

Hello AP United States History Students,

You are receiving this email because YOU have signed up to take AP United States History for the Fall of 2022!!! How exciting! I am so glad that you decided to make this choice to take APUSH next year! I am excited to have the opportunity to teach you about one of my favorite subjects to teach, the History of the United States. In my eyes, it is so crucial to understand our history and to understand not just what a textbook says our history is. Throughout this year, we will look at various contemporary and past historians' views of our history and give you different perspectives to have a well-rounded understanding of our nation's history. APUSH takes us from 1491 (Native American prior to Columbus) all the way through to the present time.

This course has a significant amount of content knowledge that is needed to be successful. I do not want that to scare you. I have heard time and time again from students that this is a difficult class in terms of content knowledge BUT it is a manageable and a rewarding class that will prepare you not only for the AP test, but will teach you the skills to succeed in college.

Because of the amount of information that is needed to be covered, I want you to get a jump start on our chapter readings! Over the course of the APUSH course, each week, you will have a chapter from the textbook book and notes to complete. This is the bulk of your homework outside of class. For the summer assignment, what I need you to do is complete the Period 1 Reading prior to class starting on August 18th. The first unit is covered in Chapter 1. For the assignment, you will take notes, utilizing the Cornell Method of notes. Doing your reading and taking your notes is so critically important to your success in the course and on the AP Test. The Cornell Method of notetaking is the most effective way, to take notes in a history course. It allows you to process what you learned versus just regurgitation of the notes. Here are two resources for you on the Cornell Note Method that can help you understand how to effectively take the notes while you read:

Why Cornell Notes Method: <https://thinkinsights.net/consulting/cornell-method-great-notes/>

Video of Cornell Notes Explained: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SDfdEMTrbSk>

Cornell Notes Sheet Template that we will use is attached.

Textbook Part 1 and Part 2 are attached as well.

Here is how I want these organized each time you do notes in class:

1. The very first thing you must do is from the template, click file Save As. Title the Notes with the Chapter and Section name the notes cover. This way, you keep the template blank, and you have an organized way of saving your work. For example: *Chapter 1 – The First Americans*
2. Fill out Section 1 of the Notes (top of the page) with your name, the chapter, the section of that chapter, and the page numbers of the textbook. The major textbook sections are in **Red Lettering**.
3. Read through the section, taking notes on the major topics, key points, or information you feel you will need to study. These will be taken in the larger section (section 2) of the notes page.
4. Find any key vocabulary or words that you will need or that you do not know. Use this section to ask any questions that need clarification to help ensure you understand. This can be done soon after section reading. This is done in section 3 of the notes.

5. For the final section of the notes page, after you have processed and taken your notes, summarize what you read and write it in section 4 of the notes sheet. "How would I explain this section to another student?"
6. Fix formatting on the notes when done electronically to make it professional and neat!

Take a look at the video and the article on how to fill out the notes sheet. Your first Chapter Quiz will be due on Saturday August 21st by 11:59pm. It will open up on August 18th (our first day of school). The notes will be checked on the first day of class to if you did the assignment.

Enjoy your summer and I look forward to the opportunity to teach many of you again!

- Mr. Buehler