

AP United States History Syllabus

This course is designed to be the equivalent of an introductory college level United States History course and to prepare the student for the AP Exam in May 2007. It is a two-semester survey of United States History from the age of exploration to the present. The class will emphasize mastering historical factual information, writing of essays, analytical thinking skills and the interpretation of documents. Topics to be covered as determined by the College Board include: Discovery and Settlement of the New World, Colonial America, Revolution, Constitution and New Republic, Age of Jefferson, Nationalism and Economic Expansion, Age of Jackson, Creating an American Culture, Territorial Expansion and Sectional Crisis, Civil War, Reconstruction, New South and the West, Industrialization, Urban Society, Cultural Movements, The Gilded Age, Foreign Policy, 1856-1914, Progressives, World War I, the 1920's, Depression and New Deal, Foreign Policy of the 1930's, World War II, Truman and the Cold War, Eisenhower, Kennedy's New Frontier and Johnson's Great Society, Nixon and the United States since 1974.

In addition to the above topics, the course will emphasize key historical themes as determined by the College Board. These themes include the development of an American identity, the role of religion in United States, war and diplomacy, evolution of American culture, economic trends, development of political institutions, social reform movements, the impact of slavery, American diversity and the United States in the global arena. These themes will be emphasized throughout the school year.

Course Texts and Readings:

Alan Brinkley, *American History: A Survey* (Boston: McGraw-Hill College, 1999).

Richard Hofstadter. *The American Political Tradition* (Vintage Books, 1973 [1948])

Various articles assigned from historical journals such as, *American Heritage* and *American History Illustrated*.

Grading

Tests, (multiple choice and essay), pop quizzes, summaries of assigned outside historical articles, SOAPS, (Subject, Occasion, Audience, Purpose, and Speaker, for document analysis practice) and DBQs will make up 80% of the students' grade. The remaining 20% will be a comprehensive multiple choice test given at the end of each quarter.

Course Outline – First Semester

Summer Assignment – Students are to read chapters 1-4 of *American History: A Survey*, Discovery of the New World through start of the Revolution, and answer questions over the reading. The assignment is due the first day of school. The first week of school is spent discussing the readings. A test is given at the end of the first week.

Themes – American Diversity, American Identity, Demographic Change, Religion and Politics and Citizenship.

American Revolution – Two weeks

Text, Brinkley chapter 5. Fighting the war, paying for the war and the economy, war and society (women, Loyalists, Native Americans), diplomacy and the Articles of Confederation.

Themes – War and Diplomacy, Politics and Citizenship and Economic Transformation.

Document analysis – SOAPS assignment using documents from the 1999 DBQ over American Identity.

Article summary – “Triumph at Yorktown” from *American Heritage*.

Pop quiz.

Test – multiple choice and free response essay.

Constitution and New Republic – One and a half weeks

Text, Brinkley chapter 6. Constitutional Convention, Federalist and Antifederalist, Washington's presidency

Whiskey Rebellion, Hamilton's Plan, Jay's and Pinckney's Treaties) and Adam's presidency (war with France, Alien and Sedition Acts).

Themes - Economic Transformation, War and Diplomacy and Politics and Citizenship.

Article summary – “The Letters of Publius” from *American Heritage*

Hofstadter – chapter one, The Founding Fathers.

Pop quiz.

Test – multiple choice and free response essay.

Jeffersonian Era – Two weeks

Text, Brinkley chapter 7. Second Great Awakening, education, early industry, *Marbury v. Madison*, foreign policy- Embargo Act, Lewis and Clark, Madison, War of 1812, Tecumseh, Hartford Convention. Treaty of Ghent.

Themes – Culture, American Identity, Environment, War and Diplomacy, Religion, and Demographic Changes.

Article summary – “Intimate Enemies” from *American Heritage*.

Hofstadter – chapter two, Jefferson.

Document analysis – SOAPS assignment from 1998 DBQ on Jefferson and Madison as strict constructionists.

Pop quiz.

Test – multiple choice and free response essay.

Varieties of American Nationalism – One and a half weeks.

Text, Brinkley chapter 8. Growing economy, improving transportation, fur trade, Era of Good Feelings, Adams-Onis Treaty, Panic of 1819, Missouri Compromise, the Marshall Court, J.Q. Adams as president, election of 1824 and the Corrupt Bargain.

Themes – Economic Transformation, Politics and Citizenship, and Demographic Changes

Article summary – “Trail Blazer of the Far West “about Jedediah Smith from *American Heritage*.

Pop quiz.

Test – multiple choice.

End of first Quarter – comprehensive multiple choice test over chapters 1-8 of Brinkley.

Jacksonian America – Two weeks

Text, Brinkley chapter 9. Common Man, Nullification Crisis, Webster-Hayne Debate, Indian Removal, National Bank, Panic of 1837, Whigs and the election of 1840. Hofstadter – chapter 3 on Andrew Jackson.

