

A photograph of the Mount Rushmore National Memorial in the United States. The image shows the four large granite faces of George Washington, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, and Abraham Lincoln carved into the rock face. The sky is a clear, bright blue, and there are some green pine trees in the foreground on the left side. The text "US History Course Selection" is overlaid in white, sans-serif font across the middle of the image.

US History Course Selection

What level is right for you?



Academic US History

GPA: 4.0

Time Frame: 1870- 2012

This is the same time frame that
you will need to know for the
EOC test in April

Aca US History

This class is geared toward preparing for the EOC in April

Workload:

- Homework is whatever you don't complete in class
- Test reviews are in your booklet at the end of each unit
- Studying for tests/ quizzes done outside of class but review days in class

Writing:

- Small in class paragraph responses to questions each unit
- One longer writing assignment each semester



Dual Credit US History

GPA: 4.5

Time Frame: 1491- Present Day

Second semester will cover the
content for the EOC

Workload:

- Students have homework most nights in the form of watching a video lecture in preparation for the next day and completing a brief assignment.
 - Videos are usually 15-20 minutes (although a few are longer) and the assignment takes about 5 minutes.
- Additional homework assignment once or twice a week.
 - These will take about 20 minutes.
- Students also have a semester project (that they have all semester to work on) and an assignment over a book read outside of class.

Grading

Work is completed on a semester basis rather than a 6-weeks one

- 3 exam grades each semester
- Semester project
- Book discussion over a monograph that they read outside of class
- 5-7 online quizzes
- ~15 in-class assignments
- “engagement” grades

Percentage breakdown.

- Exams – 30 to 35% of semester grade.
- Online Quizzes - 25% of semester grade
- Book Discussion – 10%
- Semester Project – 15%
- In-Class Activities – 15%
- Engagement Activities – 5% (this is mostly video lecture homework)



Writing:

- There will be some form of writing on all three exams.
 - This consists of identification paragraphs, connections paragraphs, and/or essay questions.
- A paper for semester project
- Complete about 5 smaller essays
- 10-15 paragraph assignments over the course of the semester.
- The book discussion is also in writing form (an online discussion board).

How do I earn HCC Credit?

- To be considered passing at HCC, students must earn a D to get credit (that is an average of 60-69).
- That converts to a 72 for their high school grade.
- There are specific (HCC designated) dates that you are allowed to drop if the class is not a good fit → Must drop to academic.



AP US History

GPA: 5.0

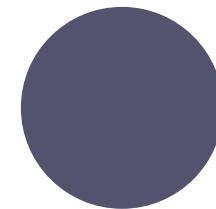
Time Frame: 1491- Present Day

Second semester will
cover the content for
the EOC

- All work and content is geared toward preparing for the AP Exam in May.
- Students are expected to take the AP Exam and are required to complete all review activities, assignments and assessments as though they are taking the AP Exam.
- Students will complete a rigorous AP Exam review, and this will count as a major part of the final 6 weeks average.



AP Exam



APUSH Workload:

Advanced Placement U.S. History is a college-level course that will require a tremendous amount of self-discipline, independence, and responsibility.

Success in this course and on the A.P. exam will be a function of each student's commitment, work ethic, and willingness to meet the instructor half-way.

Students have reading homework most nights (~4-5 pgs/night due weekly)

Reading quizzes over the content each unit (~1/week)

In class document analysis and discussion based on reading homework and in class notes.

Excellent preparation for a college level course.

What do I need to be successful?

This class is not about just memorizing facts, To be successful you will need to use critical thinking skills and make connections across the curriculum.



To be successful in this class you need to:

Be disciplined & organized

Be focused & self-motivator

Be analytical

Have perseverance

Take responsibility for your own actions

Grading:

2 major grade cumulative tests each grading period

4 minor grade reading quizzes each grading period

- All reading quizzes will have a writing component that is worth ~30% of the minor grade.

Daily grades based on in class writing and class discussions.

No extra credit.

Writing:



Students will have graded writing multiple times each week



Multiple full formal major grade essays each semester.

Overall Course Selection Tips

Think Big Picture:

When choosing your courses be sure to consider what your overall workload will be.

Advanced classes can mean ~45 minutes of homework for each class.

Think about what the time requirements of your extra curriculars are.

Will sports/ band season impact your ability to complete homework and study for multiple advanced classes?

Think about what you want your work/ life balance to be:

is it important to you to have time off to spend with your family, friends or on a hobby just for fun?

Is this a subject area you actually enjoy?

Would you rather take an advanced class in another subject?