

## The AP United States History Summer Assignment ~ 2017

I'm sure you've heard the grumblings, that Junior year just sucks. (& maybe this class too) It is a lot of work, but not only is it manageable, it's worth it in the end. It is an unfortunate Catch-22 - colleges want high GPAs but also that you take the toughest classes. At this point, you may be on the fence about this course. If you take it you will be among the Foothill elite, & it will be an honor to work with you. And though I know the last thing you want to be doing during your summer vacation is homework, it is necessary, as the course has more material than can be covered during the year. It will also allow me to gauge your initiative, writing skills & knowledge. I'm not sure if I can make history enjoyable for you - especially light of assignment assignments like this one - but I hope to provide a great learning experience, have fun & help you do well on the AP Exam.

**Ready to quit already?** If you're wondering if there will be tons of assignments like this, there aren't. There is a good amount of readings, quizzes & tests, but few homework assignments & no busywork. We'll do ample essays, both at home & in class. So is it impossible to get an A? No.

For those of you that are stressed about this, don't be. The assignment will take a while, & it is graded, so you shouldn't blow it off, but at the same time the goal isn't to destroy your grade right off the bat. (Can it be finished on the last night? Doubtful.) If you're worried about the quality of your answers, contact me at [vnamba@tustin.k12.ca.us](mailto:vnamba@tustin.k12.ca.us). (**Don't wait until the last second** - I don't check email 24/7.) If you have questions about the assignment, don't hesitate to ask - don't assume you know what you're doing, & don't assume I won't be reading all of your stuff.

There is a **bonus** possibility on this assignment. There are plenty of extra credit opportunities throughout the year. Take advantage of them!

While you may work together DO NOT SUBMIT PORTIONS OF THE ASSIGNMENT THAT ARE IDENTICAL TO SOMEONE ELSE - even a sentence. (i.e. - Don't merely cut & paste someone else's, even if a sibling, girlfriend/boyfriend, dog, etc. did it with you. Paraphrase items you get from the book or websites.) Copying on the 1st assignment of the year makes for a bad first impression...And it will be considered cheating.

### THE ASSIGNMENT: (200 Homework Points Total - Separate Points listed below)

- E-COPY - **11:59 pm, August 21, 2017** to turnitin.com. The class name is **2017-18 AP US History**. The class ID is: **15482597** & the PASSWORD is: **dbq2018**. [Submit E-copy to turnitin.com as a **SINGLE Word Document**. You cannot submit individual essays.]
- FORMAT: **Typed - ONE INCH MARGINS ALL AROUND; 12-POINT FONT (TIMES NEW ROMAN); 1.5-SPACED (don't indent bullets) - YOU WILL LOSE POINTS FOR INCORRECT FORMATTING.** Yeah, it's kind of lame, but it's a test of whether you can follow directions.

### READINGS CHECKLIST: Books & Readings you'll need. (**Make sure you read this, so you don't go buy everything here.**)

1. Pick up *The American Pageant* from the library. (Euro students will go with Mrs. Hepinger.) [10 points + 5 bonus points if you do it before finals] How do you get your bonus? Give me your name & book number. (in person or email) Let me know if they run out. Write clearly.
2. Leave/send your e-mail address. Readings from *Lies My Teacher Told Me* & *The American Spirit*, *DBQ Handbook* & the *Pageant* worksheet packet will be sent (the packet isn't homework, but is helpful for tests. Future packets will be on Haiku later). Print your email address CLEARLY...or send it to me. If you don't get emailed packets by June 30<sup>th</sup>, email me. No message & packets means your penmanship bites. [15 points]
3. **Purchase/Acquire** *A People's History of the United States: 1492-Present*, by **Howard Zinn** (last years' class also has 'em) - it is available at any Barnes & Noble, Amazon.com, Borders, etc. (Both in Hard-Bound & Soft Cover versions; amazon.com cost runs from \$8 to \$20)  
You will be using this supplemental text throughout the year. [no points]
4. **Purchase/Acquire** *United States History: Preparing for the Advanced Placement Examination*, (2015 Exam Edition) by **John Newman & John Schmalbach** (publisher: AMSCO). The book can be pricey, so see me if there are financial issues.

You can get another AP review book, but this is the *recommended* one. It is helpful when studying for our exams. At some point during the first month of school, we'll do a book check for points. BE SURE THE BOOK YOU ACQUIRE MATCHES THE 2015 REVISED AP EXAM!!!

**\*\*\* If you have financial limitations, please don't hesitate to ask. There are books you can check out. \*\*\***

**Two writing recommendations:** (1) **Include a thesis/intro statement for all essays**, except prompt #6; (2) Avoid using '**first person**' (except #6 & #9)...More pointers will follow... BE SURE TO READ EACH CAREFULLY - NOT ANSWERING A PORTION WILL RESULT IN DEDUCTIONS; (3) Using MLA is not important, but whatever method you use to cite, stay consistent. (**Yes, cite stuff that's not your own.**)

### WRITINGS/POINTS CHECKLIST: (So far you have points from the box above...for doing almost nothing - nice!) On the essays, you may work with others, & while facts/ideas may be similar, the writing shouldn't be. Don't merely change key words. I know the tricks.

