

AP US HISTORY

Thank you for your interest in signing up for AP US History! As your future teacher, I would love to get to know you a bit better, so I have created the following activities to help me get a sense of who you are, why you want to take the class, and why you think history is so important! Please complete the tasks and bring them, with a signed APUSH contract, and a copy of your transcript. If you have any questions for me, please let me know! *If you decide to not stay in the class, then YOU must speak with your counselor directly otherwise you will be stuck in the class all next year!!*

Things to think about before signing up for APUSH – Past APUSH Student Advice:

- Time management is VERY IMPORTANT! At least 1 hour of reading a night, and possibly 2 hours if you do not read quickly! You will need to set deadlines for yourself in terms of how much to read each night and how much of your packet to accomplish each day.
- Don't procrastinate!!!
- Writing is important! If you are doing well in English (A or B), then you should do okay in APUSH, but if you are not, then this class may not be for you!
- Don't sign up for too many AP classes – they each require a lot of time and energy, so do not over burden yourself, you still should enjoy your life!
- Make sure you are actually interested in US History
- Watch the news
- Don't be afraid to ask questions and come to talk to the teacher if you are struggling! Don't let yourself get too far behind before you reach out!

Step 1: Sign up for AP US History when you go with your class to sign up for your classes. If this time has already passed, then please make sure to talk to your counselor immediately to make sure they add you to the class.

Step 2: Sign-up for Remind to get updates about summer homework, due dates, and other important class information – Text @apush1819 to (925) 968-4837 – I use this frequently to get in contact with students!

Step 3: Both you and your parents must read, initial, and sign the APUSH contract and print out a copy of your transcript (you can get this from your counselor)

Step 4: Complete the following short writing tasks – I'm looking at your writing style, your ability to follow formatting directions, and the thoroughness of your responses

All assignments should be typed with 1 inch margins, double spaced (text only – not your heading), and 12 point font

Task 1: Letter of interest (1 page)

Your response should include: A bit of information about yourself as a person and a student. Why are you interested in studying US History? Why do you want to take AP US History? What are you involved in outside of school? How do you plan on handling the time and workload that will be required of an AP class? Also, this is the perfect time to let me know if you would like to meet with me one on one to ask any questions about the class.

Task 2: Analyzing the study of history (1-2 pages)

This assignment will require you to think about **why and how we study History in 2017**. I would like you to take some time with this question, and really think about the significance of history in our modern world. Feel free to research other historians' points of view (make sure to cite them if you use any of their ideas)! Think about: the role history plays in political, economic, and social issues today; the different aspects of history we can focus on; and the different methods that we can learn about and interpret history – please try to think beyond just that we need to study history to understand our past or that we don't want to make the same mistakes.

Step 3: Turn packet into G215

This will be due by Friday, April 13

This is considered your first "assignment". If you cannot take the time to complete this simple application, then this class may be too much work for you! You may turn it in earlier. After April 13, I will be scheduling meetings with students to discuss the class a bit more and to give you all a chance to take a more in depth look at the workload and tests/quizzes we take in this class.

If you have any questions about the application, please feel free to stop by my room (G215) before or after school or email me at ms.parfitt@gmail.com.

TURN IN CHECKLIST:

- APUSH contract
- Both writing assignments printed and attached in order
- Transcript

ALL OF THIS SHOULD BE DROPPED OFF IN G215!