

# US History Summer 2023

Students who take Summer US History after passing history courses in grades 9 and 10 complete their history requirements before the following year. All students choosing Summer US History free up time during the following year to take an additional course in other disciplines (common choices are world language, science, journalism, or the arts), or possibly one fewer course than they would otherwise have taken in grade 11. The flexibility is valuable to students with a variety of goals:

- one might choose an introductory arts course instead of US History to achieve a lighter homework load and more time to focus on other areas of life
- another might choose a second course in a different department or AP Art History instead of US History to accelerate their academic program

## Dates

Monday, June 12 - Friday, July 14, 2023 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Monday-Friday (no class Monday, July 3 or Tuesday, July 4)

## Format

The summer US History course offers an immersion in US political, social, and cultural currents from the colonial era to the present via lecture, discussion, debate, group and individual research, movies, historical documentaries, and field trips. The format will be in-person or synchronous hybrid if the minimum enrollment is not met. The class will only run if 10 or more students enroll, and the class will be capped at 18 students. Since this course offers the unique opportunity for students to attend field trips each Friday, strong preference will be given to those students able to attend in-person. **The dorms will be closed and students will have to provide their own housing and meals.**

## Requirements

Students take weekly quizzes, and they maintain an online daily reading journal. Daily readings and journaling usually require an hour outside of class time. I will guide students through a step-by-step process on how to write a formal research paper, which they will submit at the end of the five weeks. Stevenson students who take Summer US History are normally expected to take five academic classes in their junior year.

## Content Outline (Course Description)

In this survey course, students investigate significant events and people in United States history from the 15th century to the present. While organized chronologically, this course also focuses on several themes that reverberate throughout the American experience: American and national identity; labor both free and enslaved; migration and settlement; politics and power; and geography and the environment. Students learn to focus their analysis of vital social, cultural, political, and economic moments in history by examining how these moments shape our perspective on current social, economic, and political issues. Students develop and use the same skills and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; developing historical arguments; making historical connections; and utilizing reasoning about comparison, causation, and continuity and change. In addition, students examine competing historical interpretations, emphasizing the idea that history's meaning constantly evolves. Living on the Monterey peninsula, we have access to excellent museums and historical sites that complement our classroom study of

United States history. Each Friday, students will attend chaperoned field trips, and we will visit the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History, Carmel Mission, Historical Monterey Walking Tour, Monterey Bay Aquarium, and the National Steinbeck Center. The cost of the field trips are included in tuition.

**Course Details**

- Cost: \$1500
- Financial aid will be available to qualifying students
- Course fulfills Stevenson requirement for US History, and the University of California and Cal State University admissions requirements for US History
- Summer grade entered on Stevenson transcript in each semester of following year
- Laptop computer with wireless networking required

**Course Contact**

For more information or to begin enrollment, please contact [Dr. Sarah Cabral](#).