Themes – American Diversity, Economic Transformation, American Identity and Slavery and Its Legacy.

Take home DBQ – 1990 DBQ on Jacksonian Democrats.

Article Summary – “Jackson’s Fight With the Money Power” *American Heritage*.

Pop Quiz.

Test - multiple choice.

Economic Revolution, Antebellum Culture and Reform – Two weeks

Text, Brinkley chapters 10, 11 and 12. Canal Age, Railroads, Industry and Technology, Immigration, Women and the “Cult of Domesticity”, Agriculture, King Cotton, White Southern Society, the “Peculiar Institution” and the Culture of Slavery, Reform Movements and Abolition.

Themes- Economic Transformation, Culture, Reform, Religion, American Identity, Slavery and Its Legacy, and Environment.

Article Summary – “Utopia, Limited” from *American Heritage*.

Pop Quiz.

SOAPS – using documents from 2002 DBQ on Reform Movements 1825 to 1850.

Test – Multiple Choice and free response essay.

The Impending Crisis – Two weeks

Text, Brinkley chapter 13. Manifest Destiny, Texas, Oregon, Mexican War, California Gold Rush, Slavery and the Territories, Compromise of 1850, Kansas-Nebraska Act, Bleeding Kansas, Republican Party, *Dred Scott Case*, Lincoln-Douglas Debates, John Brown, Election of 1860 and Secession.

Themes- War and Diplomacy, Politics and Citizenship, Demographic Changes, American Identity, and Economic Transformations.

Hofstadter – chapter 4 on Lincoln.

In class DBQ – Lincoln a mandate for the abolition of slavery?

Article Summary – “Remembering Big” from *American Heritage*.

Pop Quiz.

Test – Multiple Choice.

Civil War – Two Weeks

Text, Brinkley chapter 14. Secession Crisis, Crittenden Compromise, Fort Sumter, Mobilization, Economic Measures, Strategy and Diplomacy, Emancipation, the War at Home.

Themes – War and Diplomacy, Slavery and Its Legacy, Politics and Citizenship, and Economic Transformations.

Article Summary – “Revolution Not Riot” from *America’s Civil War*.

Pop Quiz.

Test – Multiple Choice

End of Second Quarter - comprehensive multiple choice test over chapters 9-14.

Second Semester

Reconstruction and Conquest of the West – One and a half weeks.

Text, Brinkley chapters 15 and 16. Lincoln's Reconstruction, Johnson's Plan, Congressional Reconstruction, Impeachment, Black Codes, Reconstruction Amendments, Sharecroppers and Tenant Farmers, Birth of Jim Crow, Grant Scandals, New South, Minorities in the West, Miners, Cattle Kingdom, Indian Wars, Dawes Act, Western Farmers and Grievances and Frederick Jackson Turner.

Themes - Demographic Changes, American Diversity, Demographic Changes, Economic Transformations, Politics and Citizenship, Reform, and Culture.

Article Summary – “How the Frontier Shaped American Character” from *American Heritage*.

SOAPS - using documents from the 1992 DBQ over the natural environment and development of the West.

Pop Quiz.

Test – multiple choice and free response essay.

Industrial Supremacy and the Age of the City – One week.

Text, Brinkley chapters 17 & 18. Corporations, Trusts and Monopoly, Gospel of Wealth, Railroad Expansion, Industrial Workers in New Economy, Struggle to Unionize, The Great Strikes, Urbanization, Mass Consumption, Department Stores, Women as Consumers, Redefining Leisure and Culture in the Age of the City.

Themes – Economic Transformation, Environment, Reform, and Culture.

Article Summary – “The Big Road” from *American Heritage*.

SOAPS – using documents from the 2000 DBQ on organized labor from 1875 to 1900.

Pop Quiz.

Test – multiple choice.

Stalemate to Crisis and Imperialism – One and a half weeks.

Text, Brinkley chapters 19 & 20. Patronage, Tariffs, Railroads, Agrarian Revolt, Panic of 1893, Silver Question, William J. Bryan, McKinley, New Manifest Destiny, Splendid Little War, Governing the Colonies, Open Door Policy.

Themes – Reform, Economic Transformation, War and Diplomacy.

Hofstadter – chapter 8 on William J. Bryan.

Article Summary – “Liberal Imperialism” from *American Heritage*.

Pop Quiz.

Test – multiple choice and free response essay.

Rise of Progressivism and the Battle for National Reform – Two weeks.

Text, Brinkley chapters 21 & 22. Muckrakers, Social Gospel, Settlement House Movement, Women and the Professions, Woman Suffrage, Government Reforms, Political Machines, African-Americans and Reform, DuBois and Washington, Labor and Reform, Temperance, Immigration, TR and the Modern Presidency, Square Deal, Big Stick, Panama, Taft and Dollar Diplomacy, Wilson and the Trusts.

