

AP United States History Summer Assignment

Teacher: Mr. Laughton (Room 105A)

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Course Description:

AP U.S. History is a challenging, college-level course encompassing all of American history from Columbus to the present. The goal of the class is to thoroughly prepare students for success on the AP exam in the spring. In order to adequately prepare for the exam, students engage in a rigorous schedule of reading, writing and note-taking. Reading assignments consisting of 60 pages or more per week are normal. Much of the class utilizes project-based learning designed to enrich student understanding of American history and the themes that serve as connections, bridging broad expanses of time. In order to be successful in this class, students need to be intrinsically motivated, accountable for assigned work, and willing to participate in discussions and activities. The AP test in the spring, which all students are required to take, is the ultimate measure of success in this class. A passing grade for the course should be tempered with your performance on the exam. Students have the potential of earning college credits by scoring well on the AP exam. This should be the paramount goal of every student who signs up for the course.

In order to get a head start on the vast amount of American history students are responsible for knowing on the AP exam, you will need to complete the following summer assignment that covers the first six chapters of our primary text, *The American Pageant*.

Taking this course is a huge responsibility that starts with the completion of this assignment. The summer assignment constitutes a mixture of tasks similar to the ones you'll be given throughout the extent of this course. It is due on the first day of class neatly organized in a three ring binder, and will be counted as your first test grade. Make sure the three ring binder is big enough to envelope a year's worth of material. The summer assignment is challenging, but if you are able to rise to the occasion and complete it successfully, then you will know that you can handle all that this course demands. Good luck!

Summer Assignments:

1. Read Chapters 1-6 and complete reading guide materials → **DUE UPON RETURN/TEST UPON RETURN**
2. U.S. Geography → **DUE UPON RETURN/TEST UPON RETURN**
3. American Presidents → **DUE UPON RETURN**
4. Document Based Question (DBQ) Essay → **DUE UPON RETURN**

ALL WORK IS POSTED ON GOOGLE CLASSROOM

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