

AP United States History Summer Reading Assignment

The objective of this course is to increase your understanding of United States history from discovery to the present, with the goal of having each student pass the AP exam. The areas of concentration include historical, political and economic history with an intense study of cultural and intellectual institutions and their development. The course is taught at a college level pace. The major difference between a high school and college history course is the increased amount of reading and writing required at the college level. Most high school courses stress "What happened?", with an intention of providing enough background to encourage good citizenship. College courses stress "Why and how" things happen with a focus on the consequences of actions.

A major purpose for summer reading is to broaden your understanding of history from a variety of viewpoints. It gives you the chance to read the work of historians and writers other than the writer of the textbook used in the class. It also provides you with original material that you can use in your essays on the AP exams.

You are encouraged to purchase your own copy of the books, whether new or used. They may be obtained from bookstores in the area or online. You can also request a copy through the high school. You are responsible for the reading assignments and the written assignment. **Be aware that we will have a daily grade over your reading during the first week of school, after we have spent some time discussing these topics in class.** You must be willing to devote time to the summer reading. It is an indication of your commitment to the actual course in the fall. **The journaling assignment is due the first day of the 2019-2020 school year.**

Study the attached information concerning the summer reading. Return the signed form on the attached page to your current history teacher or to me in Room A220 by May 30, 2019.

If you have further questions about the course, please feel free to contact me.

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AP U.S. History
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SUMMER READING LIST - AP U.S. HISTORY

***The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* - Mark Twain**

(required for English III and US History)

Select one fiction selection from the AP English III list or from below:

***The Jungle* - Upton Sinclair**

***The Grapes of Wrath* - John Steinbeck**

SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

The following assignment is due on the first day of class in the 2019-2020 school year.

Fiction works are excellent tools for studying the politics, culture and societies from which they were produced. As you read you must complete a historical dialectical journal for each work. Focus on identifying ways in which the book provides a window into the political, cultural or social aspects of American history.

EACH BOOK REQUIRES SIX (6) dialectical journals. The journals should include a quote from the book and an explanation of how the quote demonstrates a political, cultural, or social trait of the United States. How you choose to organize them is up to you.

I have received the summer reading list for AP U.S. History and make the commitment to read these three books and prepare the reading journal entries before school begins in August.

I understand that the first daily grades of the semester will come from a quiz and journal writings related to the summer reading assignment.

I understand that this course requires a serious commitment to challenging reading and writing during the school year. I am willing to make that commitment for the 2019-2020 school year.

Signature of Student

Date

I have read the information about this course and understand the level of commitment to the work that is needed for my student to be successful.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

Please return this to Mr. Dulaney in Room A220, by May 30, 2019.