

AP US History
2019-2020 Summer Reading Assignment

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Rationale:

The purpose of the summer reading assignment is to get a jumpstart thinking about US history for the coming year. It will also give you a taste of what the reading assignments will be like in the AP class, though we will typically break a chapter up into smaller sections at one time for reading. AP US History (APUSH) requires covering a very large amount of content over the course of a year. There is an expectation of you, the student, to keep up with the readings throughout the year. The summer reading assignment will be an introduction into that expectation. Another benefit to you in the summer reading assignment is that we will start the year with a headstart on that content.

Reading Assignment:

Before the first day of school you will be expected to have read the first chapter of the assigned class textbook, [Give Me Liberty! 5th Ed. AP Edition](#), by Eric Foner (ISBN: 978-0-393-63445-7).

Assignment Assessment:

Please answer the focus questions on the following page as you read. They will be due on the first day of school.

During the first week of school you will be given a quiz over the first chapter of the book to check for completion and comprehension of the assignment.

Give Me Liberty!

Chapter 1 Focus Questions

1. What were the major patterns of American Indian life in North America before Europeans arrived?
2. To what extent did American Indian and European ideas of freedom differ on the eve of contact?
3. Identify the causes that impelled European explorers to look west across the ocean. Which of these were the most important and why?
4. Identify the major consequences of European contact with American Indians. Which of these were the most significant and why?
5. What were the chief features of the Spanish empire in America?
6. What were the chief features of the French and Dutch empires in North America.