A.P. United States History

Dr. Urban

[http://www.drurban.info](http://drurban.info )

[durban@bmchsd.org](mailto:durban@bmchsd.org)

**Expectations and Guidelines**

**I: What to Bring to Class Daily**

A. 3-ring binder with appropriate sections and loose-leaf paper *or* a notebook and folder.

- You may also use a tablet (e.g., iPad) or laptop to take notes.

B. Pens and pencils.

C. All homework, assignments, notes, or outlines relevant to the daily topic and/or due that day.

**II. Notes**

A. Daily notes are your responsibility. They must be *dated* and they must be *accurate*.

B. You may print notes from my website or follow along on your device, but you must also take notes during class.

C. I might check your notebook occasionally, and I expect everything to be organized.

**III. Assignments**

A. At the beginning of each unit, I will post a homework sheet that will specify the readings and assignments for each topic within the unit. **You can access the homework sheets on my website (**[**www.DrUrban.info**](http://www.DrUrban.info)**)**. These homework sheets will also give you a general idea of the unit’s topics, tentative test dates, and projects.

B. You must complete all assignments by their due dates. I won’t accept late assignments.

C. I will post additional announcements such as quizzes, tests, or changes to assignment sheets on my website and/or on Remind.

D. You will submit most homework assignments, take-home essays, and projects through Turn It In ([www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com)). More details will follow.

E. Homework assignments will consist of the following:

- Identifications

- Chapter outlines

- Secondary Sources analysis worksheets

- Unit questions based on daily lesson aims

**IV. Textbooks:**

* *The American Pageant*, by David M. Kennedy, Thomas A. Bailey, and Lizabeth Cohen
* *AP United States History Course Reader*, The Gilder-Lehrman Institute of American History (online at <http://drurban.info>)

**V. Tests and Quizzes**:

A. I will announce the date and content of tests and quizzes in advance.

B. Being absent the day before a major test *does not* excuse you from having to take the test at the assigned time. I announce test dates far in advance, so you should be prepared.

C. I design tests and quizzes according to the newly revised AP US History Exam.

**VI. Makeup Work:**

A. It is *your responsibility*to make up work that you have missed. Get the notes from a reliable classmate, look over your assignment sheets to see what’s due, and visit the website for assignments, handouts, and notes. If you have any questions, please see me or email me.

B. As previously stated, I will not accept late assignments unless you were legally absent. If so, you have the equal number of days you were absent to make up the assignment.

**VII. Current Events**:

Students should keep up with current events. The past and present are inseparable; each informs our understanding of the other. Reading newspapers (*New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*),listening to National Public Radio (93.9 WNYC), watching television news, and visiting reliable news websites ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com), <http://news.yahoo.com>, [www.cnn.com](http://www.cnn.com), [www.bbc.co.uk/news/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/)) will keep you well-informed. It’s also important to analyze and evaluate the messages and biases that different media outlets present (for example, compare FOX News and MSNBC, or contrast the editorial pages of *The Wall Street Journal* with those of *The New York Times*).

**VIII. Extra Help**:

1. You are invited and encouraged to seek extra help, advice, or guidance on Mondays and Thursdays after school from 2:15-2:50.

**IX. Classroom Procedure and Decorum**:

A. Punctuality and Attendance

1. You are to be in your seat when the bell rings.

2. Tardiness will result in detention.

3. Tardiness, cutting, and excessive absences will affect your grade.

B. Classroom Rules

1. BE RESPECTFUL AT ALL TIMES

a. Respect your teacher and your classmates by listening carefully to their ideas and contributions.

- In addition, it is disrespectful to engage in private conversations, do work for other subjects, or pack up early (before the bell rings).

b.You may disagree with someone’s ideas without being disagreeable. All students’ contributions are worthwhile and important for class discussion—remember this rule of respect!

