

**Advanced Placement U.S. History (APUSH) Summer Reading Assignment**

Welcome to AP U.S. History. In order to familiarize yourselves with key themes that will be addressed throughout the year, including those dealing with the role of the national government, slavery and concepts of freedom, and precedent understanding of America's place in the world, I have assigned the Pulitzer prize-winning book, *Founding Brothers*, by Joseph Ellis. It is organized into chapters that cover key figures who shaped the nation and address themes that will help you better understand the topics covered in the first quarter. Be sure to read every chapter, including the introduction.

Students will read the following book:

*Founding Brothers: The Revolutionary Generation*, by Joseph J. Ellis  
Please purchase a paperback copy on amazon: **ISBN-13: 978-0375705243**

**Assignment:**

1. Students should take notes while or after reading each chapter of the book. I will check student notes by collecting your notes (hand-written or printed) on **Wednesday, August 21st**
  - a. Your notes should demonstrate a consideration of each chapter's main theme and how key figures of the revolutionary generation approached concepts like: the role of the federal government and its balance with state sovereignty,
  - b. the meaning of the American Revolution, both politically and socially, including implications on practice of slavery
  - c. the young country's place and role in the world in terms of foreign relations
  - d. the emergence of factions and political parties and the main issues that generated discourse and division.
  - e. the role and impact of the founding brothers on the national identity, in terms of their collaboration, their platforms, their negotiations, and their shortcomings

Note: THESE SHOULD BE IN YOUR OWN WORDS- IF YOU TYPE, THEY WILL NEED TO BE UPLOADED TO TURNITIN

2. Students will take a "did you read the book?" test that includes free response questions (paragraph answers) and multiple-choice questions regarding key revolutionary themes and events in the book. Students will be permitted to have their book with them during the assessment, which will be administered on **Wednesday, August 21st**.
3. Students will use the book again later in the quarter for an in-class essay, as well as a Socratic Seminar. These will be administered during the unit on early American government, so it is essential that you read this book thoroughly.