This course is designed to provide a college-level experience and preparation for the AP Exam in May 2014. An emphasis is placed on interpreting documents, mastering a significant body of factual information, and writing critical essays. Topics include life and thought in colonial America, revolutionary ideology, constitutional development, Jeffersonian and Jacksonian democracy, nineteenth-century reform movements, and Manifest Destiny. Other topics include the Civil War and Reconstruction, immigration, industrialism, Populism, Progressivism, World War I, the Jazz Age, the Great Depression, the New Deal, World War II, the Cold War, the post-Cold War era, and the United States at the beginning of the twenty-first century.

In addition to the topics listed above, the course will emphasize a series of key themes throughout the year. These themes have been determined by the College Board as essential, to a comprehensive study of United States history. The themes will include discussions of American diversity, the development of a unique American identity, and evolution of American culture, demographic changes over the course of America’s history, economic trends and transformations, environmental issues, the development of political institutions and components of citizenship, social reform movements, the role of religion in the making of the United States and its impact in a multicultural society, the history of slavery and its legacies in the western hemisphere, war and diplomacy, and finally, the place of the United States in an increasingly global arena. The course will trace these themes throughout the year, emphasizing the ways in which they are interconnected and examining the ways in which each helps to shape the changes over time that are so important to understanding United States history.

Textbooks and Resources


Grading will be as follows: multiple choice exams – 40%, Document Based Question essays and free response essays – 30%, study guide questions and chapter terms 30%. All exams will be taken in class. Essays will consist of Document Based Question exams and Free Response essays. Essays will be graded on the following criteria, content, and use of documents in the DBQ essays, outside supporting evidence, grammar, spelling, and evidence of critical thinking. Finally, study guide questions and chapter terms are due on the first day of the week when we cover the chapter.
Fall Semester 2013

All of the following readings should be completed by the beginning of the week during which they will be discussed. Test dates may be rearranged so that all classes can be tested on the same day, but such changes will be announced well in advance.

Each unit also utilizes discussions of and writing about related historiography: how interpretations of events have changed over time, how the issues of one time period have had an impact on the experiences and decisions of subsequent generations, and how such reevaluations of the past continue to shape the way historians see the world today. These discussions are woven throughout the course, but several are listed below.

**Week 1**

**American Pageant: Chapter 1, New World Beginnings**
Pre-Columbian cultures, early explorations, introduction of slavery, Spanish and French claims, the rise of mercantilism

**Week 2**

**American Pageant: Chapter 2, The Planting of English America**
The Chesapeake and southern English colonies, ties with Caribbean economies, British mercantilism

**American Pageant Chapter 3, Settling the Northern Colonies.**
New England and the Puritans, religious dissent, colonial politics and conflict with British authority, the middle colonies

**Primary Source Analysis:**

A Missionary Denounces the Treatment of the Indians in South Carolina
The Intolerant Act of Toleration
Persecutions of the Catholics
Unit Multiple Choice Exam on Chapters 1-3

**Week 3**

**American Pageant: Chapter 4, American Life in the 17th Century**
Tobacco and rice colonies, African-American culture, colonial family life, dissent in New England and the Witch trials

**American Pageant Chapter 5, Colonial Society on the Eve of the Revolution,**
Immigration and demographic change, the Atlantic economy, the Great Awakening, education and culture, colonial politics
The Baconite Grievances (1677) Royal Commission on Bacon’s Rebellion
The Conscience of a Slave Trader (1694) Thomas Phillips

Free Response Essay Exam: Colonial America on the Eve of Revolution

Week 4

American Pageant: Chapter 6, The Duel for North America
Colonial involvement in British imperial wars, consequences of the French and Indian War and the Proclamation of 1763

American Pageant: Chapter 7, The Road to Revolution,
Roots of revolution and the role of mercantilism, end of benign (salutary) neglect, failure of diplomacy, first conflicts between British and colonials

Primary Source Analysis:
“Common Sense” (1776) Thomas Paine
The Declaration of Independence (1776)

Week 5

American Pageant: Chapter 8, American Secedes from the Empire,
The American Revolution, wartime diplomacy, life on the home front, women and the war, the impact of the war on the institution of slavery.

Required Reading: A People’s History of the United States, by Howard Zinn, Chapter 5: A Kind of Revolution

Free Response Essay – The American Revolution

Week 6

American Pageant: Chapter 9, The Confederation and the Constitution,
The role of the Enlightenment, slavery and religion in the political process, wartime diplomacy

Primary Source:
Federalist Papers Number Ten
The Constitution and the Bill of Rights (1787 – 1791) Various Authors

Unit Multiple Choice Exam on Chapters 6-
Week 7

American Pageant: Chapter 10, Launching the New Ship of State,
Early national politics and economics, diplomacy during the French Revolution, the making of the office of the presidency

Week 8

American Pageant: Chapter 11, Triumphs and Travails of Jeffersonian Democracy,
The “Revolution of 1800,” the Marshall Court, diplomacy of Jefferson and Madison, the Embargo Act, acceleration of expansion west.

