APUSH Syllabus

**Period 1/Unit 1: 1491–1607**

Chapter 1, Brinkley: “Pre-Columbian Societies”/ “The Collusion of Cultures”—Early inhabitants of the Americas; American Indian empires in Mesoamerica, the Southwest, and the Mississippi; and American Indian cultures of North America at the time of European Contact.

Chapter 2, Brinkley: “Transatlantic encounters and colonial beginnings, 1492–1690”/ “Translations and Borderlands”—First European contacts with North Americans; Spain’s Empire in North America.

**Unit 2/Period 2: 1607–1754**

Brinkley, Chapter 3: “Colonial North America 1690–1754”/ “Society and Culture in Provincial America”— Population growth and immigration; transatlantic trade and growth of seaports; the 18th century back country; growth of plantation economies and slave societies; the Enlightenment and the Great Awakening; and colonial governments and imperial policy in British North America.

**Unit 3/Period 3: 1754–1800**

Brinkley, Chapter 4: “Empire in Transition”—Setting the stage and loosening of ties with Great Britain; struggle for the continent; the new imperialism; and stirrings of revolt; and the French and Indian War (Seven Years’ War).

Brinkley, Chapter 5: “The American Revolution”—Setting the stage for the war of independence; the imperial crisis and resistance to Great Britain; the War for Independence; state constitutions and the Articles of Confederation; and the federal Constitution.

Brinkley, Chapter 6: “The Constitution and the New Republic”—Washington, Hamilton, and the shaping of the national government; emergence of political parties: Federalists and Republicans; Republican motherhood and education of women; beginnings of the Second Great Awakening; Setting the stage and framing of a new government; Federalists and Republicans; establishing national sovereignty; and the downfall of the Federalists.

Unit 4 /Period 4: 1800–1848

Brinkley, Chapter 7: “The Jeffersonian Era”—Setting the stage and the rise of cultural nationalism; stirrings of industrialism; Jefferson the president; doubling the nation; expansion and war; and the War of 1812.

Brinkley, Chapter 8: “Varieties of American Nationalism”—Setting the stage and building a national market; expanding westward; the “Era of Good Feelings;” sectionalism and nationalism; and the revival of opposition.

Brinkley, Chapter 9: “Jacksonian America”—Setting the stage of the rise of mass politics; “Our Federal Union;” the removal of the Indians; Jackson and the Bank War; and the changing face of American politics.

Brinkley, Chapter 10: “America’s Economic Revolution”—Setting the stage in the changing of American population; transportation, communications, and technology; commerce and industry; men and women at work; patterns of industrial society; and the agricultural North.

Brinkley, Chapter 11: “Cotton, Slavery, and the Old South”—Setting the stage of the cotton economy; white society in the South; slavery—the “peculiar institution;” and the culture of slavery.

**Unit 5/Period 5: 1844–1877**

Brinkley, Chapter 12: “Antebellum Culture and Reform”—Setting the stage and the romantic impulse; remaking society; and the crusade against slavery.

Brinkley, Chapter 13: “The Impending Crisis”—Setting the stage and looking westward; expansion and war; the sectional debate; and the crises of the 1850s.

Brinkley, Chapter 14: “The Civil War”—Setting the stage and the secession crisis; the mobilization of the North; the mobilization of the South; strategy and diplomacy; and the course of battle.

Brinkley, Chapter 15: “Reconstruction and the New South”—Setting the stage and the problems of peacemaking; Radical Reconstruction; the South in Reconstruction; the Grant Administration; the abandonment of Reconstruction; and the New South.

Unit 6/Period 6: 1865–1898

Brinkley, Chapter 16: “The Conquest of the Far West”—Setting the stage and the societies off the Far West; the changing western economy; the romance of the West; the dispersal of the tribes; and the rise and decline of the western farmer.

Brinkley, Chapter 17: “Industrial Supremacy”—Setting the stage for sources of industrial growth; capitalism and its critics; and industrial workers in the new economy.

Brinkley, Chapter 18: “The Age of the City”—Setting the stage for the urbanization of America; the urban landscape; strains of urban life; the rise of mass communication; leisure in the consumer society; and high culture in the age of the city.

**Unit 7/Period 7: 1890–1945**

Brinkley, Chapter 19: “From Crisis to Empire”—Setting the stage and the politics of equilibrium; the agrarian revolt; the crisis of the 1890s; “A Cross of Gold:” stirrings of imperialism; war with Spain; and the republic as empire.

Brinkley, Chapter 20: “The Progressives”—Setting the stage and the Progressive impulse; women and reform; the assault on the parties; sources of progressive reform; crusade for social order and reform; challenging the capitalist order; Theodore Roosevelt and the modern presidency; the troubled succession; and Woodrow Wilson and the New Freedom.

Brinkley, Chapter 21: “America and the Great War”—Setting the stages and the Big Stick: America and the world from 1901 to 1917; the road to war; “war without stint;” the war and American society; the futile search for social unity; the search for a new world order; and a society in turmoil.

Brinkley, Chapter 22: “The New Era”—Setting the stage and the new economy; the new culture; a conflict in cultures; and Republican government.

Brinkley, Chapter 23: “The Great Depression”—Setting the stage and the coming of the Great Depression; the American people in hard times; the Depression and American culture; and the unhappy presidency of Herbert Hoover.

Brinkley, Chapter 24: “The New Deal”—Setting the stage and launching the New Deal; the New Deal in transition; the New Deal in disarray; and the limits and legacies of the New Deal.

Brinkley, Chapter 25: “The Global Crisis”—Setting the stage and the diplomacy of the new era; isolationism and internationalism; and from neutrality to intervention.

Brinkley, Chapter 26: “America in a World at War”—Setting the stage on a war on two fronts; the American people in wartime; and the defeat of the Axis.

**Unit 8/Period 8: 1945–1980**

Brinkley, Chapter 27: “The Cold War”—Setting the stage and the origins of the Cold War; the collapse of peace; American society and politics after the war; the Korean War; and the crusade against subversion.

Brinkley, Chapter 28: “The Affluent Society”—Setting the stage and the “The Economic Miracle” the explosion of science and technology; people of plenty; the “other America;” the rise of the Civil Rights Movement; Eisenhower Republicanism; Eisenhower, and Dulles, and the Cold War.

Brinkley, Chapter 29: “Civil Rights, Vietnam, and the Ordeal of Liberalism”—Setting the stage and expanding the liberal state; the battle of racial equality; “Flexible Response and the Cold War;” the agony of Vietnam, and the traumas of 1968.

Brinkley, Chapter 30: “The Crisis of Authority”—Setting the stage and the youth culture; the mobilization of minorities; the new feminism; environmentalism in a turbulent society; Nixon, Kissinger, and the world; politics and economics under Nixon; and the Watergate Crisis.

Unit 9/Period 9: 1980–Present

Brinkley, Chapter 31: “From the ‘Age of Limits’ to the Age of Reagan”—Setting the stage and politics and diplomacy after Watergate; the rise of the New American Right; the “Reagan Revolution:” and America and the waning of the Cold War.

Brinkley, Chapter 32: “The Age of Globalization”—Setting the stage and a resurgence of partisanship; the economic boom; science and technology in the new economy; a changing society; a contested culture; the perils of globalization; and turbulent politics.