

## **What is AP US History?**

AP US History is equivalent to college US History before 1865 and US History after 1865 courses. It focuses on analysis and connection between events rather than strict memorization. We examine both primary and secondary sources and come to our own conclusions about the interpretation of historical events and processes. Because it is a college level course, the reading and writing for the course will be extensive.

## **Exam**

The AP US History Exam is an optional part of the course. It consists of 50 multiple choice questions, 4 short answer questions (of which 3 are required), 1 long essay question (which gives you a choice between prompts), and 1 document based question which requires you to write a historical argument using provided documents for support. The test is always scheduled from the beginning to mid-May. It takes approximately 3 hours and 15 minutes to complete. The SCORE on this exam does not affect the student's GPA in any way. Higher scores can get students up to 6 hours college credit for US History before 1865 and US History after 1865. Scores and credit hours depend on the university. By taking this course, students receive a .5 bump in their GPA, and TAKING the exam leads to another .5 bump in their GPA.

## **Expectations**

Because this is a college level course, students need to be prepared for college level responsibility and work. Reading and writing will be required both in class and at home. However, I do encourage students to accomplish the bulk of their work in class. Because of this, late work will cause a loss of points. Students will be required to study the first 4 chapters of the textbook over the summer. You can pick up a textbook from Ms Chris any time before the end of the school year, but there are also digital copies of the textbook chapters available with the assignment on the assignment website: [bethanysummerreading.weebly.com](http://bethanysummerreading.weebly.com). To ensure success and commitment to the class, if a student's grade drops below a C by the end of the 1st 9 weeks, they will need to transfer out of the class.

This form must be signed and returned to Ms Chris by May 17th. If I do not receive a form, you will be unenrolled in the course.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_