

Advanced Placement United States History

Summer Assignment

Mr. Camey

Congratulations! You have opted to take AP US History at SCHS next year! Since you have already learned a bit about World History, it is time to turn our attention inward and look at the history of our nation and all the glory and controversy therein. We will be looking at the history of our nation in a broad survey, but the point of the summer reading assignment is to give you all some perspective on some key concepts, events, eras, and/or individuals in history. To do this you will be to read **ONE** of the following books from the following eras of US History:

List of Books

- *A Young People's History of the United States* Howard Zinn: The untold stories of US history, transcribed for a teenage audience.
- *Alexander Hamilton* Ron Chernow: The life and times of Alexander Hamilton... This book inspired the musical.
- *Band of Brothers* Stephen Ambrose: The daring journey of Easy Company in WWII Europe.
- *Killers of the Flower Moon- The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI* David Grann: David Grann revisits a shocking series of crimes in which dozens of people were murdered in cold blood. Based on years of research and startling new evidence, the book is a masterpiece of narrative nonfiction, as each step in the investigation reveals a series of sinister secrets and reversals.
- *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee* Dee Brown: The settlement of the American West from the perspective of the Natives who lived there.
- *Brave Hearted: The Women of the American West* Katie Hickman: The true stories of the rugged women who helped build both the American West and the United States in the 18th-19th centuries.
- *A Woman of No Importance* Sonia Purnell: The story of the most effective female spy in the US OSS during WWII.
- *Thunder in the Mountains The West Virginia Mine War* Lon Savage: The history of the miners in West Virginia as they fought for their livelihoods and dignity in the largest uprising since the American Civil War.
- *The Autobiography of Malcolm X* Alex Haley: The life and legacy of one of America's most controversial civil rights figures, as narrated to his biographer, before his death.
- *A Fever in the Heartland* Timothy Eagan: The riveting story of the KKK's rise to power in the 1920s, the cunning con man who drove that rise, and the woman who stopped them.
- *Walking With the Wind: Memoirs of a Movement* John Lewis: The life and legacy of civil rights icon and late senator John Lewis.
- *Where Men Win Glory* Jon Krakauer: In 2002, Pat Tillman walked away from a multimillion-dollar NFL contract to join the Army and became an icon of American patriotism.

Once you have chosen your book, your summer assignment is two parts: a reading/reflection journal and a reflection paper on the book, both are due on the first day of class and should be uploaded to the google classroom.

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU STAY ON TOP OF YOUR READING DURING THE SUMMER; THE ASSIGNMENT IS 200 PTS AND WILL IMPACT YOUR 1ST SEMESTER GRADE.

Contact ccamey@scspk12.org if you have questions on the assignment. Details on the assignments can be found on the next page.

Part 1: Reading/Reflection Journal (100 pts)

Part one will be a reading journal which you will keep as you read and should span EACH CHAPTER of the book. You will need to find 2-3 passages from each chapter that you found interesting, controversial, enlightening, or otherwise remarkable, write them down (using page number and chapter), and compose a brief, 1-3 sentence reflection as to why that passage stuck out to you. THESE PASSAGES WILL BE VERY HELPFUL WHEN WRITING THE REFLECTION PAPER.

Reading Journal Guidelines

- Choose 2-3 passages from each chapter that struck you as interesting/impactful. Record chapter and page #s.
- Respond to the passage in your own words, using at least one of the reader-response roles listed below. Note: You do not have to use them all but you should be using $\frac{3}{4}$ of them.
- Write as much as you can, but no fewer than three sentences.

Reading Journal Reflection “Roles”: These are how you analyze/respond to what you have read.

- *Straight Talker:* Speak directly to the author/ a person/group of people and "give your two cents' worth." What would you say to them in that particular moment? How would you react to their actions? If you could stop the action at a particular point, what would you say?
- *Judge:* Evaluate an action or a decision by a character or characters. Do you feel a wise or a poor decision has been made? Why? What decision would you prefer to have been made? Why?
- *Artist:* What visual images come to mind as you read the story? Describe those images in detail or draw those images. Write also what your visual image means or represents in the story.
- *Palm Reader:* What has occurred that you consider foreshadowing? What do you believe will occur in the future? Why?

Part 2: Reflection Paper (100 pts)

Part two will be a reflection over the book that you have read. **This paper will be written during the first meeting of the class and handed into the teacher. Students are allowed to bring a printed copy of their reading journal and/or the book they read to assist in the writing of the essay. Pre-written essays will not be allowed.** Reflection papers should be formatted as follows:

1. Length- 3-4 pages handwritten
2. Briefly summarizes the book that was read, addressing the main ideas, themes, events, and personalities covered in the book (no longer than 1 paragraph).
3. A lengthy reflection on how the book has either confirmed your understanding of the history presented in the book or enhanced the student's understanding of the topic.
4. The paper should provide excerpts from the book that either enhanced or confirmed what you knew (this is what the reading guide is also for) and how these passages affected you as you read.

Rubric: Journal

- 1. Covers all chapters in the book: 50 pts**
- 2. Has AT LEAST 2-3 quotes/passages from each chapter & reflection on said passages: 50 pts**

Rubric: Reflection Paper (in-class writing)

- 1. Meets length requirements (3 full pages minimum 4 pages maximum)*: 25 pts**
- 2. Has a concise, clear, and obvious synopsis of the book (Main ideas/themes/people): 25 pts**
- 3. The paper consists mostly of a personal reflection on the book and how it reinforced/enhanced the student's understanding of US history: 25 pts**
- 4. Contains multiple references/reflections from the book (Reading Journal): 25 pts**

***If papers are a little over 4 pages, that is fine.**

If you want a digital copy of this handout, there should be one on the SCHS library website under the Summer Assignments tab or you can join the google classroom below to have access to a digital copy/have a place to ask questions. Please join the classroom page that corresponds to your section of APUSH.

(Note: Teachers are people too...If my responses are slow over summer break it is because I am busy. I will return answers to questions in a timely manner when able.)

A1 Summer Classroom Code: a6zxkeb

A3 Summer Classroom Code: qrz573h