

UHS313H: AP US HISTORY—SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

PURPOSE: The purpose of the assignment is two-fold. The primary objective of the summer reading assignment is to have students self-study the first two periods of our class (roughly 6% of the class) in order to cover the most heavily weighted periods (3-8 or roughly 85% of the class) more effectively in our class. Another primary objective of the assignment is to provide students with a sample of the types of documents and questions (short-answer questions and long-essay questions) they will encounter through the course of the year and on the AP exam in May of 2025. The goal is to have students acclimate themselves as early as possible so as to ensure success on the AP exam later.

For their summer reading assignment, students will have two major components of summer reading for the class. The first component of the summer reading assignment is to have students read pages 4 to 106 in the textbook. The second day of class, students will be expected to take a multiple choice/matching test covering those pages from the textbook. The test will be worth 60 points. The second aspect will be a written component, where students will respond to short-answer questions (SAQ) with documents from the Periods 1 and 2, and students outline an essay in response to a long-essay questions (LEQ). This will be at the end of our first week, and we will dedicate some time in class to helping students deconstruct and analyze the documents. The documents for the SAQs are below, and so are the prompts for the LEQ outline.

Short-Answer Documents

Bartolome de las Casas, “Cruelties of Spanish Committed in America”, 1542.

“The Spaniards with their horses, their spears and lances, began to commit murders and other strange cruelties. They entered into towns and villages, sparing neither children nor old men and women. They ripped their bellies and cut them to pieces as if they had been slaughtering lambs in a field. They made bets with each other over who could thrust a sword into the middle of a man or who could cut off his head with one stroke. They took little ones by their heels and crushed their heads against the cliffs. Others they threw into the rivers laughing and mocking them as they tumbled into the water. They put everyone they met to the edge of the sword.

One time I saw four or five important native nobles roasted and broiled upon makeshift grills... the Spaniards made an agreement that for every one Spaniard killed they had to slay one hundred Indians... the Spaniards made an agreement that for every one Spaniard killed they had to slay one hundred Indians... In three or four months (myself being present) there died more than six thousand children, which the Spanish had sent into the Gold mines.””

Juan Gines de Sepulveda Belittles the Indians, 1547:

“The Spaniards have a perfect right to rule these barbarians of the New World and the adjacent islands, who in prudence, skill, virtues, and humanity are as inferior to the Spanish as children to adults, or women to men, for there exists between the two as great a difference as between savage and cruel races and the most merciful, between the most intemperate and the moderate and temperate and, I might even say, between apes and men. Compare, then, these Spanish gifts of prudence, talent, magnanimity, temperance, humanity, and religion with those possessed by these half-men (*homunculi*), in whom you will barely find the vestiges of humanity, who not only possess any learning at all, but are not even literate or in possession of any monument to their history except for some obscure and vague reminiscences of several things put down in various paintings; nor do they have written laws, but barbarian institutions and customs...they waged continual and ferocious war upon one another...otherwise so cowardly and timid they could barely endure the presence of our soldiers...scattered in

flight like women before the Spaniards...

Although some of them show certain ingenuity for various works of artisanship, this is no proof of human cleverness, for we can observe animals, birds, and spiders making certain structures which no human accomplishment can competently imitate. And as for the way of life of the inhabitants of New Spain and the province of Mexico, I have already said that these people are considered the most civilized of all... They have established their nation in such a way that no one possesses anything individually, neither a house nor a field, which he can leave to his heirs in his will, for everything belongs to their masters whom they call kings...they cultivate the royal and public holdings...only one-third reserved for their advantage...it will not be difficult for them to change their masters, and instead of the ones they had, who are barbarous and impious and inhuman, to accept the Christians, cultivators of human virtues and the true faith..."

Roger Williams, "A Plea for Religious Liberty", 1644.

"[T]he blood of so many hundred thousand souls of Protestants and Papists, spilt in the wars of present and former ages, for their respective consciences, is not required nor accepted by Jesus Christ the Prince of Peace.

