

# Advanced Placement United States History

## 2018-2019

### Course Description:

The Advanced Placement program in United States History is designed to provide students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and issues of United States History. The course prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by full-year introductory college survey courses in United States history. Students will learn to interpret and evaluate the relative significance of primary and secondary source material, and to present their evidence and conclusions clearly and persuasively in an essay format. This class requires a level of participation and effort well beyond the ordinary high school level. We cover a large amount of content and must move quickly. The AP US History Test will be FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2019.

### Things to Consider

- Successful APUSH students are strong independent learners. With the numerous time constraints placed on the typical high school class period, coupled with the small number of weeks each semester, there is not enough time to cover the large amount of material necessary solely in class.
- The amount of work per week varies; however, the class covers approximately two to three chapters a week. There are also in-class essays throughout the school year. In addition to your nightly assignments, students should expect to have some homework over vacations. On average, students should expect one to two hours per night minimum preparing course material.

### Words of Wisdom from past students:

- Study each night---do not get behind.
- Read the textbook and do the chapter notes.
- This is not a course where smart students can succeed without significant studying.
- Forming study groups is helpful.
- Work hard on the in class work because it prepares you for what you'll have to do on the essays.

### Expectations:

- Be in class regularly and participate in class discussions and activities.
- Have a positive attitude.
- Read and take chapter notes regularly.
- Though not a requirement, students are encouraged to take the AP Exam.
- Complete all work to the best of your ability and turn everything in on time.

### Summer Assignments

The summer assignment will allow students to "hit the ground running," saving valuable time. Summer assignments are due on the first day of class! No late work will be accepted. Students who do not turn in the assignment on the first day will receive a zero. *Students who enroll in the course after August 10 will be granted a 2-week extension from the date you enrolled in the course.*

**Assignment:** (All assignment materials can be located on the class website [ghsapush.com](http://ghsapush.com))

1. Read and answer the guiding questions over the selection from *After the Fact*  
Davidson, J. W., & Lytle, M. H. (2000). *After the fact: The art of historical detection*. Boston: McGraw-Hill.
2. Read and complete the reflection assignments for the book *Voyage Long and Strange*  
Horwitz, T. (2008). *A voyage long and strange: Rediscovering the new world*. New York: Henry Holt and.
3. Read and complete the assignments for Chapter 1 of the course textbook from the website

**All work must be handwritten. Expect a formal assessment on this material the first day of class!**

# **APUSH ACADEMIC CONTRACT**

**Please read carefully**

**SIGN AND RETURN THIS PAPER TO YOUR APUSH TEACHER ON THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS**

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- I will take all assigned activities seriously and will complete them to my best ability (regardless of my decision to take the AP exam).
  - I will seek extra help outside of class early in the semester (and whenever I feel like I need it) from either the instructor or from other suggested resources.
  - I will adhere to the GHHS Honor Code, realizing that academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. ALL work will be by own, individual, original product.
  - I will make up all missed assignments and be prepared for pre-assigned class activities on the day I return.
  - I will turn in all required class work and home work when due. I understand unexcused late work will not be accepted for credit.
  - I understand that there are no extra credit assignments.
  - I understand that failure to complete the summer assignment by the first day of class will result in a ZERO.

*Sign below to indicate that you have read the course description and understand the expectations for APUSH.*

**Student Name** (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Student email (print): \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Name** (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent email (print): \_\_\_\_\_