

March 30, 2023

Dear Parents/ Guardians of Prospective AP US History Students,

Congratulations! You and your child have made a valuable decision in preparing for higher education by choosing to enroll in Hopewell Valley's AP US History course this upcoming school year. AP courses give students the chance to get a head start on college while still in the supportive environment of a high school classroom. Students may earn college credit by taking the AP exam at the end of the school year, while at the same time attaining a higher level of learning and expanding their knowledge. AP courses teach students to challenge themselves, to study topics in greater detail, and to improve reasoning and analytical skills. In addition, AP courses prepare students for the rigorous demands of college.

At Hopewell Valley, we encourage our students to challenge themselves academically, but we also acknowledge that the district has a responsibility to support students as they embark on this journey. In order to meet the individual needs of new AP history students, AP history teachers at Central High School have designed an **AP History Summer Institute** in order to ease students' concerns about both course expectations and the exam that they will take next spring. This **FREE three-day course** centers on developing students' analytical thinking such as recognizing cause and effect, drawing inferences, dealing with conflicting viewpoints, and tracing the evolution of themes throughout history. Students will engage with various primary sources in an effort to develop critical reading strategies essential to your understanding of the historical experience. The course will also provide an in-depth focus on the necessary skills related to the AP exam: stimulus-based multiple choice questions, document-based questions, long-essay questions, and short-answer questions. Students will learn how to synthesize evidence as well as contextualize trends, developments, and specific events in various historical eras. Emphasis will be placed on thesis development and essay structure, with an eye towards preparing students for both types of essay questions they will see on the AP history exam in May. **New AP History students are STRONGLY encouraged to enroll in this program.**

Program Details

- Dates: Tuesday, June 27th through Thursday, June 29th. If this session fills, a second session will be offered from Tuesday, July 11th through Thursday, July 13th. This program is capped at 90 students. (45 per session)
- Time: 9-3pm
- Location: Central High School
- Cost: FREE

How to Register: **Registration deadline is May 1, 2023**

- Please email Mrs. Lytle (mollylytle@hvrsd.org) in the CHS Counseling Office
 - Provide your student's name and identify that they are enrolled in the 2023-2024 **AP US History** course.

If you have any questions about AP history courses in general, please do not hesitate to contact one of the AP teachers listed below. We hope you have a healthy summer and look forward to assisting you and your child in their education.

Sincerely,

Aaron Lewy

CHS AP World History Teacher

aaronlewy@hvrsd.org

JanaLeigh Olszyk

CHS AP US History 1 Teacher

janaleigholszyk@hvrsd.org

Jeffrey Parkinson

CHS AP US History 2 Teacher

jeffreyparkinson@hvrsd.org