[T]he doctrine of persecution for cause of conscience is proved guilty...

[A]n enforced uniformity of religion throughout a nation or civil state, confounds the civil and religious, denies the principles of Christianity and civility, and that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh.

...I acknowledge that to molest any person, Jew or Gentile, for either professing doctrine, or practicing worship merely religious or spiritual, it is to persecute him, and such a person (whatever his doctrine or practice be, true or false) suffereth persecution for conscience.

So that magistrates, as magistrates, have no power of setting up the form of church government...churches as churches, have no power of erecting or altering forms of civil government... the doctrine of persecution for cause of conscience, is most evidently and lamentably contrary to the doctrine of Christ Jesus the Prince of Peace. Amen."

Maryland Toleration Act of Toleration, 1649.

"Therefore enacted that noe person or persons whatsoever within this Province, or the Islands, Ports, Harbors, Creekes, or havens thereunto belonging professing to believe in Jesus Christ, shall from henceforth bee any wais troubled, Molested or discountenanced for or in respect of his or her religion nor in the free exercise thereof with this Province or the Islands thereunto belonging nor any way compelled to the belief or exercise of any other religion against his or her consent..."

"New York Slave Code", 1702.

1. Preventing free people from trading with any enslaved person without permission of the slave-owner, suffering a fine of five pounds and thrice the value of anything traded.
2. Permitting slave-owners to punish their slaves as they see fit, short of maiming or killing them.
3. Banning slaves meeting away from the slave-owner's property in groups of three or more.
4. Requiring a signed certificate for a slave to be on anyone other than their owner's property.
5. Changing the punishment for small crimes committed by slaves so that the slave-owner pays the fine and the slave suffers corporal punishment.
6. Banning the testimony of slaves, except against other slaves.

Governor William Bull, Charles Town, South Carolina, 1739.

“...I had the Honour some time ago to lay before your Grace some account of Our Affairs in regard to the desertion of Our Negroes who are encouraged to it by a certain Proclamation published by the King of Spain’s Order at St. Augustine declaring freedom to all Negroes who should Desert from the British Colonies...a Great number of Negroes arose in rebellion, broke open a store where they got arms killed twenty one White Persons and were marching in a daring manner out of the Province killing all they met and burning the Houses...many were drunk with Rum they had taken in the Houses. I gave notice to the Militia who on the occasion behaved with so much expedition and bravery...put a stop to any further mischief...Forty-four of the Rebels have been killed and executed...If such an attempt was made in a time of Peace and Tranquility what might be expected if an Enemy should appear upon our Frontier with a design to invade us?...one of the most effectual means that could be used at present, to prevent such desertion of Our Negroes is to encourage some Indians by a suitable reward to pursue and if possible to bring back the deserters...a Proclamation ordering all the Constables of Georgia to pursue and seize all Negroes, with a Reward for any that should be taken. It is hoped these measures will prevent any Negroes from getting down to the Spaniards.”

Daniel Horsmanden, “Conspiracy Using Slaves to Seize New York”, 1744.

“...several fires happened in this City...every one must necessarily conclude, that they were occasioned and set on Foot by some Villainous Confederacy of latent Enemies amongst us...a Proclamation, offering a Reward to any white Person that should discover any Person or Persons lately concerned in setting Fire, the Sum of One Hundred Pounds...And any Slave that should make Discovery, to be manumitted, or made free; and the Master of such Slave to receive Twenty-Five Pounds; and the Slave to receive, besides his Freedom, the Sum of twenty Pounds, and to be pardoned....

...Mary Burton knew the Persons to be engaged in this villainous Design...she was told, she must expect to be imprisoned in the Dungeon, if she continued obstinate; she then began to open, and named several Persons which she said she had seen...talking of the Conspiracy, who were engaged in it...”

Jonathan Edwards, “Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God”, 1741.