5. **Turnitin.com Setup:** How nice: Easy points galore! You get points for setting up & uploading your essay to turnitin.com correctly. [15 points]
6. **Statement of Intent/Disgust & Abilities: Multi-part:** (1) Is it valuable to study U.S. History at the AP level, especially as you develop as an American? (2) Give a no B.S. answer here: From 1 to 10 (10 highest), how strong are your HISTORICAL writing abilities? In what areas are you weakest & need help? (3) What colleges are you interested in attending (your answer CANNOT be 'I don't know'), and what AP courses do they accept for credit? (yes, I will check these...don't just use someone's from the year before - they change annually) (4) What have you liked/disliked about your previous history classes? (5) What time constraints do you have that will make this class difficult? For each, feel free to be as positive/negative as you please, but support your statements. (It should be about 2-3 pages total). [30 points] [This essay may include first-person writing]

For #7: These readings/#'s are from the *American Spirit* Packet: **Ch. 1: A2-3, B1-2, C1-2; Ch. 2: A1-2, B2, C1-2; Ch. 3: A1-2, B1-2, D1-3; Ch. 4: A1/3, B1-3, C1-2**

7. **The American Spirit Readings: TWO SEPARATE ESSAYS, 1½ pages EACH (Choose one CHAPTER. Write comparisons of two or more sections. Then choose a DIFFERENT chapter. Write the 2<sup>nd</sup> essay. Your choice.** You will not need all four chapters.). Read instructions carefully!  
**DO THIS FOR EACH ESSAY:** Using a MINIMUM OF TWO READINGS from a single **chapter** (e.g. Ch. 1, A2 vs. A3) you are to analyze & compare readings. They should be about the **same topic BUT be OPPOSITE viewpoints**. Your task is to discuss the perspective of each author & their bias. What limitations do the authors in terms of their writings/ observations? What might have they left out? Critique each view, à la *Lies* & *Zinn* and then compare/contrast the two (or more) authors. **You should have AT LEAST three specific facts from each reading** used - DON'T USE A THESAURUS TO JUST CHANGE WORDS! [50 points total]

(More FUN on the other side...Sorry, guys.)

8. The Lies My Teacher Told Me, Chapter 2 & 3 (James Loewen) reading (This Packet will be E-Mailed), Zinn's People's History of the United States, Chapters 1 & 2: Write a minimum of **2½ PAGES** on the following prompt:
- "Based on your knowledge of early American history from previous classes or experiences, how different are the stories Loewen & Zinn tell? How skewed (in a good or bad way) does mainstream media portray the United States? (Give examples) Does it matter that books leave out information or present half-truths? Does it matter that the media does it as well? (Answer either way, but support your argument)"* Explain your answer using the readings as well as current references. (Cite sources) There should about be about 4 references to the readings from each CHAPTER. **But limit quotations** – they should be A FEW BRIEF WORDS...Don't just waste space. [50 points]
9. **Essays: 1 to 1½ PAGES**. Read the DBQ Handbook & associated College Board info on DBQ/LEQ/SAQs. We will do a ton of writing during the year. **BE HONEST** – It's ok to say you have no experience or suck at writing – I want to know where we are. **WRITE IN YOUR OWN WORDS!**
- "What is a DBQ? What is a 'Long Essay' & 'Short Answer' - how do they differ from each other & from DBQs? How do HISTORICAL essays vary from those you write in English class? What does it take to get the top scores on the New AP Exam, including the new revisions they are making for the 2018 Exam (2015 Version) – DO NOT MERELY RESTATE THE RUBRICS – EXPLAIN IN YOUR OWN WORDS (explain also what 'Contextualization' & 'Synthesis' are)? What does 'Outside Information' mean & why is it especially important for AP Essays? Discuss your comfort level & experience in writing theses, critical analyses & essays in general."* You probably should look at sample essays online to get a sense of what's going on. Cite everything you referenced at the end of this essay. [30 points] [This essay may include first-person writing]
- You may do any combination of these. However, you may only do this if you completed the mandatory portions above!!
10. **[OPTIONAL] BONUS! EARLY SUBMISSION** – 15% Kick! If you submit the ENTIRE ASSIGNMENT by 11:59pm, August 9<sup>th</sup>, you will receive a bump. (it made a big difference for students last year) (30 points) Don't just turn in something bad to get the points though. No excuses – if it's a minute past the deadline, it doesn't qualify. (you'll find I hate tardiness) **If you are doing the bonus sections, they must be in here too.**
11. **[OPTIONAL] BONUS! Question – My Influences:** You will have to talk to your parents for this. (if you haven't in a while, suck it up) What do your parents/guardians do job-wise? What level of interest do they have in American politics/history? What influence have they had on your interest in politics/history, & what influenced them? (**1½ pages minimum for credit**) [Max credit: 15 points] [You can use first-person writing]
12. **[OPTIONAL] BONUS! Question Deux – American Issues:** Using ONE of the following topics [Gun Control, Abortion, Affirmative Action, Tax Law, Immigration Reform], read two articles on OPPOSING viewpoints. They may be internet, newspaper, TV reports or magazine articles. Talk about the arguments on both sides, and also assess the bias in the reporting from both. Did they present arguments or merely try to inflame passions? How has America's history shaped the opinions of your topic? What do *you* believe? **You may do a different controversial topic, but it I must approve it first.** Be sure to answer all components of this question for credit. If you are going to use TV reports, do two differing angles (say Fox vs. MSNBC) & indicate what days you watched. (**2½ pages minimum for credit**) [Maximum credit: 25 points]
13. **[OPTIONAL] BONUS! Question Trois – Election 2018:** For the next year, you're going to hear about the 2018 Midterm Elections. (If you aren't sure what that is, look it up.) How has President Trump's 1<sup>st</sup> 6 months in office gone, & how significant will his policies impact the midterm elections? What potential changes will happen in Congress, & how will they impact the 2<sup>nd</sup> two years of Trump's first term in office? Feel free to espouse any political view, but support any arguments you make with specific facts. This election will undoubtedly be about emotion, but use reason in your response, vs. the soundbites you might hear on TV. (**2½ pages minimum for credit**) [Maximum credit: 25 points] (**2 pages minimum for credit**) [Maximum credit: 25 points]
14. **EXAM (Chapters 1-4): The 4th day of school (Fri., Aug. 25<sup>th</sup>), there is a test.** It will contain multiple choice & an essay portion. You will get more information about the exam on the first day of school. However, you already have the identifications/review sheet you will need (bottom of this sheet), as well as a pretty good idea about the essay topics (also below).

