



Dominican International School

台北市私立道明外僑學校
No. 76, Dazhi Street, Taipei (104042), Taiwan, R.O.C.
10464 臺北市中山區大直街 76 號



COURSE SYLLABUS

School Year	2025-26
Subject	American History
Grade Level	11
Teacher	David Lein
Email	dlein@dishs.tp.edu.tw

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The Grade 11 American History Course is a rigorous and content heavy course which will traverse American History from the Pre-Columbian Era of 1492 up to the Modern Era. Students will explore and delve numerous topics such as” The Columbian Exchange, the Trail of Tears, the failure Reconstruction, the Cold War, Desegregation of the 1960s, the Vietnam War, and 911. While exploring these topics, students in the course will also be learn that American History was also shaped by the experiences of people of multiple nationalities, and ethnic backgrounds.

In this course, the reading and analysis of primary and secondary sources along with writing are very routine.

The American History course will also focus on themes such as: continuity and change, causality, compare and contrast, and contextualization.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: By the end of the semester/school year, (SWBAT) Students will be able to:

- Students will be able to analyze primary and secondary sources by using the SOAPsTone technique.
(Speaker, Occasion, Audience, Purpose, and Tone)
- Students will be able to evaluate the validity of primary and secondary sources.
- Students will be able to understand and determine the context for primary sources.
- Students will be able to understand and explain how secondary and primary sources can serve to enhance understanding of historical topics.

Writing Standards (Aligned with Common Core Curriculum Standards)

- Students will be able to construct well-structured essays which contains clear introductions, body paragraphs, and conclusions.
- Students will be able to create essays which contain detailed evidence from relevant quotations, images, and other sources of information to substantiate their claims.
- Conduct research projects largely independent of instructor interference.



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D'TORCH Standards

- a.) Students will adhere by the principles of the D'TORCH (Truthful, Organized, Reflective, Helpful, and Courageous)
- b.) Students will understand being respectful to every member of the school community is not just an expectation, but a requirement.
- c.) Students will continually develop into good productive citizens who apply their skills and talents for the betterment of the community.

PRIMARY TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER RESOURCES:

Lapansky-Werner, Emma, et. al. *US History Interactive*. Savvas Learning Company, 2022
ISBN-13: 978-013-330695-8

GRADING SYSTEM/ASSESSMENT:

The quarterly grade will be awarded for all student work based on the following criteria:

- ✓ Class Participation, Graded Recitation, Quizzes and Tests- 30% of quarterly grade
- ✓ Major Projects and Assignments- 30% of quarterly grade
- ✓ Quarterly Exams- 30% of quarterly grade
- ✓ Deportment- 10% of quarterly grade

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Please always check Google Classroom for homework and announcements.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

Academic Dishonesty means employing a method or technique or engaging in conduct in an academic endeavor that contravenes the standards of ethical integrity expected at DIS.

Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to the following:

- Purposely incorporating the ideas, words of sentences, paragraphs, or parts thereof without appropriate acknowledgment and representing the product as one's work;
- Representing another's intellectual work, such as photographs, paintings, drawings, sculpture, research, or the like, as one's own, including failure to attribute content to an AI.
- Employing a tutor, using Artificial Intelligence without acknowledgment, getting a parent to write a paper or do an assignment, and paying for an essay to be written by someone else and presented as the student's work.
- Committing any act that a reasonable person would conclude, when informed of the evidence, to be a dishonest means of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work.

Any act of academic dishonesty will result in an automatic zero on the entire assignment/learning task.