“God is a great deal more angry with great numbers that are now on earth, doubtless with many that are now in this congregation...the pit is prepared, the fire is made ready, the furnace is now hot, ready to receive them...The devil stands ready to fall upon them and seize them as his own...he has their souls...It is no security to wicked men for one moment, that there are no visible means of death at hand...There is the dreadful pit of glowing flames of the wrath of God; there is hell’s wide gaping mouth open; and you have nothing to stand upon, nor anything to take hold of; there is nothing between you and hell but the air; ‘tis only the power and mere pleasure of God that holds you up...There are the black clouds of God’s wrath now hanging over your heads...The God that holds you over the pit of hell, much as one holds a spider over the fire...you hang by a slender thread, with the flames of divine wrath flashing about it, and ready at every moment to singe it and burn it asunder...nothing you can do to induce God to spare you one moment...”

...And now you have an extraordinary opportunity...How awful is it to be left behind?...Let everyone that is out of Christ, now awake and fly from the wrath to come.”

Nathan Cole, Middletown, Connecticut, 1741.

“When I heard that Mr. Whitefield was coming to preach in Middletown, I was in my field at work. I dropped my tool and ran home to my wife and told her to hurry. My wife and I rode my horse as fast as I thought the horse could bear...When we neared Middletown, I heard a noise like a low rumbling thunder and soon saw it was the noise of horses’ feet. As I came closer it seemed like a steady stream of horses and their riders, all of a lather and foam with sweat, their breath rolling out of their nostrils with every jump; every horse seemed to go with all his might to carry his rider to hear news from heaven for saving souls, it made me tremble to see the sight...When I saw Mr. Whitfield he looked almost angelic; a young, slim, slender, youth. And hearing how God was with him everywhere put me into a trembling fear. I saw that my righteousness would not save me...”

“Boston Declaration of Grievances”, 1689.

I. We have seen more than a decade of Years rolled away since the English World has the Discovery of an horrid Popish [Catholic] plot;1 wherein the bloody Devotees of Rome had in their Design and Prospect no less than the Extinction of the Protestant Religion...

II. ...we were put under a President and Council without any liberty for an Assembly, which the other American Plantations [colonies] have, . .

III. The Commission was as Illegal... yet we made no Resistance thereunto as we could easily have done; but chose to give all Mankind a Demonstration of our being a People sufficiently dutiful and loyal to our King...

IV. Sir Edmond Andros arrived as our Governor...

V. The Government was no sooner in these Hands, but Care was taken to load Preferments [government positions] principally upon such Men as were Strangers to and Haters of the People... were extraordinary and intolerable Fees extorted from everyone upon all Occasions,... by these Horse-leeches in the two or three Years that they have been sucking of us...

VI. ... the People in New-England were all Slaves... Persons who did but peaceably object against the raising of Taxes without an Assembly have been for it fined, some twenty, some thirty, and others fifty Pounds. Packed and picked Juries have been very common things among us when, under a pretended Form of Law... Without a Verdict, yes, without a Jury sometimes have People been fined most unrighteously...

VII. Quakers were still put by serving upon any Juries; and many of them were most unaccountably Fined and Imprisoned...

VIII.,, Yet we were every day told That no Man was owner of a Foot of Land in all the Colony...the governor caused the Lands to particular Men to be measured out for his Creatures to take possession of...

IX. We bore all these and many more such Things without making any attempt for any Relief...

X. ...another Indian War (King William’s War)... under such a Conduct than not one Indian hath been killed, but more English are supposed to have died through sickness and hardship and the whole War hath been so managed that we cannot but suspect in it a Branch of the Plot to bring us low; . . .

XI. We did nothing against these Proceedings but only cry to our God... we...are informed that the rest of the English America is alarmed with just and great Fears that they may be attacked by the French... it is high time we should be better guarded than we are like to be while the Government remains in the hands by which it hath been held of late. . . .

Nathaniel Bacon, “Declaration In the Name of the People”, 1676.

