**Advanced Placement U.S. History (APUSH)**

**Mr. Bower - Room #210**

**Class Rules, Procedures, Policies, and Requirements**

😊 Welcome to a new school year! I look forward to teaching and getting to know every student as we embark on our U.S. History adventure together!

**Welcome to APUSH!** You have chosen to become part of a dynamic and challenging class that will test your intellectual abilities. While not necessarily difficult, this class requires a great deal of commitment in terms of work habits, self-discipline, and time management. Reading, listening, note-taking, and striving for improvement are essential for success.

**Writing/Typing Analytical Essays**  
Writing analytical essays is a major part of APUSH. This type of writing requires using facts and explanations to prove points. There will be plenty of explanation and practice on APUSH essays during the school year, so please be willing to listen and work on your writing.

* **AP DBQ (Document-Based Question) Essays**: Graded on a 7-point scale, just like the AP Exam. A rubric will be provided.
* **AP LEQ (Long Essay Question) Essays**: Graded on a 6-point scale, just like the AP Exam. A rubric will be provided.
* **Multiple-Choice Content Tests**: Regular tests (paper & online) and in-class SAQs (short-answer questions) based on the APUSH exam.

**Grading Breakdown**

* **Major Grades** (Tests, Essays, Major SAQ Assignments): 40% of your average (2-3 Major Assignments per 6 weeks). Major unit tests will be given 4 times a year, covering 7-8 new chapters each time. Each unit test will be cumulative and consist of AP-level multiple-choice questions.
* **Minor Grades** (Classwork, Quizzes, Minor Writing Assignments): 60% of your average. This includes homework, classwork, quizzes (both announced and unannounced), and other general coursework. Class participation is crucial for understanding and retaining content.
* **Extra Credit**  
  In accordance with county policy, extra credit will not be part of grading.

**Helpful Hints for APUSH Success**

1. Read, work on notes, review, and utilize online resources almost every night.
2. Analyze information, don’t just memorize it.
3. Avoid procrastination.
4. Don’t get overwhelmed or overly frustrated; we will all have our moments.
5. Ask questions and seek help; your fellow AP-ers and I are here for you.
6. Study groups can be very beneficial if used correctly.
7. Be mentally and physically prepared for class every day (positive attitude, book, notebook, laptop, pens & pencils, etc.).
8. Attend school regularly; AP classes and absences don’t get along.

**Remember, AP classes are designed to be similar to college courses. Are you ready?! Let’s have a great year!**

**Policies on Plagiarism & Dishonesty**

DFA will strictly adhere to the county policy regarding plagiarism and dishonesty. The Student Code of Conduct, Rule 1(A)(t), states that no student shall cheat, alter records, plagiarize, receive unauthorized assistance, or assist another in any type of academic dishonesty. The determination of academic dishonesty will be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher and a supervising administrator, considering any written materials, observations, or information from witnesses. Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty will receive 3 hours of detention and will be required to redo the assignment or retake the assessment.

**County Late Work & Reassessment Policies**

* **Late Work**: All work should be submitted on the due date as notified in class or online. Each day after the due date will incur a 5% grade penalty, up to a maximum 25% penalty. Work not submitted after the 5-day window will be marked as “Missing” and will earn zero points.
* **Cell Phones and Electronic Devices**: The use of cell phones, electronic communication devices, and accessories (including some tablets, smartwatches, earbuds, and earphones) is prohibited during the instructional day. Penalties range from confiscation of the device to suspension.
* **Relearn and Reassessment (R&R)**: Opportunities are offered to remediate unsatisfactory scores on major grades. These opportunities are offered once per assignment and must be completed within seven school days of receiving the original grade. The R&R form will indicate the requirements to be eligible for the opportunity.