

Welcome to

Advanced Placement U.S. History 2010-11

Mr. Sewell

Room H-5

I have a Bachelor's Degree in History from U.C.L.A., and a Master's Degree in History from Cal State Fullerton.

Contact me at: ssewell@iusd.org (be patient)

The Course:

A.P.U.S. History is a college-level course in American History (1607-2001)

It is an alternating block class for the entire school year.

Warnings about this course:

- 1) You should love history, find it interesting, or at least be interested in finding out more about it – If you don't like history, don't take this class!
- 2) It is a college-level class, readings and discussions may get sophisticated. Don't be intimidated, ask questions, and learn to be a deeper thinker. I love history, you are expected to take the subject matter seriously.
- 3) "A" grades are hard to get, you must show college level ability. Grades are based on an averaging of all tests. There is no extra credit. The majority of my students work very hard and get A's or B's, but some will earn C's. D students will be asked to drop the course.
- 4) Homework is required, but it can not raise your grade. Typically it is 10-20 pages of reading and note-taking every two days (it is a small fraction of what you will do in college) If you can't do the homework, don't take the class.
- 5) I want to teach you to think and write better, but I am slow at grading essays. If you will try to improve, so will I.
- 6) If you cheat, or copy someone else's work, or try to deceive me, you have violated our A.P. honor code, and you will be dropped or receive an "F" from my class.
- 7) You will be expected to take the A.P. test in May. You may choose to take the S.A.T. II, also.
- 8) You will complete the summer assignment satisfactorily, by the first day of your class in the Fall, or you will be dropped from the class.

The SUMMER Assignment:

1) The Book

- Read a book from my summer list, or get a book that meets the criteria (it must be approved by Mr. Sewell, I will be teaching summer school at University H.S.)
- Take chapter by chapter reading notes (on all chapters and sub-chapters, including the forward and especially the introduction). Include headings in your notes.

2) The Critical Analysis

- Completely and thoughtfully answer the "critical analysis" sheet

3) The Text

- Purchase "The Enduring Vision 6th edition" by Paul Boyer, the one volume edition
ISBN # 978-0-618-80163-3
- They are available from Houghton-Mifflin <http://www.mcdougallittell.com/ml/ap.htm?vl=4&ID=100710000070310>
You can get this exact title and edition from any source you want, there are many used textbook sites, but you want one without highlighting or notes in it.

Do #4 and #5 in the week before class starts

4) Text Notes

- Read and take heading by heading notes on Units 1 and 2 in a spiral notebook

5) Essay

- Answer in an essay of less than 2 pages, typed, ONE of these two questions:
 1. Compare and contrast the establishment of colonies in North America (16th and 17th c) by Spain, England, and France.
 2. "The opening of the New World was a watershed in the history of three continents"
Explain and support this statement.

*Bring your book, reading notes, text notes and your critical analysis to our first class meeting, be prepared to talk about your book for 2 minutes.