Students and Parents: Please regard this curriculum as a general guide to the course, and as a work in progress. Assignments may be changed and added at the discretion of the instructor. Pacing may vary somewhat from year to year. Also, weekly homework assignments will be given out in class, dividing up the chapters according to the topics we will cover each day.

Course Objectives: This course is designed to provide students with a detailed survey of U.S. history. In particular, the focus will be on helping them develop their skills of analysis, so that their understanding goes beyond just learning “the facts” of U.S. history. Students will be challenged to explain what happened, including cause and effect. To accomplish this, they will be asked to do a lot of writing, both in class and on their own. Homework assignments will include outlining the chapters of the textbook. In class, they will be asked to answer, orally and in writing, questions about the primary sources we read. In addition, students will be expected to participate in class discussions. I will challenge them to explain their own ideas in more depth. Exams will be given regularly throughout the semester, and will consist of multiple choice and essay questions. A number of AP DBQ essays will be assigned and graded throughout the year. In addition, they will be asked to write, as a minimum, two short papers, and one long (7-10 page) research paper. It is my hope that this work will help them do well on the College Board exam. More importantly, I hope they will learn writing and study skills that will prepare them for college. I will be grading them on the following aspects of the course: exams and essays, papers and other projects, homework assignments and class participation.

Textbook

Primary sources:

Historiography:

Students will complete two Socratic Seminars in the first semester. They will be given texts to read carefully and be asked to lead discussions of the texts in class. This will be followed by a short essay, including a thesis and MLA citations, that uses the texts.

Students will also complete, in the second semester, a research paper, using both primary and secondary sources on the Civil War. The best papers in the class will be revised and entered in the Gilder Lehrman Civil War Essay contest.
Week 1: Origins of the 13 colonies
- Exploration of the discipline of history
- Origins of Colonialism in the “New World”
- Comparison of Spanish, French and British colonies
- Founding of first permanent English colonies in Chesapeake and New England

Norton, Chapters 1 & 2

Week 2: Development of the 13 colonies
- Comparison of lifestyles and economy in colonial regions
- Development of slavery and indentured servitude in the colonies
- Effects of mercantilism on the colonies
- Development of democracy in the colonies
- Analysis of the influence of religion on the development of the colonies

Norton, Chapters 3 & 4

1993 AP DBQ: Development of New England and Chesapeake colonial regions

Week 3: Coming of the American Revolution
- Causes & effects of the French and Indian War
- End of British policy of salutary neglect
- Colonial resistance to the “new” British policy
- Resistance in Boston: Boston Massacre, Boston Tea Party
- Formation of 1st & 2nd Continental Congresses

Norton, Chapter 5
Bailey, Chapter 7, Part B “The Tempest Over Taxation” & Part D “Loyalists Versus Patriots”

2004 AP DBQ: French & Indian War

Week 4: The American Revolution & Its Aftermath
- Meaning of the Declaration of Independence
- Major battles of the Revolution
- Effects of the American Revolution
- Analysis of how revolutionary the Revolution was
- Strengths and weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation

Norton, Chapter 6 & p. 165-182
*Socratic Seminar: Was the American Revolution really revolutionary?
Readings:


**Week 5: Establishment of the Constitution**
- Compromises in writing the Constitution
- Debate over ratification
- Basic principles of the Constitution: federalism, separation of powers, Bill of Rights

Norton, p. 182-190
Other Primary Sources: The Constitution of the United States, James Madison’s Federalist 10

**Week 6: Federal Period**
- Establishment of a new government under Washington
- Hamilton’s Financial Plan
- Neutrality in Foreign Policy
- Development of political parties
- Alien & Sedition Acts

Norton, Chapter 8

**Week 7: Nationalism in Foreign & Domestic Affairs**
- “Revolution of 1800”
- Causes and effects of the War of 1812
- Era of Good Feelings
- Marshall Court
- Monroe Doctrine

Norton, Chapters 9 & 10
Week 8 & 9: Jacksonian Democracy
- Elections of 1824 & 1828
- Presidency of Andrew Jackson
- Doctrine of nullification
- Destruction of the National Bank
- Age of Reform

Norton, Chapter 11
Grobl & Billias, Chapter 7 “Jacksonian Democracy: Fact or Fiction?”
2002 AP DBQ: Reform Movements 1825-1850

Week 10 & 11: Sectionalism and Manifest Destiny
- Comparison of North and South: economy & culture
- Effects of immigration on North
- Development of the “Peculiar Institution” of South
- Rise of Abolitionism
- Manifest Destiny
- Causes of the Mexican War

Norton, Chapters 12 & 13
Bailey, Chapter 17 “The South and the Slavery Controversy”
Other primary sources: “Civil Disobedience” by Henry David Thoreau

Week 12 & 13: Civil War
- Analysis of slavery compromises: Missouri Compromise, Compromise of 1850, Kansas-Nebraska Act
- “Bleeding Kansas”
- Dred Scott decision
- John Brown’s Raid
- Election of 1860
- Comparison of advantages of North & South on eve of the war
- Major battles
- Expansion of Presidential power

Norton, Chapter 14 & 15
2005B AP DBQ: Political Compromises to 1860
Week 14: Reconstruction
- Comparison of presidential v. Congressional plans for Reconstruction
- Role of Radical Republicans
- Protections of the rights of African Americans: 13th, 14th & 15 Amendments, Civil Rights Acts, Freedmen’s Bureau
- Impeachment of Johnson
- Compromise of 1877 & end of Reconstruction

Norton, Chapter 16
Bailey, Chapter 23, Part B, “The Debate on Reconstruction Policy” & Part C “Impeaching the President”
Grob & Bilias, Chapter 11 “The Reconstruction Era: Constructive or Destructive?”

