) Nov. 30 - Dec. 17**

- *The Enduring Vision*: Chapter 16, The Crises of Reconstruction  
Reconstruction Politics, Reconstruction Governments, The Impact of Emancipation, New Concerns in the North, Reconstruction Abandoned
- *The Enduring Vision*: Chapter 17, The Transformation of the Trans-Mississippi West  
Native Americans and the Trans-Mississippi West, Settling the West, Southwestern Borderlands, Exploiting the Western Landscape, The West of Life and Legend
- Political Terrorism during Reconstruction - Reading packet
- Multiple Choice Exam - 80 Questions
- FRQ

**\*Winter Break\* Dec. 20 - Jan. 2**

**Unit 8: Industrialization & Urbanization (1870 - 1900) Jan. 3 - Jan. 20**

- *The Enduring Vision*: Chapter 18, The Rise of Industrial America  
The Rise of Corporate America, The New South, Factories and the Work Force, Labor Unions and Industrial Conflict
- *The Enduring Vision*: Chapter 19, Immigration, Urbanization, and Everyday Life  
The New American City, Middle- and Upper-Class Society and Culture, Working-Class Politics and Reform, Working-Class Leisure in the Immigrant City, Cultures in Conflict
- Handout - The Growing Economic Crisis of the Late Nineteenth Century.
- *The Enduring Vision*: Chapter 20, Politics and Expansion in an Industrializing Age  
Party Politics in an Era of Upheaval, Politics of Privilege, Politics of Exclusion, The 1890s: Politics in a Depression Decade, Expansionist Stirrings and War with Spain
- Hands-On-History: Robber Barons or Heroes of Industry?
- Chapter 8 - The Mirror with a Memory; *After the Fact* book
- Multiple Choice Exam - 80 Questions
- FRQ

**Unit 9: Progressives & World War I (1900 - 1920) Jan. 21 - Feb. 7**

- *The Enduring Vision*: Chapter 21, The Progressive Era  
Progressives and Their Ideas, State and Local Progressivism, Progressivism and Social Control, National Progressivism Phase I: Roosevelt and Taft, National Progressivism Phase II: Woodrow Wilson
- Handout - Muckraking and *The Jungle*
- *The Enduring Vision*: Chapter 22, Global Involvements and World War I

Defining America's World Role, War in Europe, Mobilizing at Home, Fighting in France, Promoting the War and Suppressing Dissent, Economic and Social Trends in Wartime America, Joyous America, Bitter Aftermath, Wilson's Fourteen Points

- Working with Sources - Chapter 6: Measuring Mental Fitness: *Government IQ Tests during World War I*
- Chapter 11- Sacco and Vanzetti; *After the Fact* book
- Multiple Choice Exam - 80 Questions
- FRQ
- January DBQ

#### **Unit 10: The 1920s, Depression & New Deal (1920 - 1939)**

**Feb. 8 - Feb. 24**

- *The Enduring Vision*: Chapter 23, The 1920s: Coping with Change  
A New Economic Order, The Harding and Coolidge Administrations, Mass Society, Mass Culture, Cultural Ferment and Creativity, A Society in Conflict, Hoover at the Helm
- *The Enduring Vision*: Chapter 24, The Great Depression and the New Deal  
Crash and Depression, The New Deal Takes Shape, The New Deal Changes Course, The New Deal's End Stage, Social Change and Social Action in the 1930s, The American Cultural Scene in the 1930s
- Working with Sources - Chapter 8: Painting a New Deal: *U.S. Post Office Murals from the Great Depression*
- Multiple Choice Exam - 80 Questions
- FRQ
- February DBQ

