

Advanced Placement United States History Syllabus

2016-2017

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Course Description:

This course will cover the entire scope of United States history from the early exploration of North America to the present day. This is a survey course in that we will examine a variety of subjects in a general manner as opposed to studying a specific aspect of American history in great detail.

This class is designed to prepare the motivated student for the Advanced Placement Exam in United States History and a college-level curriculum in U.S. History.

Student Work

Students will be expected to successfully complete the following assignments: long essays, document based essays, reading quizzes, unit exams, participation in class discussions and primary source analysis.

Objectives:

- The student will be able to analyze and interpret primary and secondary source documents.
- The student will be able to understand an analytical prompt/question and create a competent and well organized response.
- The student will be able to appreciate and understand America's political, economic, cultural, diplomatic, and social history.
- The student will be able to develop and improve writing, research, and reading skills using a variety of strategies.
- The student will be able to improve critical and higher-ordered thinking skills, with special emphasis on analysis.

Recommended Resources:

- 1) Boyer, Paul S., Clark, Clifford E. *The Enduring Vision*, 5th ed
- 2) McGraw Hill's, 5 Steps to a 5 in US History; Stephen Armstrong.

Required Text:

- 1) Shi, David Emory; Tindall, George Brown. America; A Narrative History, 8th edition (Full Version Only)

The AP test given in May has two parts:

Part I

- A. (40%) Multiple Choice – 55 Questions:**
- B. (20%) 4 Short Answer Questions**

Part II: Free Response Writing Section

- A. (25%) 1 DBQ Essay**
- B. (15%) 1 Long Essay**

Students will be expected to have a large three ring binder, with at least ten dividers and loose leaf paper to organize important assignments and study guides. You must bring pens and paper everyday. I will not provide them for you.

Class Procedures:

Typical weekly class procedures include guided lecture and discussion using powerpoint notes, maps, primary source documents and short video clips. Emphasis on active student learning is promoted by questioning, small group work, and writing activities. Assessments are roughly every 2 to 3 weeks testing both writing and comprehension. Reading quizzes will be given weekly.

GRADE EVALUATION

DBQ/Essays	25%
Multiple Choice Exams	30%
Final Exam 1 st Semester/End of Course Exam	20%
Classwork\Homework	10%
Reading Quizzes	15%

Fulton County Grading Scale	
A	90 and above
B	80-89
C	70-79
F	Below 70

EXPECTATIONS:

Here at Northview, we have high expectations of what it means to be a Titan. In the classroom a Titan consistently demonstrates:

- *Integrity*: is honest; follows honor code; is on time; takes pride in one's work
- *Positive Attitude*: speaks/thinks positively; follows directions; sees the value in the class content
- *Compassion*: assume good will on the part of the teacher; be a team player; respect and support others
- *Personal Responsibility*: Use time wisely; be prepared for all class assignments; strive for success; dress appropriately

DAILY PREPARATION:

The student should bring the following every day:

-Pen, pencils, and paper

-A well-organized binder

-BRING YOUR TEXTBOOKS EVERY DAY

-Students may be asked periodically to turn in classwork assignments for a graded notebook check. This requires being engaged in all class activities, finish them at home as necessary, and keeping an organized binder.

-Work done for other classes may be confiscated.

*Please understand that we **STRONGLY ADVISE** that each student prepares for this class by (1) reading the textbook according to our recommended pacing, and (2) completing the KBAT, which is a unit study guide. These activities are not necessarily mandatory, but they will greatly aid the students in their preparation for quizzes and tests. Although we certainly make use of PPTs and lectures, we do not necessarily lecture on every topic that will be on the test. Only through reading the textbook and/or filling out the KBAT can the student assess their mastery of the standards and see if they have learned the appropriate information through our various class activities.

PHONES:

-Electronic devices or cell phones are allowed during the school day **ONLY** when authorized by staff or administration. Often we will allow you to use your phones to conduct research in the classroom and encourage you to bring devices that can access the Internet for this purpose, but for this purpose only. Staff members are **REQUIRED** to confiscate all unauthorized electronic devices. Such items can only be released to a parent/guardian after 4:00 p.m. of the same school day or to the student after 4:00 p.m. on the following school day. Parents and/or students must see the School Resource Officer or Campus Security Associate to retrieve an electronic device.

ATTENDANCE & TARDIES:

- Students are expected to be in class and ready to begin work before the tardy bell sounds. Upon the first tardy, you will be given a written warning. The second tardy will earn a private detention, the third tardy an administrative referral and two days public detention, and the fourth tardy will earn an administrative referral, Saturday school, and possible further consequences.
- If you are absent, you must obtain an admit slip from the attendance office before going to class. It is your responsibility to show your admit slip to your teacher, get it signed, and ask what you missed.
- Students with an excused absence will be granted an extension to complete all missed assignments equal to the duration of the absence, with no penalty. Students with an unexcused absence may make up missed assignments, but the work may be treated as late work for partial credit.
- If you are absent the day before a quiz or test, you are still expected to take the assessment on the day you return!
- Teachers reserve the right to give a fair alternate assessment to any student who is absent during a graded assignment of any kind, including quizzes or tests.

