

WHICH US HISTORY COURSE
SHOULD YOU SELECT?

AP, Dual Enrollment, or Honors?

WHAT IS AP US
HISTORY?

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- Advanced Placement United States History is a rigorous College Board course that is modelled after survey level college U.S. History courses.
- Students have the opportunity to earn **up to 6 college credits** (2 classes) in U.S. History depending on his or her score on the AP exam at the end of the course. (The number of credits awarded differs by school, and the credits are accepted at **most** universities in the United States.)
- FCPS awards an additional 1.0 for AP classes.

WHAT IS THE AP EXAM?

- The end of course exam is designed to test Historical Thinking Skills, and it includes:
 - 55 stimulus based multiple choice questions
 - Stimuli include: primary and secondary sources, charts, graphs, maps, or political cartoons
 - 3 short answer questions
 - 1 long essay question
 - 1 document based question

WHAT IS THE WORKLOAD?

- Approx 45 minutes of homework **per night** based on assigned textbook readings
- Primary and secondary source readings
- In-class projects and presentations
- 1 - 2 essays per quarter
- Weekly vocabulary and reading quizzes

WHAT IS DUAL
ENROLLMENT?

WHAT IS DUAL ENROLLMENT US/VA HISTORY?

- Dual enrollment is a program offered through **Northern Virginia Community College** in conjunction with FCPS.
- The rigor matches that of a freshman level college course.
- Students earn 2 college course credits (**6 hours** total) for this course & the credits are accepted at most **Virginia public universities**.
- **The grade for the course transfers with the credit which is calculated into the college GPA.**
- FCPS awards 1.0 for dual enrollment

NOVA

**Northern Virginia
Community College**

IS THERE AN END OF COURSE EXAM?



- Yes!
- Students take a cumulative final exam at the end of each semester and there is a semester long research component for each semester.
- 1st semester = National History Day project
- 2nd semester = Book Review or other project designed by the instructor.

WHAT IS THE WORKLOAD?

- Approx 45 minutes of homework **per night** based on assigned textbook readings
- Primary and secondary source readings
- **National History Day** Research
- 2 essay tests per quarter
- Weekly reading quizzes
- You must pass HIS 121 (first semester) with a C to advance to HIS 122 (second semester)

WHAT IS HONORS
US/VA HISTORY?

WHAT IS HONORS US/VA HISTORY?

- Honors US/VA History is an **FCPS course** designed to include **more rigor than the regular US/VA History course**. It is **based on the Virginia Standards of Learning** with additional skill extensions. (Document Based Questions, primary and secondary source readings, Socratic Seminar, and projects.)
- Student **do not earn college credit** for this course
- FCPS awards a 0.5 for an honors level course

IS THERE AN END OF COURSE EXAM?

- Maybe not
- If students already have a verified credit for social studies, then they do not have to take the SOL for US/VA History.
- Performance Based Assessment

WHAT IS THE WORKLOAD?

- 20 - 30 minutes of homework every other night.
- In class projects
- Primary and secondary source readings
- 1 DBQ (Document Based Question) Essay or PBL per quarter

WHAT DO OTHER
STUDENTS SAY?

"I took DE instead of AP because I did not want to take the AP exam, and because I already had experience with DE history from the year before. I also knew that DE would get me more college credits if I had passed without taking the AP exam at the end. I definitely recommend it!"

I chose DE for the free college credits and so I could relieve myself from having to worry about another AP exam. The 1.0 weight to the GPA was also another added benefit.

*"No Test.
No tricky multiple choice.
Not as stressful."*

About DE