

2023 Advanced Placement® United States History

About the AP® Comparative Government and Politics Summer Institute

AP® United States History is designed to be the equivalent of a two-semester introductory college or university U.S. history course. Students are expected to demonstrate knowledge of basic chronology and major events from 1491 to the Present. Special emphasis is placed upon the development of historical skills, practices, and methods used by historians and students learn to “analyze historical sources and make connections and craft historical arguments as they explore the eight themes of the course. This summer institute will provide participants with an overview of the AP® program and the US history course as well as content, strategies, and skills that increase student interest and knowledge in the course.

What You Will Learn

- Understanding the course design and setting up an AP® US History course
- Working with multiple-choice questions
- Using a rubric and grading sample short answer, long essay, and document-based questions
- Helping students analyze primary and secondary sources
- Applying Equity and Access principles in your classroom

How You Will Benefit

- Create a syllabus and pacing guide that incorporates the eight themes and nine historical periods of the AP® US History course
- Explore and choose resources available through social media and those offered in AP® Classroom
- Develop strategies to teach students how to make an argument and write effectively on the AP® US History exam
- Acquire practical classroom expectations and activities

Monday

- Introductions
- Materials
- Benefits/Challenges of Teaching AP®
- Equity and Access
- Exam Format and Breakdown
- The 7 Course Themes
- Student Understanding
- The Course Audit and Curricular Requirements
- Assessing Student Understanding and Brief Introduction to AP® Classroom
- Other Resources

Tuesday

- My Course
- Textbook Reading Strategies
- Historical Thinking Skills and Reasoning Processes

Wednesday

- Analyzing Evidence
 - Working with Primary and Secondary Sources
- Discussion Strategies
- The Multiple Choice Questions
- Teaching Writing
- The SAQ

Thursday

- The LEQ
- The DBQ

What to bring:

Items you should have access to during the week include:

- A laptop computer/ tablet
- A favorite lesson or practice to share
- A copy of your school's academic calendar
- A copy of the textbook you will be using next year (if you have access to one)

Instructor:



Lou Gallo teaches both AP US and European history at West High School in Knoxville, Tennessee, and AP European History for Dwight Global, based in New York City. He has taught AP history classes since 1996 and has served at the AP Reading as a reader, table leader, and question leader since 2000. He works with the College Board in several different capacities. He is a College Board European History consultant since 2001 and a US History consultant since 2013. He also serves as a mentor/coach to other European and US history consultants and has been an AP US history mentor since the program's debut in 2016. He has written test questions for various outlets including ETS, Cengage Publishing, and HistorySage.com. In 2003, Lou received the Milken National Educator Award as well as West High School Teacher of the Year. He was named Knox County Teacher of the Year in 2008 and again named West High School Teacher of the Year in 2015. He was one of five teachers from North America selected to run the Olympic torch for the 2012 Summer Olympics.