

Grech
Advanced Placement U.S. History Course Outline
2006-2007

Welcome to AP U.S. History. This class is designed to balance inspiring interest in this country's past with excelling on the Advanced Placement test in May. It is a particularly tough exam that will require a great deal of reading and practice writing on your part. Our goal is to establish a reservoir of knowledge on our way to interpreting developments over the last 400 hundred years. You will need facts to establish context and then be able to recall those facts in supporting your critical assertions about events and conflicts of the past. All of you have shown the ability and the work ethic to be here.

Tests in here will be multiple-choice, free response and document based, all in preparation for the AP Test. So your well-informed opinions and participation in class discussion are vital to your grade. You will also need to read an assignment from your text or from other sources virtually every night for homework. (DBQs listed below refer to a general theme on which document based questions will be based.)

Course Outline

Discovery to British Empire, 1492-1754

European society, exploration, colonization, conflicts with natives
Mercantilism, slavery, family, farms, Great Awakening, immigration
(Summer Research Assignment and reading Kennedy Chap. 1-5 was up to 1750)

Road to Revolution, 1754-1783

Seven Years' War, Acts, Philosophy, Congress
Declaration, War, Articles of Confederation
DBQ: How did the French and Indian War contribute to Revolution?
Reading: Kennedy Chap. 6-8

Constitution and New Republic, 1776-1800

Federalists vs. Anti-Federalists, Bill of Rights
Washington's Presidency, Election of 1800
DBQs: How effective were the Articles of Confederation?
What values differences culminated in the Alien and Sedition Acts?
Reading: Kennedy Chap. 9-10

The Age of Jefferson, 1800-1816

Louisiana Purchase and How to "Settle" it...slavery?
Marshall's Supreme Court and Becoming a Nation
War of 1812 and Strengthening the Nation
DBQ: To what extent was the War of 1812 the beginning of a national identity?
Reading: Kennedy Chap. 11-12

Nationalism and Economic Expansion, 1816-1840

Era of Good Feelings, Missouri Compromise, Beginning of factory system,
Jacksonian democracy and the “common man”, Second party system,
Nullification and the Bank War
DBQ: How did Andrew Jackson reformulate America? How did he change it?
Reading: Kennedy Chap. 13-15

Sectionalism

Southern cotton, trade, industry, culture, slavery
Northern industry, labor, immigration, slums
Westward expansion, life on frontier, removal of Native Americans
Reading: Kennedy Chap. 16

Manifest Destiny and annexation – “Sea to Shining Sea”

Mexican War, slavery and Wilmot Proviso
DBQ: Was the Mexican-American War an unjustified land grab?
Reading: Kennedy Chap. 17, Meyer Chap. 20

1850s – Decade of Crisis and Causes of War

Compromise of 1850, Fugitive Slave Act, *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*
Kansas-Nebraska Act, *Dred Scott* decision, Lecompton
Lincoln-Douglas debates, John Brown, Lincoln's election
DBQ: To what extent was the Constitution itself the problem?
Reading: Kennedy Chap. 18,19, Goodwin selected
Assignment: Make selections to fictional university from characters of the 1850s.

Civil War and Reconstruction

Industry v. Chivalry
Reasons to secede or not to secede
Why did the North eventually win?
“With malice toward none” – Lincoln’s hope dimmed by corruption and zealotry
Reading: Kennedy Chap. 20-22, Goodwin selected

Striking in “rich” on the Western Frontier

Industrialization in the East

A Gilded Age – What did Twain mean by that? Does it apply to today?
Realities of immigration through photos and literature
Reading: Kennedy Chap. 23

Progressive Age and the Expansion of Democracy at Home and Imperialism Abroad

Capitalism finds some limits
American presence in Cuba, Philippines, Hawaii and elsewhere
Theories and practices of World War I
Political personalities: Treaty of Versailles, League of Nations
Reading: Zinn Chap. 12,
Assignment: “Murder” of Theodore Roosevelt...who would have done that?

What was so “Roaring” about the 1920s? Disaster in the making?
Excitement of the Jazz Age and the House that Ruth built.
Dark side of social relations
Reading: Kennedy Chap. 32-33

Depression and the 1930s
Causes – could they happen again?
Pastimes during the worst of times
Recovery – New Deal Policies or World War II
Reading: Kennedy Chap. 34

WWII – Result of Isolationism?
Why such extremism in Germany and Japan?
Battles of Britain, Normandy, Bulge and “island hopping”
Reading: Kennedy Chap. 35-36

Cold War – Stability through Fear
Hot Fear: Korea, Vietnam, Cuban Missile Crisis
McCarthyism
Reading: Kennedy Chap. 37, 38, 39

Political Scandal, Public Disillusionment, Improvement for Many
Civil Rights and Civil Liberties: An Ongoing Struggle
Watergate, Iran-Contra
Reading: Kennedy Chap. 40, 41

Difficulties of Being the Lone World Power
American role in Middle East, Northern Ireland, Balkans, Africa, and more
Reading: Kennedy Chap. 42

Texts and Supplemental Materials

Borden, Morton, Parties and Politics in the Early Republic, 1789-1815, AHM Publishing, Arlington Heights, Ill., 1967.

Crum, John, The Master AP U.S. History Test Preparation, Arco Thompson Learning, 2001.

Ellis, Joseph, Founding Brothers, Knopf Publishing, New York, 2001.

Franklin, John Hope, Reconstruction, University of Chicago Press, 1961.

Goodwin, Doris Kearns, Team of Rivals, Simon & Schuster, 2005.

Kennedy, David; Cohen, Lizabeth; Bailey, Thomas; *The American Pageant*, 12th Edition, Houghton Mifflin Co., New York, 2002.

- Leckie, Robert, From Sea to Shining Sea, HarperPerennial, New York, 1994.
- Marshall, S.L.A., World War I, Houghton Mifflin, 1987.
- McPherson, James M., Battle Cry Freedom: The Civil War Era, Oxford University Press, 1988.
- Meyer, Michael and Sherman, William, The Course of Mexican History, Fifth Edition, Oxford University Press, 1995.
- Monk, Linda Editor, Ordinary Americans, Close Up Foundation, 1994.
- Miller, Stuart Creighton, Benevolent Assimilation, Yale University Press, 1982.
- Oates, Stephen, The Approaching Fury, Harper Perennial, 1997.
- Sulzberger, C.L., World War II, Houghton Mifflin, 1987.
- Terkel, Studs, Voices of the Great Depression, 1985.
- Vanderwerth, W. C., Indian Oratory, University of Oklahoma Press, 1971.
- Zinn, Howard, A People's History of the United States, Vintage Publications, 1997.

Methods of Student Evaluation and Assessment

Grades in this course will be based on a wide variety of student work:

Quizzes and Examinations	50%	Multiple choice, critical essays, DBQs
Homework assignments	25%	Readings, responses, research essays
Written class assignments	15%	Practice AP essays, outlines, worksheets
Class participation	10%	discussion, group activities, debate