

**Salem High School**  
**Advanced Placement United States History- Mr. Pearson**  
**Classroom Expectations**

*“Salem High School is dedicated to serving the entire community by encouraging enrollment of all students who demonstrate a willingness to rise to the challenge of rigorous, college-level Advancement Placement coursework.”*

**Recommended Prerequisites:** Students should have taken Honors English in the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades and maintained at least a “B” average. Students should have a strong background in World History and World Geography and be taking a predominance of upper level courses including Honors or AP English 11. The course will involve a great deal of reading and writing so these skills should be sharp before beginning AP USH.

**Materials Required:**

**The American Pageant** (textbook) (used during summer)

**After the Fact: The Art of Historical Detection** (primary sources, etc.)

**United States History: Preparing for the Advanced Placement Exam**

(provided by school- an excellent source for review, etc.)

\*\*\*You are not to write in the books listed above (materials required).

**Notebook:** 3 ring loose leaf binder with paper (keep all handouts, etc.)

**Absences/Tardies:** Excellent attendance is a must for success in this course. The demanding time schedule and heavy workload in this course require that the students take measures to avoid absences. School board policy allows only six absences per semester. Credit is lost upon the seventh absence. Be very punctual in getting to class. 1 Tardy= Verbal Warning; 2 Tardies= 30 minute teacher detention & phone call home; 3 Tardies= Office referral for Administrative Wednesday Detention; 4 Tardies= Office referral for ISS. The tardies begin new each nine weeks. Missing 15 minutes of class constitutes an absence.

**Class Conduct:** Make all efforts to take care of personal activities before class (water, restroom, etc.). Thank you in advance for helping me keep the room clean. No food or drinks (other than water) will be allowed in class.

**Honor Policy:** Unless otherwise told, all work is to be completed without assistance from either present or past AP USH students. Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated.

**Evaluations:** I will discuss the grading scale with you on the first day of school (standard VBCPS School Board scale). Reading quizzes will be

weighted one time. Announced quizzes, covering several chapters, will be weighted twice. Tests will be weighted three times. Other major projects will count more and will be discussed later. Consult your 9 weeks syllabus DAILY for information on all assignments and evaluations, etc.

**Make Up Work:** It is *your* responsibility to see me for missed work or to schedule make ups ASAP. I prefer to schedule make up quizzes and tests during the day (study halls) if at all possible within three days of your return for full credit. No credit will be given to work missed due to an unexcused absence or work not made up within three days of return from and excused absence (per college level of the course). Late homework will not be accepted.

**Motivation:** This course will definitely require a great deal of self-motivation. The demands placed upon your time will be heavy, but careful preparation and time management combined with good reading/study habits will help tremendously.

**AP Examination-** The date for this year's exam is Friday, May 7, 2010. All students enrolled in AP USH are expected to take the exam. The exam will cost approximately \$86 and some payment will be due by Nov. 1, 2009. Full payment will be due by March 1, 2010. Checks should be made out to Salem High School. Much more information about the exam will follow throughout the year (location, etc).

**Personal Note:** I am looking forward to working with you this year. I was a Reader for the AP Exam 1999-2007 and feel very comfortable assisting students in preparation for the exam in May. Please feel free to see me if you have any questions, etc. If your parents have any concerns, I will get in touch with them ASAP. My e-mail address is [WT.PEARSON@vbschools.com](mailto:WT.PEARSON@vbschools.com). E-mail is probably the quickest way to reach me. My phone number is 648-5450 (VM# 77152). *I intend for this class to be founded on mutual respect and cooperation.*

Keep this copy in the front of your notebook. Return the extra copy signed by you and a parent/guardian ASAP (next class period). Signing this form indicates that you and your parent/guardian are aware of the class expectations for AP USH.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Block # \_\_\_\_\_

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

Fill in my schedule below so you can find me during the school day:

A1 _____	A3 _____	B1 _____	B3 _____
A2 _____	A4 _____	B2 _____	B4 _____