LATE WORK POLICY:

Students are required to submit work on the due date. If a student submits an assignment late, the penalty is as follows: **a 30% reduction in the final score will be applied.** While this penalty is stiff, it is still absolutely in the student's best interests to turn in assignments late, rather than not at all. Half-credit is drastically better than a 0 (which can ruin a course average), and students are not eligible for recovery unless they have submitted all class assignments. We accept late work at any time until ten (10) days before the end of the semester. Please refer to the handbook for more details on this policy.

PROVISION FOR IMPROVING GRADES:

Opportunities designed to allow students to recover from a low or failing cumulative grade will be allowed when **all work required** to date has been completed and the student has demonstrated a legitimate effort to meet all course requirements. **Students should contact the teacher** concerning recovery opportunities. Teachers are expected to establish a reasonable time period for recovery work to be completed during the semester. All recovery work must be directly related to course objectives and must be completed ten school days prior to the end of the semester.

Teachers will determine when and how students with extenuating circumstances may improve their grades.

In simple language, here is what this means: If you have an average of 74 or below in the class, and you fail an assignment, you are eligible for recovery for that assignment. It is the student's responsibility to ask for recovery WITHIN 5 DAYS of receiving the grade for the failed assignment. After getting the assignment, the student will have 10 DAYS to complete the

assignment. The actual recovery assignment is at the teacher's discretion. Please note that if you have any 0s in the gradebook, you are not eligible for recovery. You need to make up any 0s for the recovery to count. While you have 10 days to complete a recovery assignment, you can turn in missing assignments up to 10 days before the end of the semester.

HONOR CODE:

As members of Northview High School, we honor academic and personal integrity. We uphold the values of honesty, integrity, respect, responsibility, and our mission is to instill excellence in academics.

Cheating has been defined as giving or receiving, in any form, information relating to a gradable experience including the use of sources of information other than those specifically approved by the teacher, either during or outside of class.

Examples of cheating include, but are not limited to, visual exchanges (cheat sheets, copying, open books or notes, writing on hands, shoes, or desks, calculators, etc.), and verbal, electronic or coded exchanges. Other examples include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, discussing tests with students who have not taken the test, copying homework assignments, not citing sources, etc.

When a student is found to be cheating, the teacher may issue a grade of zero for the assignment. This assignment may not be made up nor will the student be eligible for recovery. It is the responsibility of each classroom teacher to adhere to this policy. The teacher will complete an Honor Code Violation form; have the student sign, and follow-up with a phone call to a parent/guardian. The office will mail a copy to the parent/guardian and place a copy in the student's disciplinary file. Honor Code violations will be reviewed when considering students for awards and recommendations.

A student who gives his/her original work to copy – in whole or in part – to another student to turn in as an original assignment is guilty of a very serious wrong. Such action constitutes willful participation in a deliberate deception; the student supplying the work should expect to be dealt with accordingly.

Upon teacher request, students may be required to submit research papers or other written work to turnitin.com. The website checks the submission for plagiarism, provides a receipt for the student to give to the teacher, and reports to the teacher that the student's work was not copied from any source.

The **first offense** of academic dishonesty results in a score of 0 for the assignment, and loss of ability to do any recovery. The student is also referred to the administrator, parents are notified, and notice goes in your permanent file. Further offenses include all of the above consequences plus further consequences such as ISS, OSS, removal from extracurricular activities, and more as deemed necessary by the administrator.

Examples of honor code violations: copying work or allowing another person to copy; plagiarizing work; cheating during quizzes/tests; discussing quizzes/tests/essays with other students

TEACHER AVAILABILITY:

The easiest way to contact us is through the email addresses listed at the top of the syllabus. We are available by appointment for extra help, study sessions, or make-up work. **Students, please see your teacher if you are confused or concerned so that we may remedy the situation.** Parents, please feel free to contact the teacher should you have any concerns or questions.

*If at any point you want to know what your grade is, please know that you may check HAC (Home Access Center) for the most up-to-date snapshot of your current progress.

Learn to Read More Effectively: You can read more effectively by doing the following:

*Read actively; don't just look at the words. If you spend a half-hour "reading", but are unable to recall anything when you are done, you have wasted your time. Pause to self-check for understanding after each page. Do not ignore pictures, diagrams, tables and sidebars in your textbook. These features serve to make the text more interesting and may include important information. Take notes as you read, but don't just transcribe the book. If you can condense a 30-page chapter to a few pages of good notes written in your own words, it is going to be much easier to review and you will have proven to yourself you know how to express the main ideas.

DISCLAIMER:

All Fulton County and Northview policies will be enforced within the classroom. Any policy or procedure outlined above may be changed if the teacher deems it in the best interests of the students, and notice of such changes will be provided.