



## Advanced Placement (AP) United States History Course Syllabus

### Required Text

Foner, Eric. *Give Me Liberty: An American History*. Advanced Placement 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition. W.W. Norton & Company, 2013.

Foner, Eric. *Voices of Freedom: Vol I and II*. Advanced Placement 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition. W.W. Norton & Company, 2011.

### Instructor Contact Information and Availability

**Mr. Zelenak**

Room 271  
(763) 391-8500 Voicemail 32271  
[zelenakg@district279.org](mailto:zelenakg@district279.org)

**Office Hours:**

7:00-7:30 and 2:00-3:00.

*Guided Study (Open invitation to ALL students):*

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays

On occasion, other responsibilities such as meetings, extra curricular duties and other business may conflict with these hours. It is recommended that you check with the instructor for availability.

### Course Description

According to the College Board's description, "The Advanced Placement Program is a collaborative effort among motivated students; dedicated teachers; and committed high schools, colleges, and universities." In keeping with this belief, Advanced Placement: United States History is a course designed to provide an introductory college-level experience for high school students. Beyond providing an instructional survey of United States History, students will be working in preparation to take the AP Exam in May. This course requires the student to read extensively, master a large body of historical information, analyze and interpret documents and write critical essays. Each of these components will be taught and assessed throughout the scope of the course. Due to the challenging and rigorous nature of the curriculum, students who aspire to be successful in this course will need to be active in all classroom activities, consistently focused on all course requirements, and engaged in on-going study and preparation.

In addition, the course will focus on a series of key historical themes that have been determined by the College Board as essential to a comprehensive study of United States History. Some of these themes are: The American Identity, Work, Exchange and Technology, Peopling, Politics and Power, America in the World, Environment and Geography, and Ideas, Beliefs and Culture.

Additionally, the College Board has placed additional emphasis on "Historical Thinking" skills. Descriptions of these can be found in the AP Student Handbook

Be advised that the nature of this course demands a commitment to scholarship that may be unlike any course in which you have previously enrolled. That which is discussed on Day 3 or Day 7 will be equally important on Day 37. As such,

time-management and self-advocacy skills are imperative. All students should maximize their ability to communicate with both the instructor and classmates; prepare both short-term and long-term plans for success; and recognize that learning usually means being wrong the first time. Remember that every day is a day to learn; and every day could be a day to show what you have learned. While all major, summative exams will be pre-announced, quizzes and other formative assessments may occur at any time.

Finally, it is my belief that education is not merely a means to an end, but an end in itself. While your motivations for taking this class may vary widely, my motivation in teaching this course is to help each of you not just learn about history, but to help each of you begin to become historians and scholars. With hard-work, commitment, and recognition of our mutual responsibilities we will all meet success.

### Tardiness, Truancy and Passes

No locker passes will be issued in this course. Come prepared to class with all required materials and assignments.

### Absences and Make-Up Procedure

It is **your** responsibility to get missed notes and assignments.

1. Check [www.mrzsneighborhood.com](http://www.mrzsneighborhood.com) under the **Daily Activity Calendar** link. You may use the computer in the back of the classroom or check from home or in the media center.
2. Turn in all late/absent work to the **Hourly Work** baskets (the black baskets on the bookshelf by the door)!
3. Pick up all assignments and handouts on the shelves marked **Daily Assignments and Handouts** or download/print them at home or in the media center.
4. All tests and quizzes must be made-up **before or after** school, guided study or during a **study hall**. See me to schedule a time. All tests and quizzes must be made up within 5 days of the absence.

### Class Website

With time at a premium, a website has been created to improve home and school communication and assist students and parents keep up with classroom activities, resources, assignments and due dates. In addition the website contains downloadable and printable assignments, handouts and other materials that may be helpful to students. This site can be found on the web at:

[www.mrzsneighborhood.com](http://www.mrzsneighborhood.com)

### Course Exams/Quizzes

Quizzes on reading material and classroom instruction may happen on any date. These quizzes will generally be formative in nature and as such may not be pre-announced. However, all summative exams covering unit outcomes, as well as all summative essays and DBQs will be announced in advance and posted in the classroom.

