West Linn-Wilsonville School District Social Studies Department – Course Statement

Course Title: Advanced Placement (AP) US History

Length of Course: Year **Number of Credits:** 2

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: Application and Instructor Approval

CIM Work Samples

Offered in Course: Persuasive speaking and persuasive writing work samples

Date of Description/Revision: June 2005

Course Overview

Advanced Placement (AP) US History is designed to be a rigorous college level course covering the history of the United States from 1607 to the present. Students will take the AP exam for US History in May.

Essential Questions

Concepts providing focus for student learning

- What are the major interpretations of American history?
- Evaluate the key motivating factors in American history.
- Assess the ethical dilemmas that have brought us to this point in history.
- How have democratic ideals become more inclusive over time?
- What is America's place in the world?

Proficiency Statements

Upon completion of course, students will be able to:

- Write persuasively in defense of a point of view.
- Speak persuasively in defense of a point of view.
- Correctly place and link key historical events and persons.
- Manage time effectively in order to balance competing study demands.
- Research historical data utilizing a wide array of resources.
- Evaluate the worth of research data.
- Identify logical and ethical inconsistencies.
- Master the use of footnotes and bibliography in proper style.

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General Course Topics/Units & Timeframes

Quarter 1

16th, 17th, and 18th Centuries Including:

- Native American Civilizations
- Contact Issues
- Colonial Events
- Revolution,
- Independence Issues
- Constitutional Era

Quarter 2

19th Century Including:

- Manifest Destiny
- Imperialism
- Industrialization
- Reform
- Abolition
- Civil War
- Immigration

Quarter 3

20th Century Including:

- World Wars
- Depression
- Progressivism
- Civil Rights

Quarter 4

Review for National Exam and Final Project

Resources

- Text: The Enduring Vision: A History of American People, 5th Edition, Paul S. Boyer, et al., McDougal Littell, 2004
- Supplemental Text: A People's History of the United States: 1492 to Present, H. Zinn, Harper Perennial Modern Classics, 2005
- Other: Hiroshima, John Hersey, Vintage, Reprint 1989