

DEPARTMENT: SOCIAL STUDIES

NAME OF COURSE: Advanced Placement U.S. History

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

The American History AP course is designed to give the student a background in the chronology of American History and in major interpretive questions that derive from the study of selected themes. It is the equivalent of a one-year introductory college course in American History from 1607 to the present. The course will provide students with an understanding of primary sources including documentary material, maps, statistical tables, and pictorial and graphic evidence of historical events.

MAJOR TOPICS COVERED:

A course outline is available on the College Board site.

TEXTBOOK: A People and a Nation Norton, Katzman et al 6th Ed. Houghton Mifflin

REQUIREMENTS:

This course is a chronological, college level, survey/seminar approach to American History. There is a heavy emphasis on interpretation of primary sources and historiographical material. In many ways you are a detective in this class. You will analyze material, synthesize it and make an intelligent evaluation by persuasively arguing an issue in written form. Writing is a crucial component in this class and strong thesis statements backed up by relevant historical information is expected. As often as possible, we will connect issues in the past with contemporary problems today. Debates over the role of government, views of racial and gender issues, and the proper role of US foreign policy are some of the issues worthy of our attention.

GRADING PROCEDURES: Grades will be determined in accordance with the Roslyn HS numerical grading policy.