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First Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week/Date	Topic/Projects/Assessments
Week 1 (August 12 to 15) <u>4 days of class</u> 12-General Assembly at the Gymnasium 15-Opening Mass & Assumption of Our Lady	<u>Class Rules and Expectations</u> <u>Topic 1:</u> Chapter 1.1 The People of the Americas Chapter 1.3 Europeans Make Contact Chapter 1.4 Spain and France in America
Week 2 (August 18 to 22) 18-St. Dominic de Guzman Feast Day Celebration) Integrated during the Monday Assembly 20- House Shirt & Blue Jeans Day Starts 22- Club Orientation and Club Sign-up	<u>Topic 2:</u> Chapter 2.1 Southern Colonies Take Root *Jamestown focus Chapter 2.4 Slavery in the Southern Colonies *Triangular Trade.
Week 3 (August 25 to 29) 27- High School Talk - "Kickstart Your Success: Winning Mindsets for a Great School Year" 29- First Club Meeting	<u>Topic 2:</u> Chapter 2.2: New Lives in New England *Puritans, Pequot Massacre, King Philips War, Mayflower Chapter 2.3: The Middle Colonies Thrive *New Netherlands, Quakers and Pennsylvania
Week 4 (September 1 to 5) 1- Launching of the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation (During the Monday Assembly) 1-AP Registration 3- AEO Fall University Fair 5- House Ceremony	<u>Topic 2:</u> Chapter 2.5: Economic and Social Life in the Colonies *Mercantilism *Navigation Acts *Development of Life *Possibly Martha Ballard Chapter 2.6: Creating an American Identity *Great Awakening *Enlightenment * Salutary Neglect
Week 5 (September 8 to 12) 8- Holy Mass: Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary & VIP Induction 10- House Mini Games Start	<u>Topic 3:</u> Chapter 3.1 The French and Indian War *Tensions between Colonists and England foment. Chapter 3.2 Causes of the Revolution *Sugar Act *Townshend Act * Proclamation of 1763 *Intolerable Acts
Week 6 (September 15 to 19) 15- Catholic Bridge Program for all New Students (After the Monday Assembly at the Gymnasium) 19- Athletics / Sports Orientation 19- PSAT/NMSQT Registration deadline	<u>Topic 3:</u> Chapter 3.3 The Colonists Declare Independence *Intolerable Acts *Declaration
Week 7 (September 22 to 26)	<u>Topic 3:</u> Chapter 3.4 Americans win the Revolution



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22- Celebration of the International Day of Peace-Peace Pole Ceremony (During the Monday Assembly) Teacher's Day Celebration & 26- Teachers' Appreciation 26- Grade 12 Career Educational Trip 24 to 26-Pre-Exam Days	*Key Battles * Factors * African Americans and the Revolution Topic 4: Chapter 4.1 The Articles of Confederation. *Strengths and Weaknesses
Week 8 (September 29 to October 3) 29- Launching of the Month of the Holy Rosary (During the Monday Assembly) Oct. 1-2- First Quarter Exam (half day)	Review and Exam
Oct. 3-DIS Teachers and Staff Recognition Day/ Record Day Recollection for Aunties and Uncles (no classes for students)	

Second Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week/Date	Topic/Projects/Assessments
6-Moon Festival (no classes)	
7-9 Teacher's Conference (no classes)	
Week 1 (11) (October 13 to 17) 13- Second Quarter Begins 13- Start of New Applicant Enrollment for 2nd Semester 14- Visit of Mother Mary to Classrooms (During the morning prayer) 15- AP Exam Only Registration Deadline 15- Monthly Career Talk - College Prep 17- PSAT/NMSQT Digital Exam	Topic 4: Chapter 4.2 The Constitutional Convention *Republican Motherhood, * Great Compromise *3/5 Compromise * Checks and Balances Chapter 4.3 Enduring Convention
Week 2 (12) (October 20 to 24) 20- Jubilee: Marian Exhibit Opening (After the Monday Assembly) 20- Campus Safety Talk for Students 24- Book Fair (Senior Escape Room)	Topic 5 Chapter 5.1 the New Government Finds the Way *Washington and Adams Presidency (Jay Treaty, Battle of Fallen Timbres) Chapter 5.2 Jefferson as President *Louisiana Purchase *Embargo of 1807
Week 3 (13) (October 27 to 31) 29- Grade 11 Career Educational Trip Oct. 31 to Nov. 1- Gr.6 SEL Camp	Topic 5 Chapter 5.3 The War of 1812 *Overall results * Impact of the results Chapter 5.4 The Beginning of the Industrial Revolution



