

**AP U.S. History**  
2022-2023, Room #217

**Instructor:** Ms. Ashley Bell  
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**Overview:**

This course is designed to be a brief look into the history of the United States of America. Beginning in the pre-colonial period and ending in current times, it covers all major aspects of American history during that period including: political, diplomatic, intellectual, cultural, economic and social changes. The main emphasis in this course is not to memorize a series of dates (though some must be learned; i.e. 1776!), but rather to comprehend the people, places, and events that have shaped our past. In addition, the course deals extensively with learning how to read, understand, analyze and interpret a wide variety of both primary and secondary texts together with the maps, graphs and pictorial materials associated with them. One of the best ways to evaluate your understanding is through writing. Therefore, many essays will be assigned along with your regular readings. Quizzes will be administered to check your understanding of the reading material, class notes, and various maps. Readings in addition to those listed will be occasionally assigned. APUSH is comparable to a college-level survey U.S. History course, and you should be prepared to spend many hours reading, studying, and researching after class.

Our main text is *Give Me Liberty*, by Eric Foner. He is a respected historian. We will be looking at his biases all year, since any story of history comes with a point of view. You will find the digital copy of the text here.

- Go to: <https://digital.wwnorton.com/givemeliberty5ap>
- Your student registration code is: CRL-TNJ-HYW

Our supplementary text is *A People's History of the United States* by Howard Zinn. He is also a respected and well known historian. He also has a bias, so it is a good text to compare to the more mainstream one. You will find the digital copy of the text here.

- <https://www.historyisaweapon.com/zinnapeopleshistory.html>

We will be working over the course of the year to prepare you for the AP U.S. History test that happens at the beginning of May. Please be aware that the expectation is that you will take that test. Financial aid is available to those who need it, but please be aware of that expectation as the course begins.

**Format and Procedures:**

Students will work individually, in pairs and in groups on a regular basis using a variety of texts and will be asked to complete a variety of assignments to show their understanding of important concepts.

Students will have regular homework, consisting primarily of reading. **There is no extra credit.** Each student is allowed three late assignments per quarter for up to half credit, excluding essays. If a student is missing on the day of a test, the student will take it the next day they return to class. It is the student's responsibility to remind me to give the test, and if the student does not make it up the next time they are in class, they lose access to those points. Reading quizzes will be given at the start of the period, if you miss one or are late, you will need to return to class after class to take an alternate quiz.

Students will meet the following expectations,

- **Engage in active learning:** sit up, focus eyes and ears on class activities, participate in class discussion

- **Ensure clear communication with teachers and peers:** store phones and earbuds in backpacks during class
- **Bring required materials:** Chromebook, notebooks, pens/pencils, current texts, etc
- **Attend school every day**
- **Arrive to class on time**

It is a student's responsibility to check the "Missing" bins for what they missed. I will not hand out late work, they must check the bin for their class, where all the necessary work will be stored. If they miss school, look at the bin BEFORE coming to talk to me.

If they are not able to access the internet at home, please let me know ASAP.

### **Grading Procedures:**

#### **Your grade will be composed of six main categories:**

- 25% Tests: A test will be given at the end of each unit
- 25% Essays: Chicago style, 5 paragraph format, persuasive format (1 term paper)
- 15% Classwork: Any work that is completed outside of the notebook, this includes presentations, etc.
- 20% Homework: includes weekly current events, unfinished classwork, reading, etc.
- 15% Participation: Attendance, cell phone use, etc.

The grade you earn will be calculated using the following,

A= 100-90%  
 B= 89-80%  
 C= 79-70%  
 D= 69-60%  
 F= 59% and below

### **Academic Integrity:**

I will not tolerate plagiarism or cheating. Anything that is plagiarized, or any test that was compromised will receive a 0. I ask that all students and their parents/guardians read the attached sheet regarding academic honesty.

### **Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:**

If you have any needs that need to be addressed regarding any type of disability let me know ASAP.

### **Inclusivity Statement:**

I committed to providing an atmosphere for learning that respects diversity. While working together to build this community I ask all of you to:

- Share your unique experiences, values and beliefs
- Be open to the views of others
- Honor the uniqueness of others
- Appreciate the opportunity that we have to learn from each other in this community
- Value each other's opinions and communicate in a respectful manner

### **Contact:**

I am always available by email to answer any of your questions. I send our weekly updates on Monday mornings that outline the plan for the week and expected due dates, please use these as a guide but be aware that things can and will change.

