

AP English Language and Composition

Summer Assignment

2024 - 2025 Academic Year



Google Classroom Code: ehldhae

Mr. Gichan

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Welcome to AP English Language and Composition. The AP English Language and Composition course focuses on the development and revision of evidence-based analytic and argumentative writing, the rhetorical analysis of nonfiction texts, and the decisions writers make as they compose and revise. Students evaluate, synthesize, and cite research to support their arguments. Additionally, they read and analyze rhetorical elements and their effects in nonfiction texts—including images as forms of text—from a range of disciplines and historical periods.

Given the nature of the course, there is a significant focus on the ability to digest and understand information from a variety of sources: scientific, philosophical, religious, literary, etc. This lends the course to being interdisciplinary in nature.

Which is why, for the summer assignment, you will read two books in tandem with AP US History, and one short non-fiction piece. You will 1.) write an essay; 2.) short writing response; and, 3.)

These assignments must be completed by August 31st at 11:59pm (ET) and submitted via Google Classroom. These are hard deadlines; meaning that if work is not submitted on time, you may be removed from the course.

Final checklist:

Here is a checklist:

- Sign up to our Google Classroom with the code above. You will submit the essays here.
- Complete Summer Assignment Part 1
- Complete Summer Assignment Part 2
- Complete Summer Assignment Part 3

Do not hesitate to reach out via email if you have any questions as you work through this Summer Assignment.

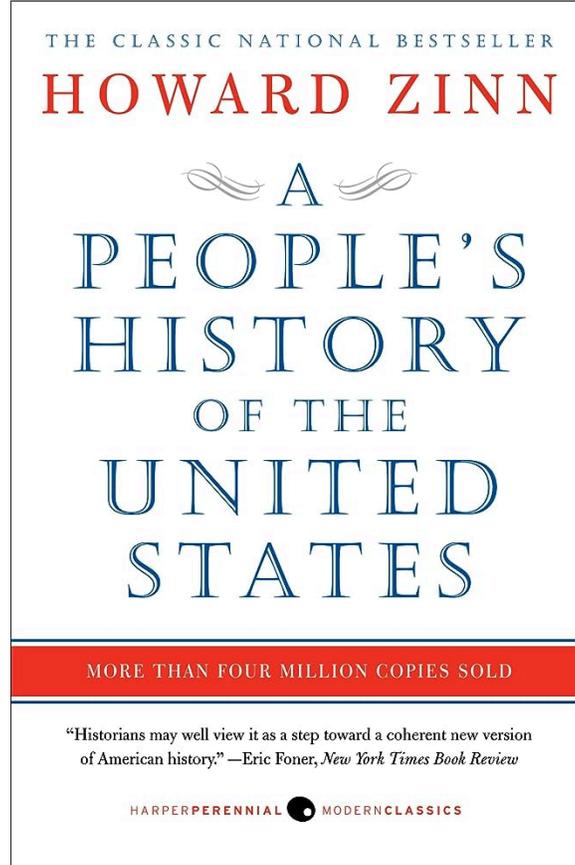
- Mr. Gichan

Honor Code Reminder

All submitted work must be original. Canterbury's Honor Code will be enforced in all cases of plagiarism or academic dishonesty. Use of Chat GPT, translator apps, and similar software is strictly prohibited in this course.

All course assignments, especially this summer assignment, will be assessed by anti-cheating software following submission of said assignment. Should an assignment be found to contain plagiarized material, the assignment will be deemed a 0 and no credit will be awarded. Students found to be using AI software such as those aforementioned will not be permitted to take this course. Further, the case will be forwarded to the school for further disciplinary action.

PART I



Please read chapters 1-7 of Howard Zinn's "A People's History of the United States." Once completed, write an essay addressing the following:

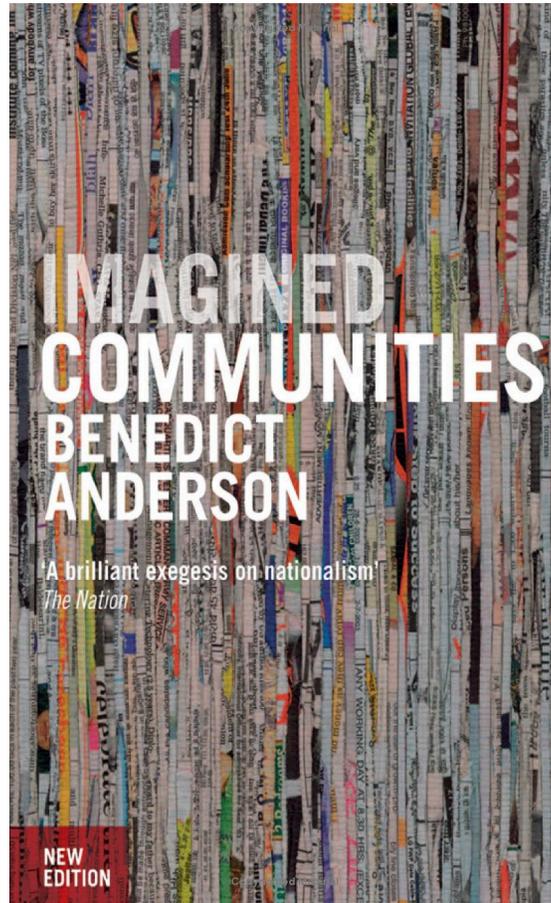
Based on Chapters 1-7 of Howard Zinn's "A People's History of the United States," craft a rhetorical analysis essay that analyzes the rhetorical choices Zinn uses to convey his distinct view of history separate from the traditional "fundamental nationalist glorification of country."

In your response you should do the following:

1. Respond to the prompt with a thesis that analyzes the writers rhetorical choices (definitions, anecdotes, analogies, similes, quotations, stories, etc)
2. Select and use evidence to support your line of reasoning
3. Explain how the evidence supports your line of reasoning
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the rhetorical situation (who is the audience, how are we meant to react as readers, what is the overall purpose of the text)
5. Use appropriate grammar and punctuation to support your argument
6. Link to how to write rhetorical analysis: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DlqF1Otkrkc>

2 pages, double spaced, Times New Roman (thesis statement for intro and 2 body paragraphs)

PART II



Please read Benedict Anderson's *Imagined Communities*. Once completed, go back into the book and complete the following questions. Each response should be a minimum of 150 words.

1. Define what Anderson means by “imagined communities” and provide the examples he gives to support his definition.

2. In a paragraph, summarize the argument Anderson makes.

3. Do you agree or disagree with Anderson's argument? Why or why not?

4. Are there other views of nationalism that Anderson addresses? What are they?

PART III

Read and listen to David Foster Wallace's commencement address to the 2005 graduating class of Kenyon College. The speech is titled "This is Water". The link is below:

<https://fs.blog/david-foster-wallace-this-is-water/>

After you have read and listened to the speech, please answer the following question in 1 ½ pages, double spaced:

1. What advice would you give to someone about to graduate from high school?