2. District Policies – no hats, no food, no drinks, no texting/photographing/recording on phones.

3. Place cell phone in your assigned holder at the beginning of class.

**X. Assessments**:

1. Your quarterly grade is based on everything you do in the course. This includes tests, essays, projects, homework assignments, classwork, and participation.
2. **Homework Assignments:** I will collect allhomework assignments throughout the year. There is no makeup for a missed homework assignment and you are responsible for completing all homework assignments. *Plagiarism will result in a ZERO.*
3. *Keep track of your grades on Infinite Campus.*

**XI. Online Communication with Students and Parents**

A. **Website**: [***http://DrUrban.info***](http://DrUrban.info)

1. I will post unit homework sheets on my site under the “Homework” section. I will also post or link reading assignments and articles in this section.

2. Under the “Notes & Classwork” section, I will post notes and PowerPoint presentations. This does not excuse you from taking notes in class.

B. **Remind**

1. I will share announcements, updates, and documents via Remind.

C. **Email**: [***durban@bmchsd.org***](mailto:durban@bmchsd.org)

1. If you have important questions or concerns that cannot wait until class time or extra help, you may email me.

**XII. Review Book:** Please purchase *United States History: Preparing for the Advanced Placement Examination* (2015/16 Exam), from AMSCO Publishing [**https://www.perfectionlearning.com/social-studies/advanced-placement/united-states-history-ap-exam.html**](https://www.perfectionlearning.com/social-studies/advanced-placement/united-states-history-ap-exam.html)).

**XII. AP Exam – Friday, May 8, 2020**

The AP U.S. History Exam is 3 hours and 15 minutes long and has a multiple choice/short

answer section and a free response section. Each section is divided into two parts.

**Section I — Part A:** Multiple Choice | 55 Questions | 55 minutes | 40% of Exam Score

* Questions appear in sets of 2 to 5.
* You’ll be asked to analyze historical texts, interpretations, and evidence.
* Primary and secondary sources, images, graphs, and maps are included.

**Section I — Part B:** Short Answer | 3 Questions | 40 minutes | 20% of Exam Score

* Analyze historians’ interpretations, historical sources, and propositions about history.
* Questions provide opportunities for you to demonstrate what you know best.
* Some questions include texts, images, graphs, or maps.
* You’ll have a choice between two options for the final required short- answer question, each one focusing on a different time period.
  + Question 1 (required): periods 3-8
  + Question 2 (required): periods 3-8
  + Choose between Question 3, periods 1-5, and Question 4, periods 6-9

**Section II — Part A:** Document Based | 1 Question | 60 minutes (includes a 15-minute reading period) | 25% of Exam Score

* Assess written, quantitative, or visual materials as historical evidence.
* Develop an argument supported by an analysis of historical evidence.
* The document-based question will focus on topics from periods 3-8.

**Section II — Part B:** Long Essay | 1 Question | 40 minutes | 15% of Exam Score

* Explain and analyze significant issues in U.S. history.
* Develop an argument supported by an analysis of historical evidence.
* You’ll select from one of three essay choices, each focusing on the same theme and skill but different time periods:
  + Option 1: period 1-3
  + Option 2: periods 4-6
  + Option 3: periods 7-9

**How your learning will be assessed on the AP Exam**:

The following are general parameters about the relationship between the components of the course framework and the questions that will be asked on the AP Exam:

* Each AP Exam question measures your ability to apply historical practices and reasoning to one or more of the thematic learning objectives.
* Multiple-choice questions expect that you’re familiar enough with the concept statements in each period of U.S. history to be able to answer questions about related primary and secondary source material.
* All free-response questions reward you for accurately explaining the historical content your local curriculum focused on for each concept statement.
* The coverage of the periods in the exam as a whole will reflect the approximate period weightings.
* Document-based and long essay questions may span more than one period, requiring you to address events or documents from multiple periods of the course.
* Your understanding of all themes and periods of U.S. history will be assessed on the exam. The periods and skills that can be addressed in different sections of the exam are specified in the [AP U.S. History Course and Exam Description](https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/sites/default/files/2019-05/ap-us-history-course-and-exam-description.pdf).