

SUMMER WORK FOR AP US HISTORY (2022)

The AP US History course includes summer work. The summer assignment is to familiarize yourself with American history from the end of World War II to the present. Having a sense of how the American story has played out over the last 75 years will give you interesting context and perspective for your study of that story from its beginning – it will help you make connections and see themes and understand continuity and change over time more easily. Plus, your advance study of the most recent decades of the American story will allow us to cover that material from a position of familiarity at the end of the year, maximizing the time we have available before the AP exam for general review.

Don't worry! We will discuss some basic content from the summer assignment **but we will not do a complete review in class. That means you should come ready to discuss the material the first day! You will complete a test over the summer assignment within the first few days of school.** Most importantly, we will discuss how what you learned over the summer relates to our study of US History for the year and work to develop the SKILLS that you will need as budding historians and students of the APUSH exam in May. Keep in mind that these skills are not for the exam alone - they will prove useful to you in many intellectual and academic endeavors! These skills include understanding processes of development, analyzing source material (both primary and secondary), contextualizing and connecting information, and crafting and proving an argument. This is what historians do!

BOOKS NEEDED

You will need two books for this summer work: (1) the principal textbook for the course, Jane Kamensky *et al.*, *A People and A Nation* (11th edition, 2019) published by Cengage (please note that this is a different textbook than used by the CCDS AP US History course in recent years); and (2) an AP review book entitled *Advanced Placement United States History* (4th edition, 2021) published by Perfection Learning. The books will be available through the MBS book service used by CCDS by mid-summer, but you can get both books sooner by going directly through their publishers or through Amazon. The ISBN numbers for the books follow:

- *A People and A Nation* (11th edition, 2019)
 - Hardcover 978-1-337-40271-2
 - Ebook 978-0-357-69076-5
- *Advanced Placement United States History* (4th edition, 2021)
 - Softcover 978-1-6903-0550-7
 - Ebook 978-1-6903-0551-4

ASSIGNMENT DETAILS

1. Read and study the last six chapters (chapters 24 through 29) in Kamensky. To help you master the material in Kamensky, I will create study guides for each of the chapters and forward them to you by email. The study guides will help you focus on the key terms and key material in each chapter. You **DO NOT** have to write out answers to the key terms and focus questions to effectively use the study guides. But before you begin to read a chapter in Kamensky, I encourage you to look over that chapter's study guide to get a big-picture perspective and an idea of what you should be looking for before you dive into the details. You can also use the study guides to test your mastery of the material after you read a chapter in Kamensky: look back at the key terms and focus questions and see if you can offer reasonable definitions and responses. To reinforce the material in Kamensky, and to plug gaps left by Kamensky's narrative, read and study Units 8 and 9 in the AP review book.
2. Be prepared for a test covering post World War II American history within the first few days of school. The test will include a variety of question types such as multiple-choice, short-answer and essay. This test will likely count for as much as 1/5 of your first quarter grade.

FINAL THOUGHTS

AP US History is a college-level course (as opposed to an eleventh-grade college-preparatory US history course) designed for highly-motivated students. **You will be expected to assume responsibility for completing heavy reading and writing assignments throughout the year.**

I am looking forward to meeting all of you and may need your help in learning about the CCDS environment! Feel free to contact me over the summer with any questions that you may have. Also, I have some tips for succeeding in the AP history environment. You will see this list again on our course syllabus, but since I am new, I wanted to share it here as well.

How to Succeed in AP Land

Because the bulk of class time for this course operates in a seminar or Socratic method style, it is **IMPERATIVE** that you come to class prepared. This means that you come to class having read the assignments, have taken notes when appropriate and maybe have some questions. Our class time together is limited in comparison to the material and skills that we need to address. Therefore, we must maximize **EVERY** minute we have together.

What this means for you:

1. You should spend time outside of class completing the necessary assignments, taking notes, organizing notes, etc. When you arrive to class, I expect that you are ready to discuss the topic(s) at hand. If assignments are due, please plan to submit them at the beginning of class, if not before class begins.
2. Feel free to bring questions if you have them. Chances are that some/all of your classmates have the same/similar questions!
3. If you are having trouble, contact me outside of class. You will have my email. Meet with me during the school day. **I AM HERE FOR YOU!**
4. If you are absent, you need to get the notes from a classmate. After you've looked over these notes, we can meet to discuss the content and make sure you're on track. It is up to you to keep up with missed work. If you miss a quiz or test, please email/see me so that we can schedule a time for you to make this up. This meeting should take place the day you return to school, if not beforehand.
5. Breathe and have fun! I think that you will find that much of this content relates to your life right now!

If you have any questions at all about the AP course, please reach out to Mrs. Jen Faber. (I will contact you with my email info once it is set up!)