#### **Unit 11: World War II & Cold War (1933 - 1960)**

**Feb. 25 - Mar. 15**

- *The Enduring Vision*: Chapter 25, Americans and a World in Crisis  
The United States in a Menacing World, Into the Storm, America Mobilizes for War, The Battlefield, War and American Society, Triumph and Tragedy
- *After the Fact* - Chapter 13: *The Decision to Drop the Bomb*
- Hands-on-History: America in the 1950s
- *The Enduring Vision*: Chapter 26, The Cold War Abroad and at Home  
The Postwar Political Setting, Anticommunism and Containment, The Truman Administration at Home, The Politics of Anticommunism
- *The Enduring Vision*: Chapter 27, America at Midcentury  
The Eisenhower Presidency, The Cold War Continues, The Affluent Society, Consensus and Conservatism, The Other America, Seeds of Disquiet
- Multiple Choice Exam - 80 Questions
- FRQ

#### **Unit 12: Liberal Era & Upheaval (1960 - 1974)**

**Mar. 16 - Apr. 7**

- *The Enduring Vision*: Chapter 28, The Liberal Era  
The Kennedy Presidency, The Struggle for Black Equality, Liberalism Ascendant, Voices of Protest, The Liberal Crusade in Vietnam
- Handout - The Great Society
- *The Enduring Vision*: Chapter 29, A Time of Upheaval  
The Youth Movement, The Counterculture, 1968: The Politics of Upheaval, Nixon and World Politics, Domestic Problems and Divisions, The Crisis of the Presidency
- *After the Fact* - Chapter 16: *Where Trouble Comes*
- Multiple Choice Exam - 80 Questions

- FRQ
- March DBQ

### Unit 13: Conservative Era, Beyond the Cold War & Global Dangers (1974 - Present)

Apr. 8 - Apr. 26

- *The Enduring Vision*: Chapter 30, Conservative Resurgence, Economic Woes, Foreign Challenges  
Cultural Trends, Economic and Social Changes in Post-1960s America, Years of Malaise: Post-Watergate Politics and Diplomacy, The Reagan Revolution, Reagan's Second Term
- *After the Fact* - Chapter 17: *The Body in Question*
- *The Enduring Vision*: Chapter 31, Beyond the Cold War: Charting a New Course  
The Bush Years: Global Resolve, Domestic Drift, The Clinton Era Begins: Debating Domestic Policy, The Economic Boom of the 1990s, Clinton's Foreign Policy: Defining America's Role in Post-Cold War World, The Clinton Era Ends: Domestic Politics, Impeachment, Disputed Election, Cultural Trends at Century's End
- *The Enduring Vision*: Chapter 32, Global Dangers, Global Challenges, 2001 to the Present  
America Under Attack: September 11, 2001, and Its Aftermath, Politics and The Economy in Bush's First Term, Foreign Policy in a Threatening Era, Social and Cultural Trends in Contemporary America, Domestic Policy Since 2004
- Multiple Choice Exam - 80 Questions
- FRQ
- April DBQ

### Unit 14: AP Preparation and Exam

Apr. 27 - May 5

Two Sections:

1. 55 Minute Multiple Choice Section: 80 Questions (50% of Grade)
  - a. 20% of the test - Colonial Period to 1789
  - b. 45% of the test - 1790 to 1914
  - c. 35% of the test - 1915 to present
2. 130 Minute Free Response Section (50% of Grade)
 

Part A- mandatory 15 minute reading period (analyze documents, plan answer to Data Based Question)

Parts B & C- two standard essay questions (choose 1 from 2 in each section: Colonial Era to Civil War & Civil War to Modern Time)

#### Multiple Choice Section

• designed to test factual knowledge, breadth of preparation, and knowledge-based analytical skills

#### Essay Questions

• designed to allow students to demonstrate their mastery of historical interpretation and their ability to express their views and knowledge in writing

#### Answers to Essay Questions

- judged on strength of the thesis developed, the quality of the historical argument, and the evidence offered in support of the argument

### DBQ

- the emphasis is on the ability to analyze and synthesize historical data and assess verbal, quantitative, or pictorial materials as historical evidence
- it will be judged on its thesis, argument, and supporting evidence
- typically requires students to relate documents to a historical period or theme
- outside knowledge is very important and must be incorporated into the student's essay if the highest scores are to be earned

\*\*\* The AP Test is Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am. \*\*\*

**Unit 15: History and the Media**

**May 9 - May 19**