COURSE DESCRIPTION: A.P.U.S. History covers the spectrum of American history from pre- Columbian days to the present. Using chronological and thematic approaches to the material, the course exposes students to extensive primary and secondary sources and to the interpretations of various historians. Class participation through seminar reports, discussions, debates, and group activities are required; special emphasis is placed on critical reading and essay writing to help students prepare for the AP examination. The course is structured chronologically, divided into 9 major periods of time, each of them outlined accordingly to the A.P. U.S. History curriculum framework.


SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS:

DBQ Practice, Book 1 and 2; Culver City CA; Social School Services, 2003


TEACHER’S SCHEDULE OF CLASSES:

| Period 1: | World History |
| Period 2: | World History |
| Period 3: | AP United States History |
| Period 4: | World History |
| Period 5: | AP United States History |
| Period 6: | Prep |

THEMATIC LEARNING OBJECTIVES ( THEMES ):

1. American and National Identity (ID)
2. Work, Exchange, and Technology (WXT)
3. Migrations and Settlement (MIG)
4. Politics and Power (POL)
5. America in the World (WOR)
6. Geography and Environment (ENV)
7. Culture and Society (CUL)
HISTORICAL THINKING SKILLS:

1. Historical Causation
2. Patterns of Continuity and Change Over Time
3. Periodization
4. Comparison
5. Contextualization
6. Historical Argumentation
7. Appropriate Use of Historical Evidence
8. Interpretation
9. Synthesis

MAJOR PERIODS OF TIME:

Period 1: 1491-1607 Pre-Colombian Americas
Period 2: 1607-1754 Settlement and Colonization of North America
Period 3: 1754-1800 Colonial Revolutionary Spirit
Period 4: 1800-1848 Early Republic to Established Nation
Period 5: 1844-1877 Sectional Division leads to National Crisis
Period 6: 1865-1898 Agricultural to Industrial Urban Metamorphosis
Period 7: 1890-1945 Progressive Attempts and Entering the World Stage
Period 8: 1945-1980 Cold War Era
Period 9: 1980-present Modern America

COURSE EXPECTATIONS: This course will only fulfill these promises if you promise the following in return:

ATTENDANCE AND CLASS PARTICIPATION: Attendance is required. It is your responsibility to arrive on time; take notes during lecture; participate in our in-class activities; and stay until class has ended. Moreover, I ask that you respect the learning experience of others: Laptops, cell phones and other electronic devices must be turned off for the duration of our meeting and put away, out of sight. Do not study for another class, do not eat food in class, play games on your phone or laptop, or send text messages during class time. If any of these occur, your participation grade will be negatively impacted.

READ: The assigned readings provide us with a common background so that we can proceed together to new understandings in lecture, discussions and other activities. If you do not keep up with and/or do not complete the readings, you will have little chance of doing well in this class.

TEXTBOOK: You must bring your textbook to class every time we meet. Points will be deducted if you don’t bring your book and it will affect your grade.

ASSIGNMENTS: LATE WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. The assignments offer you many opportunities to articulate your responses to our material and course themes and develop your writing skills. You are given plenty of notice as to the deadlines and expectations of each assignment; therefore, all papers and assignments are due at the beginning of class on the due date. If you have an emergency or unforeseen circumstance, please see me or contact me as soon as possible. Any special
arrangements that need to be made regarding the due date for class assignments must be made as soon as you become aware of the problem, preferably in advance of the deadline if possible. Extra Credit missed because of missing class cannot be made up later. I do not accept papers via email. Your papers should be stapled. It is suggested that you invest in a stapler if you do not have one and make sure you have an extra ink cartridge and a working printer, or other options in case yours does not come through. Papers are formatted with 1” margins all around, Double-spaced, Printed in 12-point Times New Roman, Numbered on all pages, Spell-checked, Carefully edited and proof-read, Stapled before you get to class; You don’t need a cover sheet for your assignments. Instead, in the top left corner list your name, the date, and the class period.

