

# Curriculum at a Glance

## APUS History 11th grade

The AP United States History course reflects an intellectually challenging one-year college-level introductory course that promotes personal excellence through independent thinking and class collaboration. The course curriculum has been approved by the College Board Educational Testing Service. The course requires that students read a college-level text and communicate effectively in multiple ways. Students will develop the following skills:

1. Demonstrate chronological reasoning through analysis of causes and effects.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of historical periods.
3. Compare related historical developments over time and place
4. Interpret historical data to support an argument
5. Interpret multiple perspectives and apply research strategies to original documents including letters, cartoons, graphs, as well as the works of individual historians.
6. Write essays that effectively support a clear position stated in a thesis.
7. Collaborate effectively with others to produce products and solve problems
8. Share a visible enthusiasm for the subject of history.
9. Master a broad body of understanding that provokes further questions.

Unit Name	Essential Content
<b>Settlement and Expansion in Colonial America</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Early contacts among groups in North America and North American societies in the context of the Atlantic World, Spanish exploration and the development of colonies in the Americas, initial English settlements, the unique attributes of the colonies by region.</li></ul>
<b>The American Revolution</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The assumptions behind mercantilism; the role of religion and ideas in the Great Awakening and the Enlightenment; the evolution of relations between the colonies and England, culminating in the French and Indian War; political and social causes, military engagements and consequences of that war; growing tensions between colonies and Parliament over taxation and representation; diplomatic relations between the colonies; strategies on both sides of the war, origins and structure of the Articles of Confederation; social and cultural shifts due to the war</li></ul>

<p><b>The Constitution and the Early Republic</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Circumstances surrounding the Constitutional Convention and the debate over ratification of the Constitution; The Bill of Rights. Birth of a new nation and a struggle for identity; growing pains of the new republic. George Washington and the development of the role of the president; the debates between Jefferson and Hamilton over the Bank and financial structure. Emergence of political parties; foreign relations including Jay’s Treaty, Pinckney’s Treaty, and growing tensions with Europe during the Napoleonic Wars</li> </ul>
<p><b>Growing Pains in the New Republic</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Louisiana Purchase; Growing pains of the New Republic; major decisions of the Marshall Court; foreign relations between the United States and France and Britain; causes and course of the War of 1812; political social and economic aftermath of the War of 1812; death of Federalist Party, political, diplomatic, social and economic aftermath of the US; contest over the bank, internal improvements, tariffs and the specter of nullification; end of the Era of Good Feelings; Monroe Doctrine and growth of regional politics; resistance of Native Americans to American encroachment.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Jacksonian Democracy: Robust Politics and National Enterprise</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trends away from household artisan handicrafts toward industrialization; urbanization, canals and steamboats; social and cultural responses to the industrial age; Lowell system; court decisions that shaped industry, circumstances surrounding the elections of 1824 and 1828; the rise of the Jacksonian Democratic Party,, expanding view of democracy, the Nullification Crisis, the Bank War over the Second Bank, the Indian Removal Act.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Romantics, Reformers and Restless Warriors</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The impact of the Second Great Awakening, utopian religious movements, reformers (treatment of the poor, blind, deaf, insane, criminals, the alcoholic); abolitionist movement, women’s suffrage movement, the artistic and cultural and philosophical movement of the age: romanticism, transcendentalists (Thoreau) the causes of the Mexican War and key figures; effects of the Mexican War in terms of land acquisition, slavery, economics and politics.</li> </ul>
<p><b>A Nation Divides</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effects of the Mexican War in terms of land acquisition, slavery, economics and politics, slave life; growth of sectional consciousness; the environmental factors in encouraging sectionalism; abolitionists in culture and politics; Uncle Tom’s Cabin, the Kansas Nebraska Act, Bleeding Kansas, the Dred Scott Decision, and John Brown’s Raid, the end of the second party system and the election of Lincoln.</li> </ul>
<p><b>The Civil War and Reconstruction</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Military conflict between North and South, and the course of the war; political, diplomatic, social and economic consequences of the war; religion and the abolitionist cause; Emancipation Proclamation, and its effects on the war and society; generals and political leadership; the role of Freedmen and slave politician during and after the war; the 13<sup>th</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> amendments; competing models of Reconstruction, Radical Republicans, Johnson’s impeachment, the KKK and redeemers; sharecropping and the lien system, the Compromise of 1876</li> </ul>
<p><b>The Challenges of Becoming an Industrial Giant</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social and economic effects of post-bellum industrialization in the North and South; expanding economic power of the United States in the world economy, impact of an unregulated economy on industry, finance</li> </ul>

