

Advanced Placement US History
Summer Reading Guidelines 2020
FSA PS/Rodgers

Welcome to AP US history. I am pleased that you have chosen to accept the challenge of this course. The AP U.S. history course is designed to provide students with the analytic skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in U.S. history. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by full-year introductory college courses. Students should learn to assess historical materials—their relevance to a given interpretive problem, reliability, and importance—and to weigh the evidence and interpretations presented in historical scholarship. An AP U.S. History course should thus develop the skills necessary to arrive at conclusions on the basis of an informed judgment and to present reasons and evidence clearly and persuasively in essay format. In order to cover the essential topics in U.S. history during the school term we need to lay a foundation over the summer break.

The texts and materials for this course are:

Provided by the school: The American Pageant, AP Edition, 14th Edition, David M. Kennedy, et. al.

Purchased by the student:

The supplementary text: United States History: Preparing for the Advanced Placement Examination, John Newman, 2020 edition. It is available through Amazon.com but is difficult to locate in local bookstores as it is in high demand by APUSH students. I believe there are KINDLE versions available as well.

5-- subject spiral notebook. This will be used for in class note taking. THERE IS NOT AN ONGOING NOTE TAKING ASSIGNMENT FOR THIS COURSE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR for a GRADED ASSIGNMENT. If you are a student who understands the VALUE of AUTHENTIC note taking, you may want to continue this practice for yourself and your preparation for high level learning. Our end of year REVIEW PROJECT using the NEWMAN text will be a note taking exercise though, so, consider carefully how you want to spend your independent work time for this course in relation to your junior year work load.

A 2" binder for your notes and guiding questions PRINTOUTS and handouts and other materials distributed in class.

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM YOUR TEACHER:

During the first week of class we will have a reading test over the materials from the summer reading assignments. You will be expected to remember the ideas, events, key terms and personalities associated with the material in Chapters 1-5 of the text.

Advanced Placement US History
Summer Reading Guidelines 2020
FSA PS/Rodgers

SUMMER READING & WRITING ASSIGNMENTS:

All assignments should be submitted on the first day of school. Students who fail to submit their summer assignment will be placed in HONORS US HISTORY for the school term.

Bring your history binder with the PRINTED guiding questions in it ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL. STUDENTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO PRINT ALL OF THEIR GQ WORK. MACBOOKS will NOT BE A PART OF OUR ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION FORMAT FOR OUR CLASS. This assignment will be your first grade for the semester.

Assignment 1:

READ Chapters 1-5 of your text, The American Pageant. These chapters will be posted on the reading pages for our course under SUMMER ASSIGNMENT. The Guiding Questions document will be posted there as well.

Reading and Understanding what you Read: READ THE TEXT, READ THE TEXT, READ THE TEXT. Use the handouts provided and write responses to guiding questions from each chapter. Provide complete and thoughtful answers. Plan to keep these handouts in a 2 inch binder. They will serve as your “reading notes” for your textbook. DO NOT DOWNLOAD AND SUBMIT NOTES FOUND ON LINE AS THIS WILL EARN YOU A GRADE OF “0” AND POSSIBLY RESULT IN REMOVAL FROM THE COURSE. **Write responses using your own words demonstrating your understanding/interpretation of the material.** **REMEMBER: VOCABULARY, VOCABULARY, VOCABULARY.** While there is not a FORMAL vocabulary project for the course, you should be well versed in all of the KEY TERMS and CONCEPTS you encounter in your reading. Your text includes highlighted KEY TERMS. Understand their basic meaning/identification and MORE IMPORANTLY, DEVELOP your understanding of THEIR SIGNIFICANCE and CONNECTION to historical processes. We will have NUMEROUS vocabulary intensive events over the course of the year. Be prepared!

This assignment includes approximately 100 pages of reading material, a manageable chunk. Do not leave this assignment for the very last minute! I hope you enjoy your summer reading.

Assignment 2:

READ The “Prologue: The Founding” from *American Creation* by Joseph J. Ellis. You will find a link to this reading on FSA’s summer reading pages for our course. Be prepared for a discussion of the ideas in this selection on the SECOND DAY OF CLASS.