



AP U.S. History (APUSH)

<http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/> - The College Board Website

AP UNITED STATES HISTORY (UC-a)

FULL YEAR

Prerequisite: The minimum grade of “A-” in World History II and in English II, or a ‘B’ in AP World History and in Honors English II, and teacher recommendation.

This course is a college level survey of the history of the United States from pre-Columbian times to the modern era. The AP United States History course is designed to provide students with the analytic skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in U.S. history. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by full-year introductory college courses. Students should learn to assess historical materials—their relevance to a given interpretive problem, reliability, and importance—and to weigh the evidence and interpretations presented in historical scholarship. An AP United States History course should thus develop the skills necessary to arrive at conclusions on the basis of an informed judgment and to present reasons and evidence clearly and persuasively in essay format. Students will conclude the year with a National Exam from College Board in May.

REQUIREMENT FOR ADVANCED PLACEMENT U.S. HISTORY

Xavier wishes to encourage students to take demanding and advanced academic courses in all fields. The following entrance requirements apply to all AP level courses. These are the *minimum* requirements to be considered for entrance into our most rigorous and challenging courses.

The requirements for entering all Advanced Placement courses include, but are not limited to the following:

1. An “A-” grade or higher in the previous course within the same subject area;
2. Standardized test scores are consulted as part of the recommendation process;
3. Recommendation from subject area department and counselor.

The requirements for continuing in Advanced Placement courses include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Receive a “B” grade or higher in the previous course within the same subject area;
2. Standardized test scores are consulted as part of the recommendation process;
3. Previous AP exam scores are consulted as part of the recommendation process;
4. Attendance record is evaluated as part of the recommendation process;
5. Recommendation from subject area department and counselor.

***Note:** See heading above for further requirements.

What Xavier Students Think:

"APUSH is such a fun class!!! But you must still be prepared! READ EVERY NIGHT! It does matter and will help you better understand the content while also preparing you for quizzes and tests, including the AP test!"
-Taylor Schlicht (class of '21)

"Always try and stay engaged during class. Actively asking questions, taking notes and trying to make connections between historical events makes all the difference. Reading ahead in the textbook definitely enhances the in-class experience."
-Evelyn Thurman (class of '21)

As a student who had never taken an AP class before I came into this class scared, but I came out of it with a better understanding on how to learn about history.... Pay attention to lectures and take detailed notes to reference for tests and quizzes in the future.
-Khloe Bracken (class of '21)

"APUSH is a difficult but rewarding class. If you want to succeed, you should have an interest in history and be willing to comprehend the material assigned each night" – Trish Dioleste ('17)

"Make sure you keep in mind what's due for the homework packet before you even start to read, so you know where to focus, as well as complete assignments as you go along" – Indi Wilson ('17)

"...I highly advise that you read...in addition, lecture notes and homework packets are very useful when studying for tests." –Savannah Jessup ('17)

APUSH COURSE EXPECTATIONS

The following chart is meant to give you an idea of how much time is needed to prepare for APUSH. These entries are meant to be an approximation of time and assignments. Some students will need less time and some will need more time to do the assignments depending on their skill level.

Use the following to evaluate readiness for AP course work.

Xavier College Preparatory High School APUSH				
Essential Skills	Reading per Class	Study Hours per class	Major Tests, Essays, and Quizzes	Major Projects (including Summer Assignments)
Good work ethic, critical thinking, above average reading skills notetaking skills and comprehension, above Average vocabulary, synthesis, and analysis skills.	One chapter per week, primary sources, some alternative researching. College level text.	Ca. 5 pages of reading per night with Cornell notetaking and answering critical thinking questions.	Essays are bi-monthly. Reading quizzes 3 to 4 times per week. Tests/ Exams every 2 weeks.	Text + 1 supplemental website and Barron's APUSH Review book. Primary Sources. 3 outside novels – 2 during summer and 1 during course of the year.

- *There is Chapter reading, generally 1-2 chapters each, over Thanksgiving, Christmas, Ski Week and Easter break.*

Summer Assignments

TASK #1: Mandatory read of two (2) novels

TASK #2: Study a number of geographical features of the United States.

TASK #3: Memorize the Presidents of the United States. You should have the entire list of Presidents and their respective political parties memorized, in chronological order by the first day of class.

TASK #4: Watch or re-watch at least three movies listed in the packet and summarize in one page each (total of 3 pages minimally) typed MLA style due before the first day of class.

APUSH SURVIVAL SKILLS

- Students should be familiar with Cornell note-taking. Taking notes by laptop, or other electronic devices, is not allowed during class.
- Students should know how to write a paper in MLA style.
- Keep a chronologically organized notebook.