“For haveing upon specious pretences of publique works raised greate unjust taxes upon the Comonality for the advancement of private favorites and other sinister ends, but noe visible effects in any measure adequate...not having advanced this hopefull Colony either by fortificacons Townes or Trade.

For haveing abused and rendred contemptable the Magistrates of Justice, by advancing to places of Judicature, scandalous and ignorant favorites.

For haveing wronged his Majesties prerogative and interest by assumeing Monopoly of the Beaver trade and for having in that unjust gaine betrayed and sold his Majesties Country and the lives of his loyall subjects to the barbarous heathen.

For haveing protected, favoured and imboldned the Indians against Majesties loyall subjects...

For haveing when the Army of English was just upon the track of those Indians, who now in all places burne, spoyle and murther...sent back our Army...Indians...being protected by Sir William Berkeley...

And lately when...the Assembly...framed an Army for the preventing of further mischeife...For the prevention of civil mischeife and ruin amongst ourselves, whilst the barbarous enemy in all places did invade, murther and spoyle us, his majesties most faithfull subjects...we accuse Sir William Berkeley as guilty of each and every one of the same...said Sir William Berkeley with all the persons in this list surrender....”

Governor William Shirley, “To the Lords of Trade”, 1747.

“...a mob consisting of about 300 seamen, all strangers (the greatest part Scotch) with cutlasses and clubs...the Sheriff of the County had been in pursuit...when overtaken by the whole mob...assaulted, and grievously wounded by ‘em... Thereupon I immediately sent orders to the Colonel of the Regiment to raise the militia of the town and suppress the mob by force, and, if need was, to fire upon ‘em with ball; which were scarcely deliver’d to him, when they appear’d before my gates,... this I immediately went out to ‘em and demanded the cause of the tumult, to which one of ‘em arm’d with a cudass answer’d me in an insolent manner it was caus’d by my unjustifiable impress warrant... when I demanded of ‘em, where the King’s Officers were, that they had seiz’d; and they being shewn to me, I went up to the Lieutenant and bid him go into my house... I did likewise the other three and follow’d ‘em without exchanging more words with the mob..., abus’d the under-sheriff in my court yard (whom they beat and at last put in the publick stocks) and after behaving in a tumultuous manner before the House about half an hour, left it...

[T]he mob now increas’d and join’d by some inhabitants came to the Town House (just after candle light) arm’d as in the morning, assaulted the Council Chamber... by throwing stones and brickbatts in at the windows, and having broke all the windows of the lower floor, where a few of the Militia Officers were assembled... only promising to use my endeavours with Mr. Knowles to get the impress’d inhabitants and some of the outward bound seamen discharg’d;... mob said they would call again at the Council Chamber the next day to know whether the impressed men were discharg’d; and went off to a dock yard upon proposal made among ‘em to burn a twenty gun ship now building there for his Majesty... been diverted from their purpose against the Kings ship by the sudden coming to shoar of a barge... seiz’d and carry’d it in procession through the town with an intention to burn it in my court yard; upon which I order’d a party of officers to go out... upon the appearance of the mob’s preparing to force that gate open, cock’d and presented their musketts at ‘em through an open palisade fence...

The day following... the mob forcibly search’d the Navy Hospital upon the Town Common in order to let out what seamen they could find there belonging to the King’s ships...”

Long-Essay Questions (LEQs)

- How were Spanish and English motivations similar and different for establishing their colonies in North America?
- How were Spanish and English systems of slavery similar and different in North America?
- How were the Chesapeake, Middle, and New England colonial development similar yet different?
- What factors caused the migration to colonial British America?
- How did environmental and geographic factors of New England, Chesapeake, and Southern colonies contribute to their unique development?

- Evaluate the extent to which the growth of transatlantic trade changed British North American colonial society from 1607 to 1776.
- Evaluate the relative importance of the causes of conflict among Europeans and Native Americans from 1500 to 1763.