



**Advanced Placement United States History
2015-2016**

Instructor: Peter J. Hidalgo

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Conference Period: Periods 1, 5-7

Textbook: David M. Kennedy, Lizabeth Cohen, and Thomas A Bailey. *The American Pageant: A History of the Republic* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2006)

Course Overview

Advanced Placement U. S. History is a one year chronological survey of American history from colonial times to the present. AP United States history is considerably more demanding than College Prep U.S. History in terms of daily workload and commitment. The course stresses analytical thought, research and study skills, and social science concepts in history, political science, geography and economics, as well as basic factual knowledge. Although recall is essential, equally important is the student's ability to employ critical thinking and decision-making skills. A strong foundation in reading and writing, and dedication to daily and consistent study is necessary to complete the class with high marks.

APUSH Historical Periods		
Period 1	1491 – 1607, Columbus through Jamestown	5% of Exam
Period 2	1607 – 1754, Jamestown through start of the French and Indian War	45% of exam
Period 3	1754 – 1800, French and Indian War through the election of Jefferson	
Period 4	1800 – 1848, Jefferson through the Mexican War	
Period 5	1844 – 1877, Polk through the end of Reconstruction	
Period 6	1865 – 1898, Civil War through the Spanish American War	45% of exam
Period 7	1890 – 1945, Progressive Period through the end of World War II	
Period 8	1945 – 1980, World War II through the election of Reagan	
Period 9	1980 - present	5% of exam

Course Objectives

Students will develop a solid understanding of the complexities of United States history through the implementation of AP new course design which is built around nine historical periods, seven themes in history, and the mastery of nine skills historians use to develop an understanding of the past and gain perspective on the future. Students will also gain the ability to communicate effectively and recognize and fulfill their academic and civic responsibilities as outlined by Arroyo Valley's ESLR's

Course Themes		Historical Thinking Skills
Identity		Historical Causation
Work, Exchange, and Technology		Patterns of Continuity and Change Over Time
Peopling		Periodization
Politics and Power		Comparison
America and the World		Contextualization
Environment and Geography (Physical and Human)		Historical Argumentation
Ideas, Beliefs, and Culture		The Appropriate Use of Relevant Historical Evidence
		Interpretation
		Synthesis

Grading

All of our class activities are assigned a certain point value. At the conclusion of each quarter, your points will be totaled and your grade assigned on the following scale;

90% - 100%	= A
80% - 89%	= B
70% - 79%	= C
60% - 69%	= D
59 % - below	= F

There is extra credit, however, it is limited to testing dates and additional assignments at the end of each quarter. Be sure to study as extra credit is limited! For those on the border between two grades, participation in class will be considered in rounding a grade up to the next letter grade.

Class Rules and suggestions for success

- BE ON TIME! (Inside the door when the bell rings).
- Do not be absent from class. Some of the exercises we do will involve partners and groups. You should NEVER miss another class to study for this one or miss this class to study for another.
- Always give your best efforts on all class activities.
- Always maintain a positive attitude.
- Academic Freedom: All students, and the instructor, have a right to their opinions, however unpopular. Respect for the opinion of others is a class requirement.

Material Requirements

- A three-ring binder with dividers and loose leaf paper or a spiral bound notebook.
- At least two blue or black ink pens, at least two pencils and a yellow highlighter.

I have read and understand the expectations and rules for Mr. Hidalgo's 11th grade U.S. History course.

Student Name

Student Signature

Date

Parent Name

Parent Signature

Date