American Pageant: Chapter 12, The Second War for Independence

DBQ Essay Era of Good Feeling – 2002 DBQ form B

Week 9

American Pageant: Chapter 13, The Rise of a Mass Democracy,
Jacksonian democracy and the Whigs, national policy toward American Indians, the era of the “common man” expansion with the Texas Revolution, slavery and sectionalism

Unit Multiple Choice Exam on Chapters 10-13

Week 10

American Pageant: Chapter 14, Forging the National Economy,
The rise of the market economy, immigration, and the increase in nativism, women in the workplace, the factory system, the transportation revolution, expansion west.

American Pageant: Chapter 15, The Ferment of Reform and Culture,
The Second Great Awakening and the growth of reform, women’s roles in reform movements, creation of a national culture, advances in education and the sciences.

Primary Source Analysis:

Seneca Falls Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions

DBQ Exam – 2002 Released DBQ on reform movements in American 1825-1850.
Week 11

**American Pageant Chapter 16, The South and the Slavery Controversy**
Cotton culture, southern society and the impact of the plantation system, the rise of abolitionist movements

**American Pageant: Chapter 17, Manifest Destiny and its Legacy.**
Expansion under Polk, Manifest Destiny, war with Mexico, Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo

**Required Reading:** A Peoples History of the United States, by Howard Zinn, Chapter 9: Slavery Without Submission, Emancipation Without Freedom

Unit Multiple Choice Exam on Chapters 14-17

Week 12

**American Pageant: Chapter 18, Renewing the Sectional Struggle.**
Popular sovereignty, the Compromise of 1850 and the Fugitive Slave Law, the economics of expansion

**American Pageant Chapter 19, Drifting Toward Disunion.**
Abolition in the 1850s, the impact of Dred Scott, the financial panic of 1857, political crisis in the election of 1860, the coming of the Civil War

**Primary Source Analysis:**
Uncle Tom’s Cabin, (1852) excerpt by Harriet Beecher Stowe

Week 13

**American Pageant: Chapter 20, Girding for War.**
Wartime diplomacy, economic changes in both the North and South, women and the war, issues of civil liberties in wartime

Free Response Essay Civil War

Week 14

**American Pageant Chapter 21, The Furnace of the Civil War**
The Peninsula Campaign, the “Anaconda,” the war in the West, Sherman’s March, Appomattox, the Emancipation Proclamation, the legacy of war in both the North and South

**Primary Source Analysis:**
The Emancipation Proclamation, 1863, Abraham Lincoln
The Gettysburg Address, 1863, Abraham Lincoln
Lincoln’s Second Inaugural Address 1864, Abraham Lincoln
Unit Multiple Choice Exam Chapters 18-21
Week 15

American Pageant: Chapter 22, The Ordeal of Reconstruction,
The politics and economics of Reconstruction, experiences of freedmen, the rise of the Bourbon South and the fate of Reconstruction, impeachment politics and the balance of power

American Pageant Chapter 23, Political Paralysis in the Gilded Age.
The rise of big business and the role of business in politics, class and ethnic conflict, the rise of Jim Crow, Populism

Primary Source Analysis:
Emancipation Violence in Texas, (c. 1865), Former Slave Woman
Thaddeus Stevens demands Black Suffrage, (1867) Thaddeus Stevens
Maria Carter Describes an Encounter with the Klan, (1871) Maria Carter
The Supreme Court declares that Separate is Equal, (1896), Majority Opinion, Plessy v. Ferguson
Free Response Essay on either Reconstruction or the Gilded Age

Week 16

American Pageant: Chapter 24, Industry Comes of Age,
Era of the Robber Barons, the lives of the working classes and the growth of unionism, government and politics of regulation, the United States in the world economy

Week 17

American Pageant: Chapter 25, America Moves to the City,
Urbanization, new waves of immigration, renewed instances of nativism, cultural life in urban America, the “New Woman,” African-Americans push for expanded civil rights

American Pageant Chapter 26, The Great West and the Agricultural Revolution,
The close of the frontier and its impact, industrialization of agriculture and political dissent among farmers

Primary Source:
Fredrick Law Olmstead Applauds the City’s Attraction, (1871) Fredrick Law Olmstead
Jacob Riis Goes Slumming, (1890), Jacob Riis
Harpers Weekly decries the Battle of Little Bighorn, (1876) Harper’s Weekly

Unit Multiple Choice Exam – Chapters 22-26

Week 18

American Pageant: Chapter 27, Empire and Expansion, Annexation of Hawaii, Spanish-American War, Acquisition of colonies

American Pageant: Chapter 28, Progressivism and the Republican Roosevelt, Progressive reform and the trusts, demographics of urbanization and the resulting political impact, “Dollar Diplomacy,” environmental issues

Fall Final Exam – Multiple Choice and Essay

End of Fall Semester

Spring Semester 2014

Week 19


Primary Source Analysis:

Theodore Roosevelt Proposes Government Regulation (1912), Theodore Roosevelt Woodrow Wilson asks for a “Free Field and No Favor” ((1912), Woodrow Wilson

Week 20

American Pageant: Chapter 30, The War to End War, War in Europe and war on the home front, propaganda and civil liberties, the politics behind the making of the Treaty of Versailles and its rejection by the U.S. Senate.

