

## **Course Title**

United States History A (AP)

## **Description of Target Group**

United States History A (AP) is designed as the first semester of a two-semester course for 11<sup>th</sup> grade students who plan to attend a four-year college or university.

## **Purpose**

This course is designed to present a survey of the emergencies of the federal republic-from attention to developments in colonial thinking through national expansion-Civil War and reunion. The aspirations, beliefs and basic values which guided early settlers and which are reflected in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution are analyzed. Focus is on researching the growth of political freedom and the exercise of responsibility that must accompany liberty.

## **Standards of Expected Student Achievement**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to successfully demonstrate the following skills:

1. Analyze the reasons for the occurrence of the Age of Discovery.
2. Compare and contrast the settlements of the Spaniards, French, and English as to motives, methods, and successes.
3. Explain the implications of the political experiments that characterized the English settlements.
4. Analyze the American and British attitudes which lead to the American Revolution.
5. Analyze the Declaration of Independence and discuss its relevancy to future revolutionary movements.
6. List specific provisions of our Constitution that are necessary to the understanding of United States history.
7. Analyze and evaluate the importance of the traditions and customs that were initiated under the Federalists.
8. Evaluate the War of 1812 as the "Second War for Independence."
9. Compare and contrast sectionalism and nationalism.
10. Analyze and interpret the importance of Jackson's "New Democracy."
11. Present arguments in support of and in opposition to reform proposals of the 1830's, 40's, and 50's.
12. Analyze the reasons for our westward expansion.
13. Analyze the reasons and results of the Mexican-American War.
14. Differentiate between northern and southern viewpoints with relation to slavery issue as exemplified in the Missouri Compromise and the Compromise of 1850.

## **United States History A (AP)**

15. Analyze realistic causes of the Civil War.
16. Discuss current matters – international, national, and local.
17. Develop bibliographical materials on subjects relating to United States history from 1492 through 1865.
18. Take notes and outline.
19. Read and interpret two books in United States history relating to the period from 1492 through 1865.
20. Present a research paper on topic relating to the course content in proper form with footnotes, bibliographical material, and correct grammatical construction.
21. Answer data based on questions successfully.

## **Instructional Material**

Text and Supplementary Materials

Refer to: Secondary Adopted Texts and Approved Supplementary Books Used in the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District

## **Activities**

Lectures, discussions, films, filmstrips, field trips, and library periods.