

AP U.S. History Disciplinary Practices and Reasoning Skills (in a nutshell)

Disciplinary Practices

1. Argument Development

- ❖ *What position should be taken on a historical question, and what evidence will best support the assertion?*

2. Analyzing Historical Evidence

- ❖ *How reliable and relevant are the documents that are being analyzed?*

Reasoning Skills

3. Contextualization

- ❖ *When and where did something happen, and what else was going on?*

4. Comparison (Contrast)

- ❖ *Regarding two or more historical topics, how are they the same and how are they different?*

5. Historical Causation (Effect)

- ❖ *Why did something happen in the past, and what was the impact?*

6. Continuity and Change over Time

- ❖ *What has stayed the same in history, and what has changed?*

AP U.S. History requires one to think analytically about the past.

1. *Making an assertion*

2. *Defending the assertion with specific, factual, and relevant information*

3. *Anticipating and addressing counterarguments
(Yes, but....)*