*I hope you have a good summer, (yeah, besides this) & I look forward to working with you during the school year!*

**THE PORTION BELOW IS NOT DUE WITH THE ASSIGNMENT, BUT YOU SHOULD KNOW IT FOR THE EXAM!!**

**The American Pageant** Identifications/Essays: THESE ARE THE CONCEPTS YOU WILL NEED TO KNOW FOR THE EXAM, ALTHOUGH IT IS NOT LIMITED TO THESE. **Exams are based on readings, essays, quizzes & especially lecture notes.**

**Identify: (1) Summary & (2) Significance or contribution to American History.**

(You might find the website [apstudent.com](http://apstudent.com) [notecard section] helpful for the I.D.s)

1. European Explorers	8. Lost Colony	15. William Penn	22. The 'City Upon a Hill'	29. Massachusetts Bay Colony
2. Spain's N. American settlements	9. James Oglethorpe	16. Act of Toleration	23. Coureurs de bois	30. The General Court
3. Pueblo Revolt	10. Joint-Stock Company	17. Virginia Company	24. Iroquois Nation	31. Quakers
4. The 'Black Legend'	11. 'Rights of Englishmen'	18. Anne Hutchinson	25. New England Confederacy	32. Mayflower Compact
5. Patroonship/Headright system	12. Slavery	19. Roger Williams	26. Dominion of New England	33. 'Fundamental Orders'
6. Encomienda System	13. Charter	20. William Bradford	27. Navigation Laws	34. King Philip's War
7. Jamestown & the Starving Time	14. Indentured Servants	21. House of Burgesses	28. Great Puritan Migration	35. Nathaniel Bacon's Rebellion

**Concepts/Essay ideas to know:**

- Describe the impact of Europeans on Native American (Indian) cultures and the impact of native cultures on Europeans. How did Native American relations in particular shape the development of the European settlements & colonies?
- Native American history has become a major component of the College Board curriculum during the period 1492 to 1754. Know trends in Native Relations in two ways: (1) Compare the relations between the British, Spanish & French in their North American settlements; (2) Compare the three regions in the 13 American colonies. (New England, Middle, Southern) Know specific references to events, tribes, treaties, etc.
- Explain the role of BOTH religion & British mercantilism in the development of economics, politics & society in Colonial America. Which factor was most influential in shaping pre-Revolutionary America?
- Compare/Contrast the Economics, Political Development, Geography & Climate, Demographics, & Religion in each of the 3 regions of the British colonies. Think of specific names, events, etc. Also, are there any anomalies within each region? How did these differing characteristics influence the development of the regions?
- In your opinion, which **3 of the 12 colonies** founded in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century made the most significant contributions to the American values of democratic self-government, educational opportunity, religious toleration, social plurality, & economic materialism? Explain.