



SUMMER WORK
AP U.S. History
Summer 2019
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Overview: American history and culture does not come from a single antiquated textbook nor from political sound bites, but rather from new and differing opinions based upon research and evidence. Reading and researching such works therefore enhance perspectives on, and scholarship of American History. One exciting area of scholarship focuses on the interactions between three different cultures and populations in early America. Thus, your first documented writing assignment will be based upon your summer reading.

Assignment I: Read *Red, White, & Black: The Peoples of Early North America* ((Prentice Hall, Pearson 6th Edition) by Gary B. Nash and construct a coherent thesis driven two to four page essay, with appropriate MLA citations and references that fully integrate and answer the following questions.

1. What is the meaning of the Nash's title?
2. What is the author's message about American history and how does it compare to your prior knowledge and understanding? What did you learn from the book?
3. What themes of American history and culture are reflected in this book?
4. How does this work compare to other history books you have read? Did you like it?

Cite relevant passages in support of your writing, using proper MLA parenthetical references. All papers are due on the first day of class. Your grade is based upon content, organization, and technical merit.

Grade: The paper is valued as one essay (25 points). See below for further instructions.

- Your paper should be thesis driven; meaning that in your first paragraph there is a thesis statement that you will prove throughout the paper. This is a clear position about your paper.
- Be sure you integrate your responses in your paragraphs, and that you link your argument and evidence where possible. You must include and document specific information from Nash's work. Write with clarity.
- Conclusion: be sure to summarize and conclude your main points. This should bring the reader back to your thesis statement.

If you can, get the sixth edition. You may find the book at Amazon or Barnes & Noble. Additionally, used bookstores in a college town (for the locals Amherst/Northampton) may have a copy. If you are unsuccessful finding the book, please contact the Wilbraham & Monson Academy bookstore.

Assignment II: Mail or bring to first class five postcards (no writing on them) that have "American historical significance" to Mr. Gary Cook, c/o WMA, 423 Main Street, Wilbraham MA 01095