



Social Studies Department- Academic Expectations for AP Courses



AP courses provide students with the factual knowledge and critical thinking skills expected in a college level course. Teachers of AP courses follow a required course outline and prepare students with the knowledge and skills necessary to be successful on the Advanced Placement examination which takes place in May.

The below chart provides an approximation of the time and assignments for each AP course offered in the Social Studies Department. In order to make appropriate and informed choices at CVHS, it is to your advantage to understand the rigor of each course.

Area of Study	# of pages to read to prepare for each class	# of hours to study/prepare for each class	Tests/Quizzes	Major Projects	Summer Assignments	Comments
AP World	30 – 50 pages per week in college level textbook for 1 st quarter, 25 – 30 pages of reading per week thereafter	2 – 3 hours for each class when a chapter is due 2 – 3 hours of study to prepare for unit tests (this includes time provided in class)	Weekly reading quizzes - 1 AP/college level test per unit covering multiple chapters - 2+ timed writings per quarter	One year long project	Read chapters 1 – 5 in textbook and complete a Proof-of-Reading for each; assignments due on three designated dates throughout summer, students will receive feedback on work	In addition to content interest students should: - have excellent attendance - be willing to invest the extra time needed for a college level class - be independent learners and complete all assignments on their own. - Have good writing skills that they are willing to improve
AP US History	30-40 pages per chapter in a college level textbook. At the beginning of the year, we do about one chapter a week, but by January we do 2 chapters a week.	2-3 hours for each class that a chapter is due.	Reading quiz on every chapter 5-6 Unit tests per year 2-3 timed writings per quarter	Roughly one project (usually a group project) per quarter	Read a novel or non-fiction book related to US History (last year we read <i>Unbroken</i>). Students are expected to take notes on the book and come prepared to discuss it as well as take a test on it.	In addition to content interest students should: - have excellent attendance - be willing to invest the extra time needed for a college level class - be independent learners and complete all assignments on their own. - Have good reading, writing and study skills that they are willing to improve

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AP US Government and Politics <i>Advanced study of United States Government & Politics</i>	20-30 pages each class	Varies by student capability Approximately 2 to 2.5 hours	Frequent Reading and Chapter Quizzes 5-6 Unit Exams	One major project per quarter Mini projects will vary each quarter	Constitution Outline and Review Packet	College Level Textbook Student driven curriculum
AP US Government & Comparative <i>Advanced study of both US Government and Six Comparative Country Governments</i>	20-30 pages each class	Varies by student capability Approximately 2 to 2 and half hours	1 Chapter Quiz per Chapter / 1 Country Quiz per Country 5 US Unit Exams and 1 Unit Exam for Comparative	One major project per quarter / One major project for Comparative Mini projects will vary each quarter	Country Comparison Chart	College Level Textbook Student driven curriculum at a quicker pace of instruction
AP Psychology	30 -50 pages per week in college level textbook	One hour for each class	Daily quizzes and/or note checks - 2-4 tests with timed essays per quarter	Approximately one project per quarter	None	This class is not a good choice for reluctant readers or students who have not mastered spaced rehearsal test prep
AP Economics	30 – 50 Pages per week in a college level textbook	One+ hours for each class	Quizzes almost daily. -5-6 Unit Tests with free response questions per semester	-Macroeconomics cumulative review book -Microeconomics cumulative review	None	Students MUST have a content interest. This is not a math class, but strong math skills will be extremely helpful.
AP European	20-40 pages/week in a college level text	2-3 hours for each class that a chapter is due	Weekly reading quizzes. 1 AP level test per chapter. 2-3 timed writings/quarter.	one year end project	Read a text relevant to European history/diplomacy. Last year's text was <i>The Prince</i> by Machiavelli	Excellent attendance is expected. Extra time for a more demanding course is expected. Willingness to improve reading and writing skills is expected and helpful