

August 30, 2016  
Dear Parent/Guardian,

I am excited at the opportunity to have your student in our class this year. AP U.S. History provides students with a challenging and engaging curriculum and allows students the opportunity to experience a college-style atmosphere while in high school. Studies indicate that students who have taken AP courses in high school tend to not only outperform their peers in college, but also have a lower college drop-out rate.

Please take a moment to visit the Electronic Syllabus for this course. It contains pertinent information that is important to student success in this course. Please sign this sheet below and return it with your student tomorrow. In fact, it is their first homework assignment and must be turned in tomorrow, August 31, 2016! **PLEASE RETURN ENTIRE SHEET.**

In short, the following information is of particular importance:

1. Homework policies, particularly "Terms" assignments, and the policy regarding work that is late.
2. Unit review guides and their importance to quizzes and unit exams.
3. Attendance suggestions and tardy policies

I am available for questions that you may have. Please do not hesitate to contact me should the need arise. **The best way to contact me is via e-mail.** E-mails allow for me to reply quickly. Generally, however, I return phone calls within one or two days of a message. My phone number and e-mail address are listed below.

PLEASE NOTE:

**AVOID THE MAY 6, 2017, SAT EXAM DATE!** We have found that many families that wish for their students to take the SAT or the SATII exams in May find their students in a difficult situation. Many take multiple AP subjects and wish to take their exams, but they also may wish to enroll in SAT preparation courses, typically held on Saturdays. This conflicts with AP U.S. History review sessions, which are held on Saturdays from March 11, 2017, through April 29, 2017. Another SAT date is held in June. Students wishing to take the SAT II in U.S. History are advised to take the exam on January 21, 2017—which immediately precedes the end of the course.

Please also note that weekly homework agendas can be accessed on the AP U.S. History website at <http://markvanover.weebly.com>.

I have included a space below for you to note your e-mail address. I have found that e-mail has certainly made communication with parents MUCH easier.

Again, I am excited that your student is in this course and am looking forward to an extremely productive and exciting school year.

Respectfully,

Mark Van Over  
Social Sciences Teacher Chair/District Social Science Staff Support  
Phone: (858) 350-0253 E-mail: [mark.vanover@sduhsd.net](mailto:mark.vanover@sduhsd.net)

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I have read and understand the course policies and syllabus for A.P. U.S. History.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Class Period

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**\*\*Parent\*\*** E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE RETURN ENTIRE SHEET.**