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	*Causes and effects of the Industrial Revolution Chapter 5.5 Differences between North and South Grow *Introduction to fomenting problems between the North and the South.
Week 4 (14) (November 3 to 7) 3- Feast of St. Martin de Porres Mass (integrated during the Monday Assembly) 5- Monthly Career Talk - College Prep	Topic 5 Chapter 5.7 Jacksonian Democracy *Trail of Tears * Expansion of Democracy * Nullification Crisis
Week 5 (15) (November 10 to 14) 14- Health Week 14- VIP-Parent Learning Community	Topic 6: Chapter 6.1 Moving West *Santa Fe Trail Chapter 6.2 Texas and the Mexican American War *Republic of Texas *Results of the Mexican American War Chapter 6.3 The Nation Expands to the Pacific *Wilmot Proviso * Gold Rush *Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo
Week 6 (16) (November 17 to 21) 17- Launching of Mental Health and Anti-Bullying Month 21- Young Shakespeare Play Writing and Performing Contest	Topic 6: Chapter 6.6: Abolition Movement Grows *William Lloyd Garrison *Frederick Douglass *Growth of Movement Topic 7 Chapter 7.1 Slavery Divides a Nation *Gag Rule * Compromise of 1850 Chapter 7.2 Violence Escalates *Kansas and Nebraska Act * John Brown *Sumner vs Brooks
Week 7 (17) (November 24 to 28) 24- Peace Pole Day (Monday Assembly) 24- Lighting of the Christmas Tree after school (Campus Min/ ECA/ D' Torch Orchestra/ Religious Studies) (Afternoon) 25-27- Pre-Exam Days 27- Thanksgiving Potluck after school for teachers and staff 27- Thanksgiving Family Day 28- Gr. 12 Second Quarter Exam	Topic 7: Chapter 7.3 The Civil War Begins: *Election of 1860 *Lincoln Douglas Debates *Republican Party * Southern Secession Chapter 7.6 Key Civil War Battles *Gettysburg * Emancipation Proclamation * Vicksburg
<i>Nov. 29 Invitation for All: The Jubilee Pilgrimage to Taipei (Saturday)</i>	
Week 8 (18) (December 1 to 5) 1- First Week of Advent: Lighting of First Advent Candle (During the Monday Assembly) 3- Monthly Career Talk - College Prep 5- Nativity Play (Collaboration with	Topic 7: Chapter 7.4 African Americans and the Civil War *Contributions and limitations of the Civil War. Chapter 7.7 Impact of the Civil War *13th Amendment Review Scope given *Possibly Project given.



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Campus Ministry) 5- Christmas Fair Whole Day	
Week 9 (19) (December 8 to 12) 8- Foundation Day Mass, cake ceremony, and Class Party (half day) 8- Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception 8- Second Week of Advent 10- Gr. 12 Advent Immersion 11 and 12- Second Quarter Exam (half day)	<u>Review and Exam</u>
<i>December 13 Invitation for All: Advent Recollection @DIS (Saturday)</i>	
<i>December 15 to January 2 Christmas Break</i>	