	and society; business tycoons; Rockefeller, Carnegie, Morgan and Vanderbilt. Growth of unions and farmer opposition; vertical and horizontal combination; Sherman Anti-Trust Act and EC Knight case.
<b>Political and Cultural Trends of the Late Nineteenth Century</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City bosses and the challenge of city politics; the changing role of the press; Social Darwinism, pragmatism as an American school of philosophy; the problems farmers face; rise of the Populist movement; the election of 1896 and its meaning.</li> </ul>
<b>The Progressive Era</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progressivism defined; Muckrakers, social reform and the media; radical movements, Socialist Party; changing role of state, local and national government; Women's suffrage; roles of Presidents Roosevelt, Taft and Wilson in promoting Progressive agendas; workers movements, Coal Strike of 1902, Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire, Bullmoose Party and election of 1912.</li> </ul>
<b>American Empire and Overseas Intervention</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concentration, Reservation and Assimilation policies for the western Indians, Dawes Severalty Act, Little Bighorn, changes in American-Indian social, economic and political life;</li> <li>• Domestic and global challenges; early expansionism to the Roosevelt Corollary; Mahan, coaling stations, Hawaii, Cuba and American involvement in the Spanish American War, Puerto Rico, the Philippine-American War, the Panama Canal.</li> <li>• Initial opposition to American involvement in World War One; Lusitania and Sussex Pledge, Zimmerman Telegram and unrestricted submarine warfare; impact of the war on the government's role in the economy; homefront and responses to civil rights; and the Senate fight over ratification and the League of Nations.</li> </ul>
<b>Boom and Bust, and In FDR We Trust</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Economic trends from the First World War and the collapse of the world economy. The creation of mass culture. Warren G. Harding, Normalcy, Social, political, economic and cultural trends during the 1920s. Stock Market crash, farmers' struggles, collapse of banking industry by 1932; unemployment crisis. Herbert Hoover response; FDR and the Hundred Days, First and Second New Deals, growth of federal government; court challenges to the New Deal and other dissenting voices, including economic and religious critics; overall effects of the New Deal programs on the economy, politics, and culture.</li> </ul>
<b>World War and Post-War American Leadership</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• American isolationism in the 1930s, Neutrality Acts, the slow drift toward intervention by 1941; Pearl Harbor, involvement in the War, mobilization and its effects on the American economy, civil liberties during the war, the general course of the war in the Pacific and Europe, Atlantic Charter, United Nations; the emergence of two superpowers, Marshall Plan, NSC-68, and containment; Truman Doctrine, Korean War, the role of the US in Cold War conflicts around the world; Eisenhower at home and abroad.</li> </ul>
<b>From Camelot to Carter</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kennedy and the Bay of Pigs, Berlin and the Space Race; the Civil Rights Movement, Brown v. Board, Montgomery Bus Boycott, Sit-ins, the Civil Rights Act and Voting Rights Act, Rev. Martin Luther King, black militancy, Trends in popular culture, modern feminist movement, anti-institutionalism among baby boomers, Kennedy-Nixon Debates; The War in Vietnam and Cambodia and its effects on American</li> </ul>

	politics, economics and global responsibilities after WWII. Redefining national identity, election of 1968, Nixon and détente, stagflation, EPA, Watergate and the emerging distrust of government, election of Jimmy Carter, Camp David Accords, SALT.
<b>Reagan to the Present</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The New Right, Moral Majority; Reaganism: deregulation and standing up to USSR, SDI, military spending, Iran-Contra Scandal, waning liberalism and political realignment. George HW Bush; AIDs, War on Drugs, Republican Revolution of 1994, Impeachment of Clinton, Rodney King, Contract with America, Welfare Reform Act, Election of 2000, 911 terrorism and the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq; illegal immigration debate; President Obama's election.</li></ul>