

Important Pieces of Information for the Summer and Class in General

Contact Info:

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Blog: iblog.dearbornschools.org/maynardushistory (lots of info in this bundle and more in the "class info" section. Make sure to subscribe.)

iLearn: Login in iLearn and enroll in the class titled "APUSH-Maynard 2016-2017". The enrollment key is "ilovehistory" (one word and don't actually type in the quotation marks). There is another class that looks similar to this without a code. ONLY pick this one with the year attached and enrollment key.

note iLearn is found here <http://dearbornschools.org/students> at the bottom of the screen. The login is the same as their normal student email login. If they do not know this they will need to contact their counselor.

Remind Text: Here I can message you directly about important things in class. Text "@mrjmayn" to the number 81010. It's free, we will not have each other's actual numbers, but it is a great and faster method than email to contact me and to make announcements.

Summer Work:

Things to find on iLearn

1. In survival packet there is a document called "APUSH FAQ and Expectations" as well as an article by *The Atlantic* titled "When Success Leads to Failure". There will also be some very basic questions about the writing rubrics found in the packet (short answer, long essay, and DBQ). There will be a quiz on iLearn about the FAQ and Expectations as well as the *Atlantic* article that will open July 22 and close July 24th at midnight of that day.
2. Guided Reading for all of unit one (chapters 1 and 2 in the textbook and the document is found in iLearn). Students will fill this out and email it to me. **Due August 12, 2016** by midnight of that day.
3. Chapter 1 and 2 TIMED reading quiz. The quiz will be open August 12th and close on August 14th of that day.

Not required but highly recommended

Make an account on Learnerator (www.learnerator.com) and practice period one multiple choice questions as we will have our first test the first week of school over the summer work. APUSH multiple choice questions are very different from what you are used to so you need to practice. It is the best multiple choice APUSH site I know so far since the redesign.

The huge packet in binder:

This is what I call the "survival guide". Inside you will have rubrics for the writing portions of the exam, explanations for how to do them, as well as a study guide for every unit of the year. I want the students to be more prepared and instead of printing off a bunch of stuff later I would rather them at least be exposed to the idea of some of these concepts as we will go back to them constantly throughout the year.

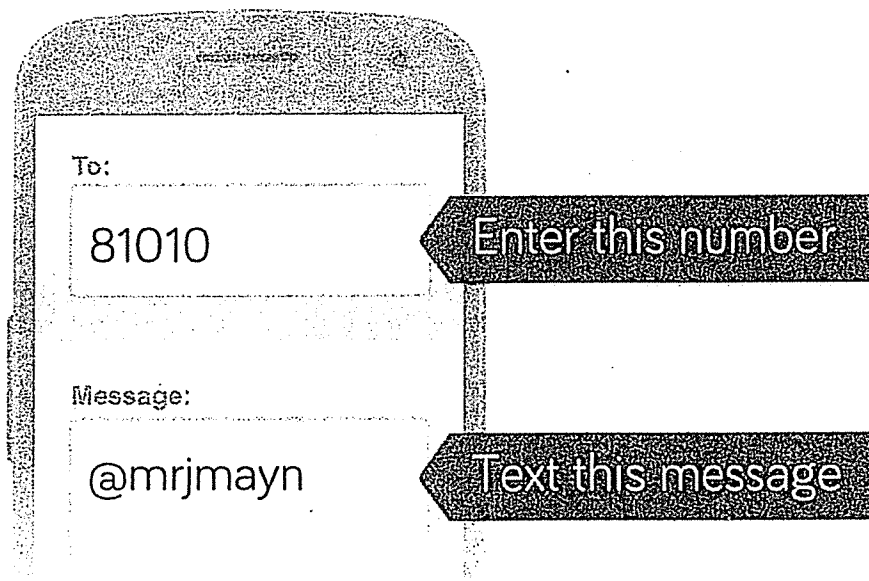
Good luck!

Mr. J. Maynard would like you to join AP US History!



To receive messages via text, text **@mrjmayn** to **81010**. You can opt-out of messages at anytime by replying, 'unsubscribe @mrjmayn'.

Trouble using 81010? Try texting **@mrjmayn** to (313) 406-8237 instead.



*Standard text message rates apply.

Or to receive messages via email, send an email to **mrjmayn@mail.remind.com**. To unsubscribe, reply with 'unsubscribe' in the subject line.

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(typically by the last week of April). All AP courses culminate with the AP exam which is significantly more difficult than a typical final exam in college. As in a college course, the responsibility for learning rests on the student, NOT the instructor. Experience has shown that almost all students will pass AP US History, but probably not all with an "A." The WORST thing a student can do is to excessively complain, fall behind on the readings, not use class time wisely, and not try to grow. In my experience that is the major downfall of some students not just academically but more importantly intellectually and emotionally.

How much homework will be given? How much time does APUSH require?

In order to finish the textbook before the AP exam, students will read and complete the homework for one-two chapters each week. A reading and test calendar will be provided and available on the class blog. A multiple choice test and/or an essay will be given approximately every two-three weeks (depending on the unit) as well as weekly reading quizzes. Other assignments and projects will also be incorporated into the class. Many students will initially find the pace grueling but most will adapt and find that they are capable of working harder than they previously imagined. The amount of time required to complete the typical week's homework varies and is directly related to how well a student reads and comprehends new and challenging material.

How will my student be graded? Will there be extra credit?