Third Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week/Date	Topic/Projects/Assessments
<i>January 5- Record Day (No Classes for students)</i>	
Week 1 (20) (January 5 to 9) 5- PSAT 8/9 Registration Starts 6- Third Quarter Begins 7- Monthly Career Talk-College Prep 9- New Year Mass at 8:00	<u>Topic 8:</u> Chapter 8.1: Plans for Reconstruction *Radical Republicans * 14 th and 15 th Amendments, Reconstruction Act Chapter 8.2: Reconstruction Changes the South *KKK, Enforce Acts Chapter 8.3: Impact of Reconstruction: *Ways South subvert Reconstruction: KKK , Poll tax, literacy tax, why Reconstruction ended
Week 2 (21) (January 12 to 16) 16- Club Orientation & Sign Up	<u>Topic 9:</u> Chapter 9.1 Innovation Boosts Growth *Bessemer * Growth of Industries Chapter 9.2 Big Business Rises *Robber Barons *Entrepreneur *Laisses' Faire *Robber Barons
Week 3 (22) (January 19 to 23) 19-23- Individual Yearbook Photoshoot for Students 19-23- Career Awareness Week 22- Grade 9 Career Educational trip 23- First Club Meeting for 2nd Semester	<u>Topic 9:</u> Chapter 9.3 The Organized Labor Movement *Unions * Haymarket Square *Homestead Strike <u>Topic 11:</u> Topic 11.1: Progressives Drive Reform *Progressive Reforms *Muck Rakers * Jacob Riis
Week 4 (23) (January 26 to 30) 26- Feast Day of St. Thomas	<u>Topic 9:</u> Chapter 9.4 The New Immigrants *Chinese and Eastern Europeans *Chinese Exclusion Act



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Aquinas/Launching of the Catholic Week 26-28- Aquinas Conference: Science and Faith 26-30- Catholic Week Activities 30- DYM Charity Concert	Topic 10: Chapter 10.2: Difficulties of the West Focus on Chinese
Week 5 (24) (February 2 to 6) 1-4- WASC Mid-Cycle Visit 4- Monthly Career Talk - College Prep 6-7- SUAO Recollection for MS	Topic 11 Chapter 11.1 American Influence Grows, *Social Darwinism *Hawaii Acquisition Chapter 11.6 Spanish American War *Yellow Journalism *Jingoism * Results of the War
Week 6 (25) (February 9 to 13) 9- Start of New Applicant Enrollment for 1st Semester for SY2025-26 13- PSAT 8/9 Registration Deadline 13- House Valentine's Mini Fair 13- Chinese New Year Celebration	Topic 12 Chapter 12.1 America Enters World War I *Causes and Effects of World War I *Zimmerman Note *Lusitania Chapter 12.2: The Homefront during World War I *Suppression of Human Rights During World War I Chapter 12.3 The End of World War *14 Points * The extent of American Influence *Isolationism
<i>February 16-20 Chinese New Year Holiday</i>	
Week 7 (26) (February 23 to 26) 23-26- IOWA Assessments 23- Student Council Application 24-26- Pre-Exam Days	Women's History Topic 6: Women work for Change *History of the Suffrage Movement Topic 11.2 Women Gain Rights 19th Amendment
<i>February 27 Memorial Day Holiday (no classes)</i>	
Week 8 (27) (March 2 to 6) 3- Monthly Career Talk - College Prep 6- PSAT 8/9 System Installation and Practice Test	Topic 12: Chapter 12.4 The Post War economy booms *Buying on Margin * Expansion on consumerism.
Week 9 (28) (March 9 to 13) 13 and 16- Third Quarter Exam (half day)	Review: Exam week

Fourth Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week/Date	Topic/Projects/Assessments
Week 1 (29) (March 16 to 20)	Topic 13 Chapter 13.1 Causes of the Depression



