

US History Summer Reading Summary Chart

For this class, it is important to consider both the mindset and skills used by historians who interpret the past, both in terms of the “facts” (which are generally not disputed) and what those “facts” mean (analysis which is sometimes disputed). Interpretations about the past change over time. The interpretations change for various reasons, such as new evidence becoming available, new ideas coming to light, new events causing a reconsideration of the evidence, or intellectual debates among historians responding to each other’s work.

Time Magazine:

...The term history has evolved from an ancient Greek verb that means “to know,” says the Oxford English Dictionary’s Philip Durkin. The Greek word historia originally meant inquiry, the act of seeking knowledge, as well as the knowledge that results from inquiry.

The French philosopher Etienne Gilson said: "History is the only laboratory we have in which to test the consequences of thought."

So, history is not just what happened in the past – it is a process or approach for gaining knowledge and understanding. Starting with the summer reading selection, our class will focus on developing 4 main analytical skills used by historians:

1. Proving a central argument (**thesis**) by gathering facts / data / examples (**evidence**) to prove it
2. Exploring cause(s) and effect(s) of important events
3. Comparing concepts and time periods by discussing both similarities and differences
4. Exploring continuity and change

Throughout the year, we will consistently approach US History from these frameworks.

Your Summer Reading Assignment:

1. Read Pages 14-15.
2. Read Chapters 2-5. (The Prologue, Chapter 1, and Epilogue are optional)
3. Complete the chart below.
 - a. It is recommended to complete the chart while you are reading
 - b. Bullet key information that answers the question asked
 - c. For the causes and effects, there should be multiple bullets per chapter
 - d. EXPLAIN questions should be in complete sentences

The chart will be checked for a grade on Friday, August 23rd.

Required Summer Reading 2024-25

US History Summer Reading Summary Chart - **Ch. 2 - The Transatlantic Passage**

Dates of First Migration:	Numbers Involved
Key Causes of Migration:	Key Effects of Migration:

Required Summer Reading 2024-25

US History Summer Reading Summary Chart - Ch. 3 - Passage to the Interior

Dates of First Migration:	Numbers Involved
Key Causes of Migration:	Key Effects of Migration:

What is ONE continuity/similarity when compared to the Middle Passage? EXPLAIN.

What is ONE change/difference when compared to the Middle Passage? EXPLAIN.

Required Summer Reading 2024-25

US History Summer Reading Summary Chart - Ch. 4 – Passage to the North

Dates of First Migration:	Numbers Involved
Key Causes of Migration:	Key Effects of Migration:

What is ONE continuity/similarity when compared to the Middle Passage or the 2nd Middle Passage (Chapter 3)? EXPLAIN

What is ONE change/difference when compared to the Middle Passage or the 2nd Middle Passage (Chapter 3)? EXPLAIN

Required Summer Reading 2024-25

US History Summer Reading Summary Chart - Ch. 5 - Global Passages

Dates of First Migration:	Numbers Involved
Key Causes of Migration:	Key Effects of Migration:

What is ONE continuity/similarity when compared to the Middle Passage or the 2nd Middle Passage (Chapter 3) or the Great Migration (Chapter 4)? EXPLAIN

What is ONE change/difference when compared to the Middle Passage or the 2nd Middle Passage (Chapter 3) or the Great Migration (Chapter 4)? EXPLAIN.