Multiple Choice Exam Chapter 29-30
Week 21

American Pageant Chapter 31, American Life in the Roaring Twenties
The “Red Scare” and immigration issues, a mass-consumption economy, the Jazz Age and the Harlem Renaissance, traditionalism versus modernism. Conservatism versus Liberalism

American Pageant: Chapter 32—The Politics of Boom and Bust

Primary Source Analysis:

Fiorello La Guardia Pillories Prohibition ((1926), Fiorello La Guardia
Margaret Sanger Campaigns for Birth Control (1920), Margaret Sanger
Hoover Defends his Record (1932), Herbert Hoover
Roosevelt Indicts Hoover (1932), Franklin D. Roosevelt

Free Response Essay – The Jazz Age

Week 22

American Pageant Chapter 33, The Great Depression and the New Deal
FDR and “recovery, relief, reform,” demographic changes associated with the Depression, cultural changes in the 1930s, the Supreme Court and the balance of political power in government

American Pageant: Chapter 34, FDR and the Shadow of War
Attempts at neutrality and isolation, diplomacy and economics of the prewar years, the move to war following Pearl Harbor

Required Reading: A People’s History of the United States, by Howard Zinn, Chapter 15: Self Help in Hard Times

Week 23

American Pageant Chapter 35, America in World War II
The war in Europe and in the Far East, the home front, changes for women and minorities during the war, the decision to use the atomic bomb and its consequences

Primary Source Analysis:
The War Transforms the Economy (1943) Merlo, J. Pusey, “Revolution at Home” South Atlantic Quarterly 42 (July 1943); 207-219, published by Duke University Press
A Japanese American is Convicted (1943), Hirabayshi v. United States 320 U.S. 83
Japan’s Horrified Reaction (1945) Nippon Times (Tokyo), August 10, 1945

Unit Multiple Choice Exam – Chapter 32-35

Week 24

**American Pageant: Chapter 36, The Cold War Begins**
Postwar prosperity and the Baby Boom, communism and containment, diplomacy and the Marshall Plan, the Korean War, the Red Scare, the United States as a world power

**American Pageant: Chapter 37, The Eisenhower Era**
Consumer culture in the 1950s, the civil rights revolution, McCarthyism, Cold War expansion, the space race, postwar literature and culture

Week 25

**American Pageant: Chapter 38, The Stormy Sixties**
The Cold War continues, expansion of the war in Vietnam, the civil rights revolution and evolution, Johnson and the Great Society, immigration and demographic changes

**Primary Source Analysis:**

Martin Luther King writes from a Birmingham Jail (1963), Reprinted by arrangement with the Estate of Martin Luther King Jr.
President Johnson Supports Civil Rights (1965) Public Paper of the President of the United States, Lyndon B. Johnson 1965
A War Protester Decides to Resist the Draft (1966), Dreams Die Hard; three Men’s Journey Through the Sixties by David Harris, pp. 146-148

Free Response Essay – The Social Impact of the 1960s
Week 26

**American Pageant: Chapter 39, The Stalemated Seventies**
Rise of conservatism, economic stagnation, crisis over presidential power, environmental issues, feminism and the women’s movement, civil rights and affirmative action, foreign policy and the issue of oil

**Required Reading:** A People’s History of the United States, by Howard Zinn, Chapter 19: Surprises

Week 27

**American Pageant : Chapter 40, The Resurgence of Conservatism**
Reagan and the “New Right”, the end of the Cold War, Reagonomics, politics and the Supreme Court, globalization, war and diplomacy in the Middle East

**Primary Source Analysis:**

Editor Kristol Defines Neoconservatism (1983), Irving Kristol
Journalist Peter Steinfels Criticizes the Neoconservatives (1979), Peter Steinfels, “The Neoconservatives”

Unit Multiple Choice Exam – Chapter 38-40

Week 28

**American Pageant: Chapter 41, American Confronts the Post-Cold War Era**
The Clinton era, post-Cold War politics and foreign policy, the contested election of 2000, the attack on the World Trade Center and America post-9/11

Week 29

**American Pageant: Chapter 42, The American People Face a New Century**
Demographic changes, changes in the family, immigration and related issues, a multicultural society, the high-tech economy, America in a global context
Week 30

Review Exam I and II
Go Over Review Exam I and II

Week 31

Review Exam III and IV
Go over Review Exam III and IV

Week 32

Final Review Week
Prepare for the Advanced Placement Exam

Week 33

AP Exam Wednesday May 14th, 2014 -Good Luck!