

Course at a Glance

Plan

The Course at a Glance provides a useful visual organization of the AP U.S. History curricular components, including:

- Sequence of units, along with approximate weighting and suggested pacing. Please note: Pacing is based on 45-minute class periods, meeting five days each week for a full academic year.
- Progression of topics within each unit.
- Spiraling of the themes and historical thinking skills across units.

Teach

HISTORICAL THINKING SKILLS

Historical thinking skills spiral across units.

1 Developments and Processes	4 Contextualization
2 Sourcing and Situation	5 Making Connections
3 Claims and Evidence in Sources	6 Argumentation

THEMES

Themes spiral across units.

NAT American and National Identity	PCE Politics and Power
WXT Work, Exchange, and Technology	WOR America in the World
GEO Geography and the Environment	ARC American and Regional Culture
MIG Migration and Settlement	SOC Social Structures

Assess

Assign the Personal Progress Checks—either as homework or in class—for each unit. Each Personal Progress Check contains formative multiple-choice and free-response questions. The feedback from the Personal Progress Checks shows students the areas where they need to focus.

UNIT 1 Period 1: 1491–1607	
~8 Class Periods	4–6% AP Exam Weighting
4	1.1 Contextualizing Period 1
GEO 1	1.2 Native American Societies Before European Contact
WOR 1	1.3 European Exploration in the Americas
GEO 3	1.4 Columbian Exchange, Spanish Exploration, and Conquest
SOC 5	1.5 Labor, Slavery, and Caste in the Spanish Colonial System
WOR 3	1.6 Cultural Interactions Between Europeans, Native Americans, and Africans
6	1.7 Causation in Period 1

Personal Progress Check Unit 1
Multiple-choice: ~15 questions
Short-answer: 2 questions
▪ Primary source (partial)
▪ Primary source (partial)
Free-response: 1 question
▪ Long essay (partial)

UNIT 2 Period 2: 1607–1754	
~14 Class Periods	6–8% AP Exam Weighting
4	2.1 Contextualizing Period 2
MIG 1	2.2 European Colonization
GEO 3	2.3 The Regions of British Colonies
WXT 5	2.4 Transatlantic Trade
WOR 2	2.5 Interactions Between American Indians and Europeans
WXT SOC 5	2.6 Slavery in the British Colonies
ARC NAT 1	2.7 Colonial Society and Culture
6	2.8 Comparison in Period 2

Personal Progress Check Unit 2
Multiple-choice: ~20 questions
Short-answer: 2 questions
▪ Primary source
▪ Primary source
Free-response: 1 question
▪ Long essay (partial)

NOTE: Partial versions of the free-response questions are provided to prepare students for more complex, full questions that they will encounter on the AP Exam.

UNIT 3

Period 3: 1754–1800

~17 Class Periods

10–17% AP Exam Weighting

4	3.1 Contextualizing Period 3
WOR 1	3.2 The Seven Years' War (The French and Indian War)
WOR 2	3.3 Taxation Without Representation
NAT 2	3.4 Philosophical Foundations of the American Revolution
WOR 6	3.5 The American Revolution
SOC WOR 3	3.6 The Influence of Revolutionary Ideals
PCE 3	3.7 The Articles of Confederation
PCE 3	3.8 The Constitutional Convention and Debates over Ratification
PCE 5	3.9 The Constitution
WOR PCE 2	3.10 Shaping a New Republic
ARC 1	3.11 Developing an American Identity
MIG SOC 5	3.12 Movement in the Early Republic
6	3.13 Continuity and Change in Period 3

Personal Progress Check Unit 3

Multiple-choice: ~30 questions

Short-answer: 2 questions

- Primary source
- Primary source

Free-response: 1 question

- Long essay (partial)

UNIT 4

Period 4: 1800–1848

~17 Class Periods

10–17% AP Exam Weighting

4	4.1 Contextualizing Period 4
PCE 2	4.2 The Rise of Political Parties and the Era of Jefferson
PCE 2	4.3 Politics and Regional Interests
WOR 2	4.4 America on the World Stage
WXT 6	4.5 Market Revolution: Industrialization
SOC 5	4.6 Market Revolution: Society and Culture
PCE 1	4.7 Expanding Democracy
PCE 3	4.8 Jackson and Federal Power
ARC 4	4.9 The Development of an American Culture
ARC 5	4.10 The Second Great Awakening
ARC 3	4.11 An Age of Reform
SOC 3	4.12 African Americans in the Early Republic
GEO 1	4.13 The Society of the South in the Early Republic
6	4.14 Causation in Period 4