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16- Third Quarter Exam (half day) 16-20- Faculty & Staff Yearbook Photo 17- Fourth Quarter Begins 18-21- EARCOS Teachers' Conference 19- Lectio Divina and Feast of St. Joseph 20- Parents Learning Community Meeting 20- Kindilympics 20-House Movie Night and Club Fair	*Causes of the Great Depression Chapter 13.2 Americans Suffer *How it affected America? Chapter 13.3 Two Presidents Respond: Focus more on FDR *Policies of Hoover vs Roosevelt
<i>March 21 (Saturday) Spring Fair</i>	
Week 2 (30) (March 23 to 27) 23-27 Student Leaders Applicant Interviews 26- Annual Visit to World Religion Museum Gr. 11 27- Lower School Readers Theatre	Topic 14 Chapter 14.1: Rise of Aggressive Dictators *Rise of Hitler and Mussolini * Totalitarianism * Dawes Plan Chapter 14.2 America Debates Involvement Atlantic Charter, Neutrality Act, Lend Lease Act
<i>March 30 to April 6 Easter/Spring Break</i>	
Week 3 (31) (April 7 to 10) 7- Spring University Fair 9- Easter Mass 9- Easter Egg Hunt for Lower School Students	Topic 14 Chapter 14.6 The Allies Win the War. *Hiroshima and Nagasaki Chapter 14.7 The Holocaust *Effects and compared to other Human Rights violations Chapter 14.8: Impact of World War II *UN Declaration of Human Rights *Nuremberg Trials, Yalta and Potsdam
Week 4 (32) (April 13 to 17) 13 Laudato Si Month Launching (During the Monday Assembly) 13-30 Laudato Si Month Activities 13-17- Class Photo Taking 17- AP Chinese/Japanese Practice Test	Topic 15 Chapter 15.1 The Beginning of the Cold War *Truman Doctrine * Marshall Plan *Containment *NATO *Warsaw Pact Chapter 15.2 The Korean War *Effects of Korean War
Week 5 (33) (April 20 to 24) 20-24 Cultural Awareness Week / Art Exhibit / Earth Week 24- Music Recital 20-24 Student Council Campaign 20-24 AP Mock Exams	Topic 15: Chapter 15.3: Cold War Intensifies *Massive Retaliation and Brinksmanship. Chapter 15.4 Cold War Fears at Home *Red Scare *McCarthy * Paul Robeson *Project Assigned or Scope Given.
Week 6 (34) (April 27 to 30) 27- Student Council Elections	Topic 17 Chapter 17.1 The Cold War Vietnam *Diem * Ho Chi Minh *SETO



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27-30 Senior Project Presentations 28-30 Pre-Exam Days	Chapter 17.2 America's Role Escalates *Gulf of Tonkin Resolution
<i>May 1: Labor Day Public Holiday</i>	
Week 7 (35) (May 4 to 8) 4- May Crowning & Mother's Day Celebration (During the Monday Assembly) 4-14 Final Exams (K, Gr. 5, 8, & 12 Only) 4-15 AP Exams	Topic 16: Chapter 16.1 The Civil Rights Movement Strengthens Brown V. Board, Rosa Parks, Chapter 16.2 the Movement Surges forward Civil Rights Act , Martin Luther King, Chicago Protests Topic 17 Chapter 17.3 the Anti War Movement *Protests Berkley *Draft Cards *Point of Huron <i>*Period to Work on Project.</i>
Week 8 (36) (May 11 to 15) 13 and 14- Fourth Quarter Exam— Undergraduate (half day) 14-16 Student Leaders Retreat Days	Exam Review
<i>May 15 Record Day (No Classes for students) Final Deliberation for Graduating/Promoting Classes</i>	
Week 9 (37) (May 18 to 22) 18- Gr. 5 Recollection & Mass 19- Gr. 8 Recollection & Mass 20- Gr. 12 Recollection 20- Baccalaureate Mass (Whole School) 18-21 WIDA Testing 19- Lower School Sports Day / Gr. 6 & 7 School Field Trip 19- Gr. 9 - 11 - "Senior Success Forum: Inspiring the Next Generation" 19-22 Student Clearance Days 21- Middle & High School Sports Day 21- High School Field Trip 22- House Culminating Activity 20-22 Final Deliberation for Non-Graduating Classes 22- Student Leaders One Day Recollection / Turn Over Ceremony	
Week 10 (38)	



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(May 25 to 29) 25- Kindergarten Graduation/Gr. 5 Promotion 26- LS Field Trip 26- Gr. 8 Graduation and Gr. 12 Graduation 27- Pre-Kindergarten & Gr. 1 - 4, 6 & 7, 9-11 Recognition Last Day of School, Report Card Distribution, & Class Party (half day) 29- Last day for Teachers/Staff Meeting	
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“Kindling the Light of Faith, Hope, and Love: The Legacy of St. Dominic de Guzmán”