Week 15: Industrial Revolution
- Factors promoting industrialization
- Effects of large-scale immigration
- Effects of industrialization on workers, including development of labor unions
- “Robber Barons”
- Early regulation of business: Granger Laws, ICC, Sherman Act

Norton, Chapter 18
Bailey, Chapter 25, Parts B & E, “The Trusts and Monopoly” & “Labor in Industrial America”

Week 16: Gilded Age
- Ideas of the age: Social Darwinism, Gospel of Wealth, Horatio Algerism
- Politics of the Gilded Age: one-term presidencies
- Civil Service Reforms

Norton, Chapter 20
Bailey, Chapter 25, Part C “The New Philosophy of Materialism”

*Socratic Seminar: Were the leading industrialists “great men” or “robber barons”?
Readings:


Final Examination for Term 1
Term II

Week 1: Settlement of the West & Rise of Populism
- Settlement of the West: Great Plains, Mining Boom, “Cattle Kingdom”
- Effects on Native Americans: destruction of buffalo
- Reform & Dawes Act
- Agrarian Revolt & Rise of Populist Party
- “Cross of Gold Speech” & election of 1896

Norton, Chapter 17
Other primary sources: William Jennings Bryan “Cross of Gold” speech

Week 2: American Imperialism
- Reasons for expansion
- Causes & effects of Spanish-American War
- Debate over annexation of the Philippines
- U.S. expansion in Latin America: Roosevelt Corollary, Panama Canal

Norton, Chapter 22

Week 3: Progressive Era
- Origins of the Progressive Movement
- Muckrakers
- Development of Settlement Houses
- Constitutional Changes: 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th Amendments
- Progressive Presidents: T. Roosevelt, Taft, and Wilson
- Election of 1912
- Square Deal v. New Nationalism

Norton, Chapter 21
**Week 4: World War I**
- Wilson’s Response to Mexican Revolution
- American Neutrality
- Reasons for U.S. entrance into World War I: submarine warfare, Zimmerman Note, economic interests, “making the world safe for democracy”
- Treaty of Versailles & Senate rejection
- Civil liberties during the war

Norton, Chapter 23
Other primary sources: Wilson’s Appeal for Neutrality, Aug. 19, 1914 & The Fourteen Points

**Week 5: 1920s**
- Return to Normalcy & “The Business of America is Business”
- Great Migration & Harlem Renaissance
- Rise of automobile & other consumer products
- Nativism & fundamentalism
- Return to isolationism

Norton, Chapter 24

*Group Project: Students will research and prepare skits on the 1920s on various topics: the Jazz Age, the Red Scare, Nativism (including immigration restrictions), the Harlem Renaissance, Prohibition, the New Woman, the Scopes Trial, Lindbergh, an American Hero and the Teapot Dome Scandal.*

**Week 6 & 7: Great Depression & New Deal**
- Causes of the Great Depression
- Effects on Americans: Hoovervilles, Dust Bowl, Okies
- Hoover’s response and election of 1932
- Roosevelt’s 1st 100 Days
- Second New Deal
- Court packing
- Analysis of lasting effects of New Deal
Norton, Chapter 25
Other primary sources: Franklin Roosevelt’s First Inaugural Address
2003 AP DBQ: Great Depression

**Week 8: World War II**
- Rise of fascism & militarism in Europe & Asia
- U.S. Neutrality in 1930s
- Entrance into World War II: naval war in Atlantic & Pearl Harbor
- Allied goals: Atlantic Charter, wartime conferences
- War on the homefront & internment of Japanese-Americans
- Defeat of the Axis Powers
- Use of the atomic bomb

Norton, Chapter 27
Other primary sources: Franklin Roosevelt’s War Message, Dec. 8, 1941

**Week 9: Beginning of the Cold War**
- Division of Europe after World War II
- Policy of containment: Truman Doctrine, Marshall Plan, Berlin Airlift, NATO
- Causes & effects of the Korean War
- Eisenhower doctrine

Norton, Chapter 28
2006B AP DBQ: 1941-49 Tensions with U.S.S.R.

**Week 10: Postwar America**
- Election of 1948 & Truman’s Fair Deal
- McCarthyism & a new Red Scare
- Analysis of the “Age of Conformity” & “Age of Affluence”

Norton, Chapter 29
Week 11 & 12: Turbulent 1960s
- Election of John F. Kennedy
- Bay of Pigs & Cuban Missile Crisis
- Civil rights under Kennedy & Johnson
- Johnson’s “Great Society”
- Vietnam War & protests against it
- Rise of other movements: women’s rights, AIM, Black Panthers, Hispanic-Americans

Norton, Chapter 30
Other primary source: John F. Kennedy’s Inaugural Address
1995 AP DBQ: Changes in goals, strategies and support of the movement for African American civil rights

Week 13: Watergate in the 1970s
- Election of Nixon
- Nixon Doctrine
- Watergate scandal & its aftermath
- Carter’s one-term presidency: stagflation & Iran Hostage Crisis
- Rise of conservatism

Norton, Chapter 31
Bailey, Chapter 42, Part D, “The Move to Impeach Nixon”

Week 14: From Reagan in the 1980s to Clinton & the 1990s
- Election of Reagan: was there a “Reagan Revolution”?
- Supply-side economics
- Fall of the Soviet Union
- Persian Gulf War & President Bush
- Election of 1992
- Impeachment of Clinton
- Election of 2000

Norton, Chapter 32 & 33

Other: Carter’s “National Malaise” Speech
Remainder of semester:
- Review and preparation for AP exam, including a full-length practice exam.
- College essay preparation
- Current events study.
- Final Exam.