Themes – Reform, Politics and Citizenship, Slavery and Its Legacy, Religion, and Diplomacy

Hofstadter – chapter 9 on Teddy Roosevelt.

Article Summary- “I Never Died”, Said He.” Article on Joe Hill from *American History*.

Pop Quiz.

Test – multiple choice

World War I and the Twenties – Two weeks.

Text, Brinkley chapters 23 & 24. Road to War, Wilson and Neutrality, the A.E.F., War and the Economy, Labor and the War, Peace Movement, Fourteen Points, Versailles, Industry and Labor, Red Scare, Economic Growth, Consumerism, Movies and Radio, Women in the 20's, Flapper, Women's Rights, Harlem Renaissance, Prohibition, Nativism and the Klan, Harding and Coolidge, Government and Business.

Themes – Culture, War and Diplomacy, Reform, Religion, Demographic Changes, American Identity, and American Diversity.

Hofstadter – chapter 10 on Woodrow Wilson.

Pop quiz.

In class DBQ, 1997 DBQ on American women 1890-1925.

Test – multiple choice.

Depression and the New Deal – Two weeks.

Text, Brinkley chapters 25 & 26. The Crash, Causes of the Depression, American People During Hard Times, the Depression and American Culture, Herbert Hoover, Bonus Army, Election of 1932, Franklin Roosevelt and the New Deal, Legacies of the New Deal.

Themes – Economic Transformation, Politics and Citizenship, Culture and Reform

Hofstadter – chapter 12 on FDR.

Pop quiz.

Article Summary – “Marching on History” from *Smithsonian*.

SOAPS – using documents from 2003 DBQ over FDR and the Great Depression.

Test – multiple choice and free response essay.

End of Third Quarter – comprehensive multiple choice test over chapters 15- 26.

World War Two – One and a half weeks.

Text, Brinkley chapters 27 & 28. World Crisis, Isolationism, Good Neighbor Policy, Failure of Munich, Neutrality, Road to Pearl Harbor, War in the Pacific, Wartime Economy, Minorities and the War, Children and the War, Wartime Life and Culture, Japanese-American Internment, War in Europe, the Manhattan Project and Dropping the Bomb.

Themes – War and Diplomacy, Culture, and American Identity.

Pop quiz.

Article Summary – “Shell Shock” from *American Heritage*.

Test – multiple choice and free response essay.

Cold War and the Affluent Society – One and a half weeks.

Text, Brinkley chapters 29 & 30. Origins of the Cold War, Yalta and Potsdam, China, Containment Policy, the Marshall Plan, NATO, the Fair Deal, Korean War, HUAC & Alger Hiss, Loyalty Programs and the Rosenbergs, McCarthyism, the Republican Revival, the New Economics, Consumer Culture, Suburban Nation, Television, The Beats, Rock'n'Roll, *Brown Case*, Civil Rights Movement, Decline of McCarthyism, Dulles and Massive Retaliation, Korea and Vietnam, Middle East, Europe and the USSR, the U-2 Crisis.

Themes – Culture, Economic Transformations, Demographic Changes, Religion, War and Diplomacy, American Identity, and Reform.

Article Summary – “Chosen Reservoir” from *American Heritage*.

Pop quiz.

In class DBQ – 2001 DBQ over Cold War fears and Eisenhower administration.

Test- multiple choice.

The Ordeal of Liberalism and the Crisis of Authority – One and a half weeks.

Text, Brinkley chapters 30 & 31. Kennedy and Camelot, Bay of Pigs, Cuban Missile Crisis, Vietnam, Assassination, LBJ and the War on Poverty, Voting Rights, Civil Rights Act, the Great Society, Gulf of Tonkin, Escalation, Quagmire, 1968, Tet, King and Kennedy Assassinations, Nixon Election, Counterculture, Woodstock, Native American Civil Rights Movement, AIM, Women's Liberation, Black Power, Nixon and the War, Vietnamization, Peace With Honor, China and the USSR, Warren Court, Election of 1972, Watergate, Fall of Nixon.

Themes – War and Diplomacy, Reform, Politics and Citizenship, Culture, American Diversity, and Environment.

SOAPS – using documents from the 1995 DBQ over African American Civil Rights Movement of the 1960's.

Pop quiz.

Test – multiple choice.

The Age of Limits – One week.

Text, Brinkley chapter 33. Politics after Watergate, Ford Presidency, Jimmy Carter, Human Rights, Iran Hostage Crisis, Afghanistan, the New Right, the Tax Revolt, Reagan Revolution, Supply Side Economics, Reagan and the World.

Themes – Economic Transformation, Diplomacy, Politics and Citizenship, and Religion

Review for the AP test will take place during lunch or after school. These sessions will take place during the three weeks preceding the AP test.

AP Test first week of May.

After AP test historical videos and Fourth Quarter comprehensive multiple choice test.