

**Introduction to AP History Courses:**

The AP program is designed to provide students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials presented by United States history. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by full-year introductory college courses. Students should learn to assess historical materials-- their relevance to a given interpretive problem, their reliability, and their importance-- and to weigh the evidence and interpretations presented in historical scholarship. Conclusions must be drawn based upon an informed judgment and presented with evidence in persuasive written responses. The AP exam will be administered in May, 2010.

This is a very rigorous course of study that will require tremendous effort and commitment of your time. The reward is in the additional skills you will build as a result of your hard work (and, of course, the college credit you may earn).

**Scope of course:**

The AP United States history course deals with the period 1492 AD to present. The following is a rough outline of areas to be emphasized:

- Discovery and Settlement 1492-1650
- America and the British Empire 1650-1754
- Revolution and the New Republic 1754-1800
- The Age of Jefferson 1800-1816
- Nationalism, Economic Expansion, and Sectionalism
- The Age of Jackson 1828-1848
- Territorial Expansion and Sectional Crisis
- Creating an "American" culture
- The Civil War Era and Reconstruction 1850-1877
- New South and the Last West
- Industrialization and Corporate Consolidation
- Urban Society
- Intellectual and Cultural Movements
- National Politics 1877-1896: The Gilded Age
- Foreign Policy 1865-1914
- The Progressive Era
- The First World War
- The 1920's
- Depression, New Deal, and Diplomacy 1929-1941
- The Second World War
- Eisenhower and Modern Republicanism
- Kennedy's New Frontier; Johnson's Great Society
- The Nixon Era
- The United States Since 1974

- excerpted from The College Board Advanced Placement Course Description

**Method of Covering the Material:**

There is an extensive body of reading required to be successful in this course. While the reading will be dealt with in class, the student is responsible for dealing with the basic

text and preparing questions/concerns for class discussion. There will not be daily "notes" given on the basic text.

All of the following will be a part of this class.

- Group work and presentations (verbal, in front of the class)
- Readings with questions to answer
- Analyzing primary sources, taking notes from these sources, and preparing outlines
- Compare/contrast essays
- Lectures/note taking
- Test writing/grading
- research and presentation in various forms

### **Grading:**

All written assignments done outside of class will be considered as either quizzes or tests. There will be periodic quizzes on the reading assignments, and there will be formal essay/multiple choice tests. With the exception of reading quizzes, you will be given at least four days notice of all formal tests, and due dates for research papers/reaction papers and interpretations will be announced in a manner appropriate to the assignment. Quizzes count once, tests twice in computing averages. Homework average is computed by dividing points earned by total points possible. Reading quizzes are part of the homework average. Due dates will be coordinated to avoid conflicts with other courses whenever possible.

### **Miscellaneous Information:**

Please come to class on time, and be ready to start immediately. "Tardy" means that you are not in the room and seated before the scheduled start of class. Please do not show up here a few second before class begins asking if you can go to your locker to get your books etc.-- that is to be done prior to the start time.

### **Fire Drills/Assemblies**

The Fire Exit route is posted on the wall-- we all leave together, quietly, and stay out of the parking lot. The schedule is posted on the bulletin board by the door. The main office is open from 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

When class is called to an assembly, we must leave together and sit in assigned seating. Attendance will be taken.

### **My Schedule:**

Period:	Days:	B Days:
1/2	Economics 106	AP US rm 106
3/4	Prep rm 260	Prep rm 260
5/6	Economics rm 106	AP US rm 106
7/8	QSH-cafeteria	AP Euro rm 106

My office is upstairs in rm 260. Please take the time to come and talk to me if you have any questions or concerns. I get here at about 7:20 a.m., and I am usually here until 2:50 or so. If you need me to be here beyond 2:35 on a particular day, let me know a day or so in advance and I'll be available. You can contact me through voice mail-dial 256-4175, then enter 1026 and leave me a message—or, my email is [dbartlett@newpaltz.k12.ny.us](mailto:dbartlett@newpaltz.k12.ny.us). Good luck and have fun this year!