

Dear AP US History Student: WELCOME TO APUSH!!!

Congratulations on deciding to take the APUSH next year. To prepare for the class, you will be required to complete the following “SUMMER ASSIGNMENT.” Sections A & B are required but C. is an optional assignment. Good Luck!

A. First, some words of advice as you prepare for the class!!!

1. **Enjoy your summer.** The assignments listed below should not consume all of your free time this summer. Go climb a tree, take a swim, or stroll the mall with your friends. You will wish for that free time during the school year!
2. **Explore history.** If you take a vacation, see if you can stop at an historical marker along the way. Or, do a little research about the place you are visiting. Take the time to start thinking historically. History is all around you if you allow yourself to see it! **(TAKE A PICTURE OF YOURSELF AT HISTORICAL SITE & BRING TO APUSH CLASS! (for 2 additional Bonus Points)**
3. **Read.** Try to read several books over the course of the summer. You will do a ton of reading in this class next year and if you are not in the habit of turning pages, it will be much more difficult to adjust. Read fiction, if that is your choice, but try picking up a historical book as well. There are some real page-turners about American history. Ask at the library and they will be delighted to steer you in the right direction. **(CHECK OUT THE READING ASSIGNMENT worth 10 BONUS Points but THIS IS OPTIONAL!)**
4. **Write.** Keep a journal for the summer, or try to write a short story. The more you write the easier it is to write well. You will do a lot of writing in this class. The more comfortable you are with writing the more successful you will be.
5. **Become an informed citizen.** Read the newspaper or online sources. Watch CSPAN. Try to keep updated on national and world events. **DEVELOP AN OPINION about the 2016 Presidential Candidates – Donald Trump v. Clinton? Sanders? AND... BE READY TO DISCUSS!**
6. **Learn your geography.** Geography is going to play an important part of this course. Do you know the 13 Colonies? Do you know all 50 states? Learn them. Can you find the major mountain ranges of the US on a map? What about rivers, oceans and lakes? The more you know about geography the farther ahead you will be.
7. **Watch a history movie!** Do you really need to watch Captain America or Star Wars again? Of course not! If you have a free evening – try to watch something historical. **(CHECK OUT the JOHN GREEN & ADAM NORRIS videos on Early American History listed below.)**
8. **Explore your family history.** Stuck for a conversation starter at dinner? Ask your elders what it was like growing up. Do they remember any significant events in American history? How were they affected? You’ll be surprised how interesting people’s lives really are.

B. REQUIRED ASSIGNMENT: Watch the “ADAM NORRIS” & “JOHN GREEN” videos on **Early American History** (about 10 minutes-15 minutes each) For each video, create an outline or take notes (about 1/2-1 page each) – either typed or hand-written. The notes will be due at the end of the first week of classes.

ADAM NORRIS Videos:

1. **Historical Period #1 1491-1607** https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_p_dNOpqdj0&list=PLlair5BOIPJaUm7qr07c7J-A_zyt2dH3I&index=1
2. **Historical Period #2 1607-1754** https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_YlsHTjfguc&list=PLlair5BOIPJaUm7qr07c7J-A_zyt2dH3I&index=2

JOHN GREEN Videos:

1. **The Black Legend, Native Americans, and Spaniards**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6E9WU9TGrec&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtMwmepBjTSG593eG7ObzO7s>
2. **When is Thanksgiving? Colonizing America**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o69TvQqyGdg&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtMwmepBjTSG593eG7ObzO7s&index=2>

C. OPTIONAL “BONUS” Assignment: You may want to take advantage of this Assignment to earn extra Bonus Points(10 pts) that will be added to your 1st Quarter APUSH Grade. Read ONE of the books listed below (or one of your choosing) and write about a 2-page summary and reaction to the book. (Use the MLA format & the “5-paragraph” Essay format for the paper. This will be due on the first day of classes for full credit. (However, if handed in late – you can still receive partial credit for the report.)

- * *1491: New Revelations of the Americas Before Columbus* by Charles Mann
- * *Mayflower: A Story of Courage, Community and War* by Nathaniel Philbrick
- * *Mayflower: The Voyage From Hell* by Kevin Jackson
- * *Love and Hate in Jamestown: John Smith, Pocahontas, and the Start of a New Nation* by David Price
- * **Big Chief Elizabeth: The Adventures & Fate of the First English Colonists in America** by Giles Milton
- * *Founding Brothers* by Joseph J. Ellis
- * *1776* by David McCullough
- * *George Washington: His Excellency* by Joseph J. Ellis *
- * *John Adams* by David McCulloch (A great biography of our second President but very long!)
- * *1776* by David McCullough
- * *Born for Liberty* by Sara Evans - read **Chapters 1-5** (A History of Women in America)
- * *America’s Women: 400 years of Dolls, Drudges, Helpmates & Heroines* by Gail Collins
- -- read **Chapters 1-9** (American Women from Colonization to the Civil War)
- * *Slave Ship Sailors and Their Captive Cargoes, 1730-1807* by Emma Christopher
- * *America Was Built On Slavery And It Was Much Worse Than You Might Imagine* by Steven Rosenfeld
- * **OR...** another book on Early American History?? (before the Civil War)
(Email me if you have a question about the book you want to read)

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If you have any questions about the Summer Assignment please stop in Room 121 any time before the end of the school year. You can also email me during the summer and I will get back to you as soon as I possible can. EMAIL: jmvanderlinde@bsmschool.org

Have a relaxing summer vacation. I look forward to having you in the APUSH class next year.

S. Jeanne Marie Vanderlinde