

## AP Thematic Review Project<sup>1</sup>

While much of your preparation from now until the AP will be based on your own individual (and group) efforts outside of class (and our own work in class), you can also help each other review. Towards that end, here's the review project we'll undertake over the next few weeks.

Each person is responsible for creating a chronological study guide for one of the themes below in American history. You may want to include a list of key terms, annotated timeline of key events, any relevant page numbers for charts or explanations, and a brief overview analysis. Please do not create a book-length review packet; aim for no more than 4 sides of paper total (single-spaced), so you're *thorough but concise*! The point is to give people multiple review packets (which sometimes overlap) so they can see US history in different ways.

### THEMES

**Basics of government** – colonial structures and precedents; Constitutional frameworks; amendments and their contexts

1. **Governmental power** – balance of power btw branches and its evolution; key presidents in empowering presidency; balance between federal and state powers and its evolution
2. **Political groups** – parties, their platforms and constituencies; key interest/lobbying groups
3. **Supreme Court** – key judicial eras and rulings, as well as challenges to the court
4. **Taxes and monetary policy** – tax trends/tariffs; inflation/deflation; banking regulation
5. **Labor and business trends** – relative strength of business vs. labor, evolution of corporations and unions, regulation or support from government; key technological developments
6. **Gender roles and rights** – expectations in different eras; leaders/organizations; job opportunities or restrictions; relevant laws or court cases; sexual orientation and rights
7. **Civil rights movements** – how have different ethnic and racial groups been treated over time, and how have they worked to gain greater rights; leaders, organizations and movements; relevant laws
8. **Immigration and territorial expansion** – increased diversification of US lands and peoples; trends in immigration; waves of nativism; expansion of the US, including imperialism
9. **Wars, alliances, and doctrines** – where, when and how have we gone to war; causes and key results; major battles; alliances created; doctrines dictating foreign affairs
10. **Cultural trends and developments** – schools of thought/art; education trends and policies; literary groups or figures; new scientific ideas and applications

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<sup>1</sup> This assignment was created and written by Andrew Thompson, Newton South High School, History Department

## PROJECT POINTERS

- ❖ Please do NOT only look at the Constitution on; begin with European exploration and colonization.
- ❖ If you look at the overall review schedule before the AP, I've given you a number of days when you need to work on this project. Don't procrastinate – *use this time!*
- ❖ You should use class notes and AMSCO, but don't hesitate to also use Brinkley, online sources, and other review books. **The point is not ONLY to summarize AMSCO, but to give a succinct, useful, and in-depth review of a specific topic.**
- ❖ Your packet does NOT need to be completely full sentences – bullet points, outlines, graphs, tables, etc. are recommended!

*I will be assessing each project worth up to 50 points, based on accuracy, thoroughness, conciseness, and "studyability".*