Mr. Matthew P Crooks

F101

Crooks@fultonschools.org

**AP U.S. History 2018-19**

**Course Description**

AP 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 role-playing activities is 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 units.

**Major differences between AP and other classes**

1. This is a college level course and as such, each student has the opportunity to earn college credit by earning a score of a three or better on the National Advanced Placement Exam offered in May.
2. Because students are potentially earning college credit for their work, A.P. U.S. History is designed to be taught on the college level and many students find the pace and work load difficult.
3. Each test will cover a significantly greater body of information than students may be used to.
4. Homework will consist primarily of reading assignments and reviews of daily notes in order to master the large body of factual information.
5. There will be very few “simple” assignments where the student can improve his or her grade merely by completing the work. Furthermore, there will be very little extra credit offered.
6. There are relatively few graded assignments each semester, which increases the need for adequate preparation every day.
7. Responsibility for mastering the material rests primarily with the student.

**Course Outline**

Unit 1 & 2 1491-1754, Chapters 1-4, test August 23, 2018

Unit 3 1754-1800, Chapters 5-7

Unit 4 1800-1848, Chapters 8-13

Unit 5 1844-1877, Chapters 14-16

Unit 6 1865-1898, Chapters 17-20

Unit 7 1890-1945, Chapters 21-25

Unit 8 1945-1980, Chapters 26-30

Unit 9 1980-present, Chapters 31&32

* In conjunction with the College Board standards all GPS standards will be covered in preparation for the EOCT Exam in the spring. Please see my OneNote page for both sets of standards.

**Textbook**

* The primary text is The Enduring Vision, Fifth Edition by Paul S. Boyer, Clifford E. Clark, Jr., Joseph F. Kett, Neal Salisbury, Harvard Sitkoff, and Nancy Woloch; published in 2004 by Houghton Mifflin (Replacement Cost).
* We will also use The American Political Tradition by Richard Hofstadter; published in1989 by Vintage Books (replacement cost) and After the Fact: The Art of Historical Detection, Fourth Edition by James West Davidson and Mark Hamilton Lytle; published in 2000 by The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. (replacement cost)
* Students are financially responsible for all books issued by CHS. Textbooks may not be left in classrooms and teachers are not responsible for the whereabouts of your book. The copy which was issued must be turned in at the end of the course. You will not receive credit for turning in another student’s book and may not turn in replacement books. The cost of replacement will be assessed to any student that fails to turn in the book they were issued or turns in a damaged book.

**Weighted Grades**

* Major Grades (Tests and Papers)…….........60%
* Minor Grades (Quizzes and Homework)….15%
* Other………………....………………….....5%
* Final Exam/Spring EOC ……………….... 20% (Comprehensive)

**Late Work and Make-Up Policies**

It is the student's responsibility to see the teacher about any work missed while out with an excused absence. If you are in school but not in my class on any given day, it is the student's responsibility to hand in any work due that day and pick up any homework assignments for the next day.

The following policy will apply to all make-up work:

Tests: Tests will be made up on the day that a student returns from an absence unless they have been absent multiple days. If the student is absent for several consecutive days, the student must make arrangements to make it up in the mornings, during lunch, or possibly after school. ***If you are absent the day before a test, you will still be required to take the test that day, unless there are extenuating circumstances.*** I reserve the right to change the format of make up tests to all essays.

 Homework: missed homework is due the day after the student returns.

 Quizzes: Quizzes will be made up the day a student returns.

***Major Papers: Please make every effort to turn in papers on the day they are due. 10% of the grade will be deducted per day unless the absence is excused.***

**If you take every multiple choice test and FRQ when scheduled and turn in every Major Assessment essay on time, I will drop your lowest unit test, unit FRQ, or major essay grade.  If you have to make a test up for any reason, that becomes the only grade eligible to drop.  If you turn in any major essay late, you forfeit the opportunity to drop a grade.**

**Grading Scale**

90-100 A 80-89 B 70-79 C Below 70 F

**Expectations for Written Work Across the Curriculum**

All written assignments should:

• be in complete sentences using formal language

• follow conventions of grammar, usage and mechanics

• accurately cite sources used with discipline-specific requirements (MLA)

**Chattahoochee High School Provision for Improving Grades**

1. Students who complete a major assessment but fail to demonstrate mastery as evidenced by a grade below 75% on the major assessment may pursue an improvement opportunity to show proficiency. In the case of an honor code violation on a major assessment, the grade will stand as a zero with no eligibility for recovery on that assignment. What is classified as a major assessment is determined within the content area; consult your course syllabus for details.

2. Students should contact the teacher concerning recovery opportunities within 5 school days of being informed of the grade on the assessment in class. Students are allowed one attempt at recovery per major assessment. All recovery work must be completed 10 days before the end of the semester.

3. The grade on the recovery assignment will replace the original grade if the recovery grade is equal to or below 75%. If the recovery grade is above 75%, the original grade will be replaced with a 75%.

**School Board Policy IHA Grading and Reporting System Provision for Improving Grades**

1. Opportunities designed to allow students to recover from a low or failing cumulative grade will be allowed when all work required to date has been completed and the student has demonstrated a legitimate effort to meet all course requirements including attendance. Students should contact the teacher concerning recovery opportunities. Teachers are expected to establish a reasonable time period for recovery work to be completed during the semester. All recovery work must be directly related to course objectives and must be completed ten school days prior to the end of the semester.