We will still go by the Dearborn Public School policy of 20% formative assessment and 80% summative assessment grade. The summative assessments will only be broken up into 5 categories based on the AP exam. 40 points will be for multiple choice exams, 25 points for document based questions essays (DBQs), 20 points for short answer questions, and 15 points for long essays. We will also have another summative assessment worth 5 points called a "one pager" which I will explain to students when the school year starts.

For APUSH there are 9 "periods" of history. Each broken down by how much the AP exam should have (for example the first period is approximately 5% of the exam so we will not spend as much time on it as other units). So there will be 9 units total. Each will have a multiple choice exam and we will build up to short answer after period 1, and in subsequent units will build up to DBQs and long essays. There will be frequent quizzes that will be formative assessments as well as other skill building activities to help students analyze history. It is very important to understand that not everything done in class will be graded. Therefore it is on the student to take everything in class seriously as to prepare for the AP exam and college level work. In college almost nothing is graded but tests so minor skill building assignments will be extremely important, but will not always graded.

It is also important to not that I will not bump up grades no matter how close they are to another grade. It is not fair nor ethical for me to do so. Bumping up a grade even 0.1% is about the equivalent of giving away a free 100% on a 25 question multiple choice test. Likewise late

APUSH FAQ and Expectations

What is AP? How is it different than a regular US History class?

AP stands for Advanced Placement. It is a program developed by the College Board to offer college like courses in high school. AP courses are very demanding, and students can expect an AP courses to be more similar to a college course than a regular high school class.

Since this is the first AP class for many students (and test wise one of the most difficult in general) it is imperative that students understand this will be a class where a lot of the work will be placed on the student.

What are the advantages and disadvantages of taking an AP course?

AP courses give students several advantages: an edge in college admissions, an opportunity to earn college credit while still in high school (which can save time and money in college), exposure to more rigorous study and a thorough introduction to the subject. The drawbacks to an AP course include more stress, less sleep, possibly lower grades and potentially greater difficulty balancing other commitments. Since each situation and person is different, students should carefully weigh their motivation, available time and abilities before deciding whether to take AP courses.

Are AP courses compatible with athletics, extra-curricular activities or work?

There is no universal answer. Some students are able to manage multiple AP courses and extra-curricular activities, while others struggle under the weight of a single AP class. Students and their parents need to carefully consider what is realistic and in the best interest of a particular student.

What is AP US History like? How will the class be taught?

AP US History (APUSH) is an intensive college type survey class taught in high school. The entire scope of American history will be considered, from the pre-Columbian era to the present. APUSH will be taught with an emphasis on content mastery and developing critical thinking skills. Frequent readings and regular lectures will be used to provide students with a solid base of historical knowledge. Regular essays, primary source document analysis and occasional projects/class discussions will be the main tools used to cultivate the skills students need to be successful on the AP US History exam and in their future college courses.

How hard is AP US History?

APUSH is probably much more challenging than any course students will have taken up to this point. In many ways, AP US History is harder than the typical freshman college history course. Not only do we use a college textbook, *The American Pageant*, but we finish it in less time

equivalent of giving away a free 100% on a 25 question multiple choice test. Likewise late assignments and no name papers will not be accepted past the due date as that is usually what happens in a college class.

There will be very few opportunities for extra credit. The point of the class is to prepare students for the AP exam and they will need to be intrinsically motivated to do so.

What is the AP US History exam? Do I have to take it? Does it affect my grade?

The APUSH exam is a nationally administered three hour and fifteen minute exam consisting of 55 multiple choice questions, 4 short-answer questions, 1 document based essay question and 1 traditional essay question. Each AP exam costs approx. \$92, though fee waivers are available to those who qualify. All students enrolled in APUSH second semester are strongly encouraged to take the AP exam. The AP US History exam will be administered the first week of May 2017. AP scores will be made available online to students in early-July.

Do all colleges give AP credit? How much credit can be earned?

Each college is free to set its own policy regarding AP scores. In general, California public universities accept scores of 3 or higher and most private colleges accept scores of 4 or higher. (AP exams are graded on a scale of 1-5.) Even colleges that do not accept AP scores for credit still strongly favor AP students during the admissions process. Students should contact schools directly or use the following site to learn about each institution's specific policies regarding AP credit: <http://collegesearch.collegeboard.com/apcreditpolicy/index.jsp>

How easy is it to cheat? What are the penalties for cheating? Is cheating taken seriously?

Cheating is whenever a student attempts to earn credit for any work that is not his or her own. It is unfair, corrosive to our shared sense of mission and taken very seriously in AP US History. The penalty for cheating in APUSH includes receiving a "zero" on whatever was cheated on and a possible parent conference. This includes formative assessments. Repeated instances of cheating will result in even more severe grade reductions and/or expulsion from the class with a transfer grade of "F." At the university level, cheating results in an automatic "F" in the course and often academic suspension or even expulsion from the university.

Cheating also includes telling fellow students in other hours what is on an assessment. Since I do not know the exact content on the AP exam, students need to understand that trying to give away answers actually deters that students ability to do well in this class. In my experience the first AP class of the day usually does better overall than other classes that get a heads up. As a precaution, each hour will get a different version of exams and quizzes. I have had the unfortunate displeasure of personally giving zeros to over 10 students for different forms of cheating and many teachers do not teach the class because of this. It is important to know that

improvement and not just care about the grade. That is incredibly important for the overall success for the student overall and not just academically.

What if I have more questions?

If you have any general questions about AP, please contact Robin Thomas at thomasr@dearbornschools.org. For specific questions about AP US History, you may email me at maynarj1@dearbornschools.org.

Student signature:

Parent signature:

Questions/comments/concerns?