

# Registration for 2015-2016 History Courses

YAY!

# 11th Grade Courses

## Required:

### 1) American History

- *Topics include: American Revolution, Gilded Age, World Wars, etc.*
- *Major assignment: Junior Thesis*
- *Leveled: AP, ACP, CP*

### 2) American Studies

- *Topics include: American Revolution, Gilded Age, World Wars, etc.*
- *The big difference: You will meet with the same group of students in your English class and you may read books set in the time period as you study in history.*
- *Major assignment: Junior Thesis*
- *Leveled: AP, ACP, CP*

## Elective: Close-Up (Government & Current Events)

- *Meets 2/4 days with Mr. Vignone*
- *Topics Include: Nuclear Weapons, War on Terror, Global Warming, etc.*
- *Unleveled*

# 11th Grade Courses

## Alternative:

### 1) American History Summer Course

- *Topics include: American Revolution, Gilded Age, World Wars, etc.*
- *Major assignment: Junior Thesis*
- *Leveled: ACP*
- **Note:** *This course will meet your history requirement, but will not count towards your GPA. You will still be required to complete a junior thesis during this course. If you do not pass this course, you do **not** have the option of taking it in your junior year. You will have to take it as a senior.*

# Questions about the COURSES?

(we'll get to levels/process in a minute)

# Course Leveling

- For eleventh grade history, there are THREE levels.
  - AP
  - Advanced College Prep
  - College Prep
- **This** course is Honors
- AP is considered an Honors level course, but you should think of it as a half-step up. AP courses will involve an extremely rigorous course load, including summer reading, frequent writing assignments, and high-stakes testing. You will be expected to take the AP test at the end of the year.

# How do you know which level you should take next year?

There are official history department guidelines that you, your parents, and Ms. Bal will consider when deciding which level you should take next year.

# Guidelines for moving UP a level...

Teachers will recommend that a student change from Honors to AP when (s)he meets the following criteria:

- ✓ The student has a significant number of “A” grades on major tests, papers, and/or projects.
- ✓ The student completes writing and research assignments comfortably, exceeding the class standard without need for additional guidance or re-writing.
- ✓ The student reads in-class and homework assignments easily, understanding both content and concepts.
- ✓ The student understands questions and concepts in class discussion quickly and easily.

# Guidelines for moving **DOWN** a level...

Teachers will recommend that a student change from Honors to Advanced College Prep when (s)he meets at least **TWO** of the following criteria:

- ✓ The student has consistently poor performance on major tests, papers, or projects.
- ✓ The student requires significant additional guidance to successfully complete writing or research assignments (such as extra writing conferences and re-writing), and would benefit from more structured classroom instruction in writing papers.
- ✓ The student has difficulty reading and understanding class materials, and would benefit from more structured classroom instruction in understanding readings.
- ✓ The student has difficulty understanding questions and concepts in class discussion.



# Questions about the **GUIDELINES?**

(we'll get to the process in a minute)

# Process: How will we register for courses?

- 1) Discuss which level you should take next year with your parents.
  - During this discussion, keep in mind:
    - *The history department placement guidelines*
    - *Level of other courses you are going to take*
    - *Your commitment to extra-curricular activities*
- 2) By Monday, complete the Google Form to tell Ms. Bal which class you would like to take for next year. NOTE: IF YOU'RE GOING TO D.C. FOR CLOSE UP NEXT WEEK, YOU MUST FILL OUT THIS FORM BY *THIS* FRIDAY AT THE LATEST!
- 3) Ms. Bal will email you if your choice does not align with the department guidelines for a follow-up conversation.

**Questions about the PROCESS?**