2. Teachers will determine when and how students with extenuating circumstances may improve their grades.

**Cheating and Plagiarism**

The Social Studies department considers academic integrity a top priority. ANY copying or sharing of answers on homework, major assessments, minor assessments, or exams will be viewed as cheating by the Social Studies Department. The only exception to this rule is if the teacher has explicitly stated that the work is a “cooperative learning” experience. If in doubt, ask the teacher.

Plagiarism is a form of cheating. It is defined by the American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language is “the act of stealing and using the work ideas or writings of another as one’s own.” Although the direct copying of another’s work is the most blatant example, any time a student takes another’s ideas and passes them off as their own, it is considered plagiarism. This includes “rephrasing” material without noting the source. If in doubt, ask in advance. The consequences for cheating or plagiarism on any assignment are outlined in the handbook: it will result in a zero grade on the assignment, an Honor Code Referral, and a phone call notifying the violator’s parent.

**Extra Credit**

No grades will be given for nonacademic assignments and no extra credit will be assigned.

**Electronic Privacy Policy**

No use of electronic devices to record or transmit class activities, resources, or information is permitted. This means that you may not use a tape recorder, camera, camera phone, camera pen or any other device to record or take pictures of students, teachers, classroom materials or resources, notes, etc. Doing so is a serious violation of the honor code and of the privacy rights of individuals and will be treated as such.

**Tardy Policy**

In all Chattahoochee classrooms, instruction occurs from bell to bell. Attendance for the entire period is vital to students’ success. If a student is not in class before the tardy bell rings, he or she will be marked tardy. Tardies will be tracked throughout the semester and progressive discipline will be applied.

A class cut occurs when a student is absent from class for more than ten minutes without having permission from their assigned teacher or authorization from the front office to do so.

**Classroom Policies**

Each unit will conclude with a two day exam. Part I will involve a day of multiple choice questions. Part II will involve the Essay sections. Each will count as a major grade. In addition each Friday there will be a short answer question worth ¼ of a test grade. These are to prepare you for the format of the AP Test. On at least one occasion per semester you will be required to take the essay before school at approximately 7:00 am.

The Final Exam will be comprehensive and worth 20% of the student’s final grade.

Each student will be required to complete at least 2 Document Based Questions (DBQ) and two summaries of historical articles this semester. These will count as a major grade.

Quizzes in this class are designed to force students to read the chapters thoroughly. Unit tests usually cover 3 chapters (about 100 page) and "cramming" on the last night may be hazardous to your grade. If you learn the material for the quizzes this allows for better class discussion and less stress on test days. These quizzes are agonizingly picky but success on the quizzes is an excellent indicator of success on the tests.

From time to time there will be homework that needs to be handed in for a grade. There is little time in this course for busy work thus all homework is educationally valuable, but only if completed correctly. Some homework requires more work than others and may count double.

College Board added a short answer section to the AP Test. To learn how to approach and answer these type of questions we will have a short answer assignment approximately every other week (about 9 total per semester). These are worth 3 points each and are graded the same as they would be at the College Board reading. They account for 5% of the semester grade.

For each chapter you will receive a "Review Sheet" of terms. I suggest, but do not require, that you fill these out as you read. **You will be allowed to use these on the quizzes as long as they are hand written and your own work (you may not copy from another student’s review sheet).** It may help with the quizzes but more importantly they are excellent review sheets for Unit Tests, Final Exams, and the AP Exam. In May you can study 1000 pages in the Book, or 33 well-done Review Sheets.

The AP Exam will be administered on May 10, 2019. I expect all students that remain in the class to prepare for and take this exam. If you can survive this course, you will do well on the exam.

There is to be no food or drink in the classroom except water.

**Classroom Expectations**

* This is a college level course and as such, each student has the opportunity to earn college credit by successfully completing the assigned work and earning a 3 or better on the National Advanced Placement Exam in May.
* Each student is expected to keep up with the workload. This will include readings in the text, outside readings, position papers, Document Based Questions (DBQ), homework, class work, and quizzes. Each student is required to keep an organized notebook.
* Students are expected to actively participate in class discussions, group work, and activities.
* Students will complete approximately 5 exams, combining multiple choice and essay questions. Each student will also complete a comprehensive final exam at the end of the semester.

**Technology**

I have a web page that links to my OneNote page at <https://mpcrooks.weebly.com>. Please look for your invite to join the class OneNote page. Prior to the start of each week, OneNote will be updated with lesson plans for the upcoming week. A copy of the syllabus, AP College Board Course Description, and course resources (study guides/key terms) are located in the course folders. In addition I will be using Remind.com to communicate last minute info. Please join by texting @d2e9fk to the number 81010

**Teacher Availability**

Please do not hesitate to contact me at any point during the semester with your questions or concerns. The best way to get in touch with me is via email (crooks@fultonschools.org). I am available in the morning or afternoon by appointment for students or parents. Appointments can be scheduled for help sessions, make up exams, private detentions, and conferences, just talk to me. Students, please drop by if you are confused or concerned about anything so we can remedy the situation before it becomes a problem!