

Instructor-Mr. Faller

- Social Studies
- Year long 1 Credit
- US History (required for graduation)
- Advanced Placement level (AP)
- Sophomore year
- Open to all students who are in "Honors" level English with a "B" average or higher, or have a recommendation from their current English teacher and talk with Mr. Faller.

 This course is an AP level course. In order to receive full AP credit for class rank and College consideration the national AP exam must be taken in the spring. There is an outside fee required for test registration. Any student who opts out of the AP exam course credit will be lowered to the "Honors" level.

• I. Course Description:

 This course covers the domestic and diplomatic history of the United States from the pre-Columbian period to the present. The course is designed to provide a college-level experience and preparation for the AP exam in May. The student will be acquainted with the social, cultural, political, intellectual, religious, and economic developments in the United States and the relationship of these developments to international relations. Included in this course are geographical applications and Ohio history. An emphasis is placed on interpreting documents, both primary and secondary history sources will be examined, mastering a significant body of factual information, and writing critical essays. The students will be exposed to various styles of history writing and research, and the students are expected to do multiple research projects, including a thesis paper utilizing the MLA methodology. Extensive essay writing is a critical component to this course. Students taking this course are encouraged to take the AP Examination. The course is weighted; those who chose to take the AP exam get AP weighted credit and those who do not receive Honors weighted credit. Classes meet every other day for 90 minutes in a standard A/B block schedule.

- Academic requirements:
- This course has a heavy emphasis on reading and essay writing. A strong foundation in English abilities is recommended.
- Homework assignments are typically due at the beginning of the last class meeting of the week.
- Weekly homework typically consists of multiple essay style questions with research. Estimated time is 5-8 hours.
- In addition frequent outside reading assignments are common with time estimates depending on reading speed averaged at 2-4 hours per week.
- Most assignments are posted for the quarter with students encouraged to work ahead.
- Effective time-management skills are essential to success.

• Who should take this course? The top level academically minded student should take this course. While it is a significant amount of work the rewards are also significant: increased class rank, higher academic prestige, a much more attractive college application resume, opportunities to earn college credits via AP exams, and increased college level skill development as preparation for the next level of academic challenges.