Advanced Placement U.S. History (APUSH)
at James Bowie High School

Advanced Placement United States History (APUSH) is intended to prepare students for college U.S. History and the College Board's Advanced Placement Exam. While taking the AP Exam is not a mandatory component of the class, many universities award college-credit to students who score well on the AP Exam and consider students enrolled in the course to be strong candidates for college admission. Students who take the course will simultaneously meet their high school U.S. History graduation requirement.

The class is taught at the college-level, and thus, the pace will be fast and demanding. Each week outside of class, students will be expected to read about forty pages from a college textbook and learn approximately fifty historical terms. In addition, students can expect to spend a minimum of 30 minutes each night studying and completing assignments so that they are fully prepared for in-class discussions, lectures, quizzes, essays, and other activities. Assessment of student work is equally demanding, as the teachers will evaluate work using college standards.

Students interested in taking APUSH should have excellent study habits, strong memory skills, outstanding writing abilities, and an interest in history. Students who consistently earn grades above 88 in Pre-AP World Geography and Pre-AP World History are generally better prepared for the class.

It is very important that you and your student select courses for next year with careful consideration. ~~June 10th~~ **May 1st** will be the absolute deadline for any student or parent to request schedule changes. After ~~June 10th~~ **May 1st**, students are expected to remain in the scheduled class for the school year.

After the second week of school, if seats are still available in the Academic level class, students with **extenuating circumstances** may appeal to a review committee in order to receive permission to drop from the APUSH class and move to an academic level class. A failing grade in the course or believing the course to be "too hard" are **NOT** legitimate extenuating circumstances. Because students' course selections determine the master schedule, the hiring and reassignment of teachers, and the purchase of classroom materials, we will strictly adhere to these deadlines and restrictions.

With their signatures on the James Bowie High School Course Contract, parents and students acknowledge their understanding of the commitment required to succeed in this course.