## ACADEMIC HONESTY AGREEMENT

The Santa Rosa City School District's Board Policy 5132.2: Academic Honesty describes cheating and collusion as the act of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work by using dishonest means. Cheating and collusion include but are not limited to

1. Copying, in part or whole, from another's examination, paper [including homework assignments], mathematical calculation[s], research, creative project or the like;
2. Submitting as one's own work an examination, paper, mathematical calculation[s], research or creative project, or the like which has been purchased, borrowed, or stolen;
3. Intentional falsification or invention of data or a source in an academic exercise;
4. Using notes, or materials not specifically authorized by the instructor during an examination;
5. Any collaboration between a student and another person at times or in ways which are not permitted by the instructor.

The following descriptions [from the University of Texas and the University of Exeter] further refine acts of cheating/ collusion:

- Using unauthorized books, notes, electronic aids or other materials in an examination
- Obtaining an examination paper ahead of its authorized release
- Either aiding or obtaining aid, from another person, where such aid is not explicitly permitted in the assignment
- Acting dishonestly in any way, whether before, during or after an examination or other assessment so as to obtain or offer to others an unfair advantage in that examination or assessment
- Allowing someone else to write your papers
- Allowing someone else to modify your essays in any substantive way

The Santa Rosa City School District's Board Policy 51132.2: Academic Honesty describes plagiarism as the act of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work by representing the work of another as one's own (including text found on the Internet) without the necessary and appropriate acknowledgment. Specifically, plagiarism is

- The act of incorporating the ideas, words of sentences, paragraphs, or parts thereof without appropriate acknowledgment and representing the product as one's own work;
- The act of representing another's intellectual or creative work such as musical composition, computer program, photograph, painting, drawing, sculpture, research, the like as one's own.

The following descriptions [from the University of Texas and the University of Exeter] further refine acts of plagiarism:

- Failing to acknowledge the sources of any information in your paper which is not either common knowledge or personal knowledge
- Failing to acknowledge direct quotation either by using quotation marks when quoting short passages or indention when quoting longer passages
- Too closely paraphrasing the original words of your source
- Borrowing the ideas, examples or structure of your source without acknowledging it
- Taking, buying or receiving a paper written by someone else and present it as your own
- Using one paper for two different courses, or re-using a paper previously submitted for credit, without the prior approval of both instructors
- Direct copying of text from a book, article, fellow student's essay, handout, web page or other source without proper acknowledgement
- Claiming individual ideas derived from a book, article, etc. as one's own and incorporating them into one's work without acknowledging the source of these ideas
- Overly depending on the work of one or more others without proper acknowledgement of the source, by constructing an essay, project, etc. by extracting large sections of text from another source, and merely linking these together with a few of one's own sentences

I have read and understood the above descriptions and illustrations of cheating, collusion and/or plagiarism and I agree to not engage in any of these acts as a student enrolled in the Santa Rosa City School District.

### **Student and Parent Acknowledgement**

Signing this document signifies that both the undersigned student and guardian have been familiarized with and understand the course requirements, including the materials needed, and policies as outlined in the course syllabus. Further it signifies an acknowledgement by the undersigned student and guardian that failure to fulfill these requirements or failure by the student to follow class policies will affect the student's course grade or result in disciplinary action.

### **Use of Student Photos**

I would like to be able to post photos and videos of my students engaged in classroom activities for educational purposes only. This would include posting to my class Instagram. Any other use would continue to be prohibited without prior approval. Please circle below.

- Yes, you may use photos and videos of my student for educational purposes.
- No, you may not use photos and videos of my student.

### **Class Movies**

Your student may be asked to watch a movie that may be rated R or PG-13. These movies are always relevant to the material being covered in class, but if you ever need to feel free to email me with any questions or concerns you may have regarding this issue.

#### Movie Rating Descriptions:

R = Restricted – These films contain some adult material. They get an R rating because of the film's use of language, theme, violence, sex or portrayal of drug use.

PG-13 = Parents Strongly Cautioned – Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13 years old.

Please sign the form below, indicating whether your child may view or may not view this movie. (Alternative lessons will be given to students who may not view this movie.) The student needs to return this signed form before seeing the movie. Only students who have a signed permission form will be permitted to view this movie.

- Yes, my student may view movies rated PG-13 or R.
- No, my student may not view movies rated PG-13 or R.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this form back to me no later than the end of the first week. No grades will be assigned until this has been signed and returned.**