

UNITED STATES HISTORY

Preparing for the Advanced Placement Examination

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*This book is dedicated to our wives,
Anne Newman and Rosemarie Schmalbach;
our children, Louise Newman,
and John, Suzanne, and Robert Schmalbach;
and our students, who share our study of America's past.*

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Preface

United States History: Preparing for the Advanced Placement Examination

was written to help high school students develop, through a sequential and integrated approach, the essential knowledge and the analysis and writing skills needed to deal successfully with the college-level requirements of the AP Examination in U.S. History. To accomplish this goal, a rich variety of instructional materials and resources have been developed in this book.

- **Introduction.** Besides explaining the format and grading of the AP U.S. History Examination, this section introduces students to the study of history, historiography, and themes. A step-by-step guide for the development of AP-level essay-writing skills for the Free-Response and Document-Based Questions is also provided, along with suggestions for answering the AP Multiple-Choice Questions.
- **Concise History.** A concise, accessible, and easy-to-review survey of essential content for AP United States History is the heart of the textbook. The selection of this content is based on the review of past AP exams, the topic and content outlines suggested by the Advanced Placement U.S. History Development Committee, and the authors' experience teaching U.S. history on the AP and college levels.
- **Maps and Graphics.** Maps, charts, graphs, cartoons, photographs, and other visual materials are also integrated into the text to help students develop the analytical skills required in both the Multiple-Choice and the Document-Based Questions parts of the exam.
- **Historical Perspectives.** Each chapter includes a section that introduces students to key historical issues and the changing interpretations of historical events. This section was designed to promote critical analysis of the content to help students with the more analytical questions in the exam.
- **Key Names, Events, and Terms.** In each chapter, a list of important items is included to aid in the review of each chapter's content and student preparation before the AP exam.
- **Multiple-Choice Questions.** Ten or more Multiple-Choice Questions similar in style and content to those found on the AP exam provide review and practice at the end of each chapter.
- **Essay Questions.** Five or more Free-Response Questions similar to those used in the AP exam are included in each chapter to promote critical-thinking and writing skills.