## Course Grading Scale and Policies

Student work will be assessed in accordance with school, district, and professional best practices policies. 100% of students' grades are based on summative (final) assessments. Formative (practice and diagnostic) assessments, although a tremendously important part of practice and evaluation of incremental progress, are not calculated into final grade. Grades will be reported according to the following scale:

<b>3.51 = A</b>	<b>2.50 = B-</b>	<b>1.84 = D+</b>
<b>3.00 = A-</b>	<b>2.34 = C+</b>	<b>1.67 = D</b>
<b>2.84 = B+</b>	<b>2.17 = C</b>	<b>1.50 = D-</b>
<b>2.67 = B</b>	<b>2.00 = C-</b>	<b>&lt; 1.50 = F</b>

If a student has taken the AP exam and passed it, that student will have all three of their trimester grades readjusted if their score in any given trimester was lower than the following:

<b>AP Test Score</b>	<b>Minimum Trimester Grade</b>
3	B
4	A-
5	A

## Retesting and Revision

Students may retake or revise **summative assessments** for additional credit. In order to be eligible for retesting/revision, students may be asked to fulfill specific requirements before a reassessment is administered.

Final Exams are *revision opportunities* and not considered additional summative assessments. Each summative unit exam will have a corresponding portion on the trimester final. If the student scores better on that portion of the final than they did on the unit exam, the score from the unit exam will be replaced with the higher score from the final.

## Late Work and Due Dates

Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the given due date. Act responsibly and turn them in on time.

## Extra Credit

There are no extra credit opportunities for this course.

## Required Materials

Bring these to class EVERY DAY.

- iPad and earbuds
- Pen and #2 Pencil.
- Paper
- Folder or 3 ring binder for:
  - Notes.
  - Handouts and Readings. There will be a LOT of them.
  - Assignments. Keep all assignments in case of any data entry errors and use them as study guides. Throw away at your own risk.

Other materials (not necessary every day):

- 2 GB Flash Drive (for videos you may miss as a result of absence)
- A stylus may be a helpful tool for annotating some assignments on your iPad. Not required, however.

## Course Outline

### Unit One - The American Colonies to 1763

*Periods 1 (1491-1607) and 2 (1607-1754)*

1. A New World
2. Beginnings of English America: 1607-1660
3. Creating Anglo-America: 1660-1750
4. Slavery, Freedom and the Struggle for Empire to 1763

### Unit Two - A New Nation

*Period 3 (1754-1800)*

5. The American Revolution: 1763-1783
6. The Revolution Within
7. Founding a Nation: 1783-1789
8. Securing the Republic: 1790-1815

### Unit Three - Growing Pains and Reform in America

*Period 4 (1800-1848)*

9. The Market Revolution
10. Democracy in America: 1815-1840
11. The Peculiar Institution
12. An Age of Reform: 1820-1840

### Unit Four - Slavery, Freedom and the Crisis of Union

*Period 5 (1848-1877)*

13. A House Divided: 1840-1860
14. A New Birth of Freedom: 1861-1865
15. "What is Freedom?": Reconstruction 1865-1877

### Unit Five - The Gilded Age and Imperialism

*Periods 6 (1865-1898)*

16. America's Gilded Age: 1870-1890
17. Freedom's Boundaries, At Home and Abroad: 1890-1900

### Unit Six - Depression and Wars

*Period 7 (1890-1945)*

18. The Progressive Era: 1900-1916
19. Safe for Democracy: The United States and World War I 1916-1920
20. From Business Culture to Great Depression: The 20s
21. The New Deal
22. Fighting for the Four Freedoms: World War II

### Unit Seven - A Post War Superpower

*Period 8 (1945-1980)*

23. The United States and the Cold War: 1945-1953
24. An Affluent Society: 1953-1960
25. The Sixties: 1960-1968

### Unit Eight - Modern America

*Period 9 (1980- the Present)*

26. The Triumph of Conservatism: 1969-1988
27. Globalization and It's Discontents: 1989-2000
28. September 11 and the Next American Century

### Course Reading Implementation:

With the exception of Week 1, all reading and notes from *Give Me Liberty!* are due at the beginning of the week for which they are assigned. Primary documents and test dates are subject to revision as necessitated by time.