

AP U.S. History Summer Assignment

- 1 Required Text (selected chapters)
- 1 Choice Book from approved list
- Complete brief guided notes (1 page per book)
- Be prepared for a graded discussion and writing assessment during the first week of school

1 Required Text – The American Yawp

Students will read and engage with selected chapters from *The American Yawp*: <https://www.americanyawp.com/>

- Chapter 1: The New World
- Chapter 2: Colliding Cultures
- Chapter 3: British North America
- Chapter 4: Colonial Society
- Chapter 5: The American Revolution
- Chapter 6: A New Nation

For each chapter, students will complete:

- A one-sentence summary of the main argument
- Three key terms/events with explanations
- One thematic connection (power, identity, economy, or belief)

Students should be prepared for a graded discussion and writing assessment during the first week of school.

1 Choice Text

In addition to the required reading from *The American Yawp*, students will select **ONE** of the following books to read over the summer.

These selections are designed to deepen students' understanding of key themes in U.S. history while encouraging thoughtful engagement with issues of identity, justice, leadership, and perseverance.

Choice Reading Options (Select One):

- ***Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass***
A firsthand account of slavery and the pursuit of freedom, highlighting themes of human dignity and resilience.
- ***The Jungle***
A look at industrial America and the struggles of immigrant workers during the Progressive Era.
- ***Unbroken***
The story of endurance, suffering, and redemption during World War II.

- ***Just Mercy***
A modern examination of justice, mercy, and inequality in the American legal system.
- ***The Boys in the Boat***
A story of teamwork, perseverance, and national identity during the Great Depression.

Student Expectation:

- Read **one** selected book in full
- Come prepared for a "**Teach the Class Presentation**"
 - At the beginning of the school year, you will briefly “teach the class” about the book you chose for summer reading. Your goal is to help your classmates understand both the story and its connection to U.S. history.

Your presentation should be **2–3 minutes long** and include:

- A brief summary of the book (no more than 2–3 sentences)
- One important event, character, or moment
- One key idea or message the book reveals about American history
- Why this story matters (what your classmates should take away)

You may use notes, but do not read directly from them. Be prepared to speak clearly and confidently.