Personal Progress Check Unit 4

Multiple-choice: ~35 questions

Short-answer: 2 questions

- Primary source
- Secondary source

Free-response: 1 question

- Long essay (partial)

UNIT 5

Period 5: 1844–1877

~17 Class Periods

10–17% AP Exam Weighting

4	5.1 Contextualizing Period 5
GEO 1	5.2 Manifest Destiny
WOR 3	5.3 The Mexican–American War
NAT 4	5.4 The Compromise of 1850
ARC SOC 2	5.5 Sectional Conflict: Regional Differences
PCE 5	5.6 Failure of Compromise
PCE 4	5.7 Election of 1860 and Secession
WOR 5	5.8 Military Conflict in the Civil War
NAT 2	5.9 Government Policies During the Civil War
PCE 3	5.10 Reconstruction
NAT 3	5.11 Failure of Reconstruction
6	5.12 Comparison in Period 5

Personal Progress Check Unit 5

Multiple-choice: ~30 questions

Short-answer: 2 questions

- Secondary source (2 sources)
- No stimulus

Free-response: 2 questions

- Long essay (partial)
- Document-based (partial)

UNIT 6

Period 6: 1865–1898

~18 Class Periods

10–17% AP Exam Weighting

4	6.1 Contextualizing Period 6
MIG 1	6.2 Westward Expansion: Economic Development
MIG 3	6.3 Westward Expansion: Social and Cultural Development
NAT 2	6.4 The “New South”
WXT 5	6.5 Technological Innovation
WXT 4	6.6 The Rise of Industrial Capitalism
WXT 6	6.7 Labor in the Gilded Age
MIG 3	6.8 Immigration and Migration in the Gilded Age
MIG 5	6.9 Responses to Immigration in the Gilded Age
SOC 4	6.10 Development of the Middle Class
SOC 2	6.11 Reform in the Gilded Age
PCE 4	6.12 Controversies over the Role of Government in the Gilded Age
PCE 3	6.13 Politics in the Gilded Age
6	6.14 Continuity and Change in Period 6

Personal Progress Check Unit 6

Multiple-choice: ~35 questions

Short-answer: 2 questions

- No stimulus
- Primary source

Free-response: 1 question

- Document-based (partial)

UNIT 7

Period 7: 1890–1945

~21 Class Periods

10–17% AP Exam Weighting

4	7.1 Contextualizing Period 7
WOR 2	7.2 Imperialism: Debates
WOR 2	7.3 The Spanish–American War
PCE GEO 2	7.4 The Progressives
WOR 2	7.5 World War I: Military and Diplomacy
MIG 3	7.6 World War I: Home Front
WXT 5	7.7 1920s: Innovations in Communication and Technology
MIG ARC 4	7.8 1920s: Cultural and Political Controversies
WXT 5	7.9 The Great Depression
PCE 5	7.10 The New Deal
WOR 1	7.11 Interwar Foreign Policy
SOC 1	7.12 World War II: Mobilization
WOR 6	7.13 World War II: Military
WOR 2	7.14 Postwar Diplomacy
6	7.15 Comparison in Period 7

Personal Progress Check Unit 7

Multiple-choice: ~40 questions

Short-answer: 2 questions

- Secondary source
- No stimulus

Free-response: 1 question

- Document-based

UNIT 8

Period 8: 1945–1980

~20 Class Periods

10–17% AP Exam Weighting

4	8.1 Contextualizing Period 8
WOR 2	8.2 The Cold War from 1945 to 1990
NAT 2	8.3 The Red Scare
WXT MIG 2	8.4 Economy after 1945
ARC 4	8.5 Culture after 1945
SOC 5	8.6 Early Steps in the Civil Rights Movement (1940s and 1950s)
WOR 3	8.7 America as a World Power
WOR 1	8.8 The Vietnam War
PCE MIG 5	8.9 The Great Society
SOC PCE 5	8.10 The African American Civil Rights Movement (1960s)
SOC 5	8.11 The Civil Rights Movement Expands
ARC 5	8.12 Youth Culture of the 1960s
GEO 5	8.13 The Environment and Natural Resources from 1968 to 1980
PCE ARC 4	8.14 Society in Transition
6	8.15 Continuity and Change in Period 8

Personal Progress Check Unit 8

Multiple-choice: ~40 questions

Short-answer: 2 questions

- No stimulus
- Primary source

Free-response: 1 question

- Long essay