COMMUNICATION WITH ME: The best way to communicate with me is via email. You can email me at: jhilbert@sjusd.org

GRADING POLICY:

Exams and Quizzes 30%

In class Essays 30%

In class Activities and Homework 30%

Final Exam 10%

Your classroom activities includes classroom assignments, presentations, class participation, debates, group assignments and projects. The grading scale is 100% - 90% = A, 89% - 80% = B, 79% - 70% = C, 69% - 60% = D

CLASSROOM RULES AND BEHAVIOR POLICY:

All school rules apply in this classroom. I will not tolerate behavior that is inappropriate, keeps me from teaching, or distracts you from learning. In addition, these specific rules are to be followed:

1. RESPECT YOURSELF, OTHERS AND PROPERTY
2. Students will not talk while the teacher is talking, or while a classmate is talking.
3. Be prepared for class everyday. Have all necessary supplies with you when you arrive to class.
4. Be seated before the bell rings
5. Profanity, vulgarity, and offensive language will not be tolerated.
6. No cell phone during class time/ no texting
7. No food or drinks in the classroom (except water)
8. No backpacks, or purses on desk or in laps during class time
9. No hats or hoods may be worn in the classroom.
ACADEMIC HONESTY
Breaking the Academic Honesty policy is defined as any act in which a student obtains or provides help on an assignment that is to be completed solely by the student. This can be done in such ways as plagiarizing, copying, using unauthorized devices or any other act that is deemed to be dishonest. Any student who copies homework or plagiarizes assignments will receive a zero on the assignment and a parent meeting will be required as per the Willow Glen High School academic honesty policy.

MOVIE CONSENT

Movie Consent: During our study of American History, we will be viewing various clips of films, documentaries, etc. On occasion, we may view a film in its entirety (usually towards the end of the school year). It is my belief that these selected films provide telling visual images that will enhance students’ understanding of significant historical events. The films have been carefully chosen and are applicable to the various themes that will be covered throughout the term. Some films may have an “R” rating. The “R” rating for the most part, is because of the nature of the events depicted and the violence associated with the topic (i.e. war, revolution, genocide, civil unrest, etc.). Because of their “R” rating, I will need your consent to show either segments of the film, or the film in its entirety. If there are any objections from a parent, guardian, or student, an alternative assignment will substitute the grade value of any given assignment relevant to the film. Please note that films will be used as a supplement to what we will be learning in class. They will not replace lectures or other learning activities that we will be doing throughout each of the units.

STUDENT SUPPLIES: Binder, paper, pen, pencils, colored pencils, and subject notebook.

DONATION TO THE CLASSROOM: (OPTIONAL) I will highly appreciate your contribution of the following items: Tissue paper, and disinfecting wipes

CONSEQUENCES REGARDING THE USE OF CELL PHONES IN CLASS:

1. I will take the phone from the student and gave it back to him/her at the end of the school day.

2. I will take the phone away and turn it in to the Administrator of discipline. Administrator would address the issue with student.

3. I will take the phone away and turn it in to the Administrator of discipline. One of the parents or legal guardian will pick up the cell phone from the Administrator and address the issue.

4. LASTLY, in order to take the bathroom pass, the student will need to exchange the phone for the pass and it will exchanged back for the pass immediately upon the student’s return to class. There are no exceptions to this policy.
I have read and understand the policies and course description outlined by Mr. Hilbert. I understand that if I have any questions, I may contact Mr. Hilbert at an appropriate time. I approve the text, supplemental materials and films to be taught in A.P.U.S. History and understand the demands of the course.

Parent/Guardian’s Name (please print) _________________________________
Parent/Guardian’s Signature _________________________________________
Parent/Guardian’s Email Address ______________________________________
Home Phone _______________________
Cell Phone _______________________
Work Phone _______________________

Student’s Name (please print) _________________________________________
Student’s Signature _________________________________________________
Student’s Email Address ______________________________________________
Class Period (circle one) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5