

2016 AP U.S. History Summer Institute University of Western Kentucky

Dear AP Colleagues,

I look forward to meeting you at the AP U.S. History Western Kentucky Institute. We have a full week of active learning activities, which will hopefully be both entertaining and energizing. You will gain a deeper understanding of how to organize and develop a sequential curriculum for your AP course that is both integrated and spiraling in skill development throughout the year.

With the changes in the AP US History curriculum we will spend a considerable period of the week examining its design and creating student activities to address the new historical thinking skills required. From “Change Over Time” to “Extended DBQ Analysis” activities that focus on development of historical thinking skills as well as content, we will comprehensively cover how to handle the new expectations. Additionally, we will examine the new exam in depth: Multiple Choice, Short-Answer Essay, Long-Answer Essay, and DBQ. Time will also be allotted for unit design and syllabus creation for the new audit process.

Helpful student activities will be presented that push your students to deepen their historical insights and that move them to a higher level of analytical writing in preparation for the AP Exam. Technology’s incorporation into the classroom will be exhibited and websites of strong value to the class will be explored in depth.

Please make sure to bring your laptop (or iPad or other wireless device), your AP textbook, units you have developed, your school calendar and any other materials you think you may need. Additionally, make sure to download the new AP Curriculum from AP Central onto your desktop.

I hope that the exchange of ideas and the professional connections made during this week will assist you in deepening your students’ analytical thinking and writing skills which are so critical to their success in your AP class.

Please feel free to contact me at Christopher_Averill@ccpsnet.net if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Chris