

Hayfield Secondary School

## FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

7630 Telegraph Road Alexandria, Virginia 22315



## Social Studies Department- Academic Expectations for AP Classes

AP courses provide students with the knowledge and critical thinking skills expected in a college level course. These courses are a significant step up from General Ed and Honors courses; they are college courses with the opportunity to gain college credit.

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. Students who pass this national test can earn college credit, depending on the college's requirements.

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 Hayfield, it is to your advantage to understand the rigor of each course.

Area of Study AP World History	# of pages to read to prepare for each class 30 - 50 pages per week in college level	# of hours to study/ Readings should take up to an hour, students are expected	1- AP level summative test per unit (6 total units)	Major Projects	Summer Assignments Read novel Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe	Comments In addition to content interest students should: - have excellent
Generally taken in 10 <sup>th</sup> grade. Recommended for students who excelled in their World I course. Students are given unit organizers at the beginning of each unit	textbook for 1st quarter, 25 – 30 pages of reading per week thereafter **addt'I readings are also given as supplemental reading and sometimes replace textbook readings, students are expected to complete a reading guide	<ul> <li>a students are expected to take notes on the readings based off of the Key Concepts for the unit</li> <li>3-4 hours of study to prepare for unit tests (this includes time provided in class)</li> </ul>	Reading quizzes SAQ (short answer question) quizzes Midterm AP Exam in May	Both group and individual Final project (in place of a final exam) Writing varied # timed writings during each quarter	Label a world map	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 on

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Area of Study	# of pages to read to prepare for each class	# of hours to study/week	Tests/Quizzes	Major Projects	Summer Assignments	Comments
<b>AP US History</b> Generally taken in 11 <sup>th</sup> grade. Recommended for students who excelled in Honors or AP World History courses	Approximately 15-20 pages per chapter/per class. We typically do 1-2 chapters per week of reading. Taking notes is required.	Readings should take approximately 2 hours depending on the particular night's reading. 3-4 hours of study to prepare for the unit test	Reading quiz on every chapter. 7 Unit tests per year 2-3 timed writings per quarter and class activities.	Roughly one project (usually a group project) per quarter	None	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 on
AP US Government and Politics Generally taken in 12 <sup>th</sup> grade. Recommended for students who excelled in Honors or AP US History courses. Students must complete 5 hours working on a political campaign and 10 additional hours on community service tinyurl.com/hayfieldservice	10-20 pages each class. Most chapters are outlined by students.	Approximately 2 to 2.5 hours per week	Weekly Reading and Chapter Quizzes 5-6 Unit Exams/year Midterm Exam Final Exam Free Responses Questions (FRQ)	Small projects. Major Project after the AP Exam	None	-College Level Textbook -Student driven curriculum -Good attendance is required -Students can retake all major exams
AP Comparative Government and Politics Generally taken in 12 <sup>th</sup> grade. Recommended for students who excelled in Honors or AP US History courses. Course moves at a faster pace than AP US Gov.	10-20 pages each class. Most chapters are outlined by students.	Approximately 2 to 2.5 hours per week	Weekly Reading and Chapter Quizzes 5-6 Unit Exams/year Midterm Exam Final Exam Essay-style exams -Country Context -Conceptual Analysis -Short Answer Concepts	Small projects. Major Project after the AP Exam	None	-College Level Textbook -Student driven curriculum -Good attendance is required -Students can retake all major exams 1 <sup>st</sup> semester – US Gov 2 <sup>nd</sup> semester – 6 other country's gov. systems

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Students must complete 5 hours working on a political campaign and 10 additional hours on community service tinyurl.com/hayfieldservice						Students take 2 AP Exams in May
Area of Study	# of pages to read to prepare for each class	# of hours to study/week	Tests/Quizzes	Major Projects	Summer Assignments	Comments
<b>AP Psychology</b> Social Studies elective	30 -50 pages per week in college level textbook	One hour	Daily quizzes and/or note checks - 2-4 tests with timed essays per quarter	Approximately one project per quarter	None	-Students are required to do a significant amount of reading -Students should have well-established study habits (space-rehearsal)
<b>AP Economics</b> Social Studies elective	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. Strong math skills will be extremely helpful.
AP Human Geography Social Studies elective	One chapter per week, plus supplemental readings will also be given and video clips.	One hour per class, generally. This can vary depending on student's reading ability and focus.	One test per unit, reading quizzes almost daily. Unit tests will be constructed just as the AP exam is constructed.	Students will be working on maps, engaging in potential field trips,and various other unit related small project,	None	In addition to having an interest in the class, students must be willing to have and participate in class discussions on wide-ranging and controversial subjects.

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