

AP United States History Summer Assignment

Congratulations on your enrollment in Advanced Placement United States History. We would like to welcome you to this rigorous and rewarding program.

The College Board guidelines steer our course outline, topics, pace, assessment models, and scoring rubrics. As such, we have an ambitious agenda ahead of us. Our commitment to this rich curriculum necessitates preparation and study over the summer.

Below you will find the summer assignment for this course. All work must be completed by the first day of class to be adequately prepared and to effectively participate in the program. A content-specific test on this material will be administered the first week of class.

Please note that there are many tests in APUS. In the words of Mr. Dasher, “they are ***not given to show me what you know. They are given to teach you what you do not know.***” Since this is a college level course, high grades on early assessments indicate that your reading for information and construction of thoughtful persuasive essays are at the collegiate level. Low grades reflect either a lack of motivation or a need for skill-building in these areas. The main purpose of the summer assignment is to get an early clear evaluation of your academic motivation and skills level. Skill development can be something fostered during the course, motivation is not.

Clearly, you must commit yourself to a significant amount of independent reading and analytical writing to achieve success in this course, not only during the summer but throughout the year. Through this challenge you will gain tremendous insight into the American experience as well as into your own scholarly potential. We look forward to a thought provoking and productive experience with you.

Summer Reading Assignment:

1. Read Chapters 1-3 carefully and concisely complete reading notes **NO MORE THAN 2 PAGES** per chapter in *Inventing America*.
2. Go to <http://www2.wwnorton.com/college/history/inventing2/index.htm>
3. You do not need a special access code. Go to the Menu at the top of the page labeled “Choose a Chapter”. On the side bar click on “Flash Cards” you are required to complete the flash cards for each chapter assigned and print them out for the 2nd day of class.
4. You are to read 7 primary source documents from **For the Record, Volume 1***.

Required: Chapter 1: Aztec Accounts P. 7, Chapter 2: John Winthrop P. 31, Chapter 3 Olaudah Equiano P. 73. On Page xix of **For the Record, Volume 1** you will find a checklist on how to analyze these documents. For each of the required documents you must answer these checklist questions.

Four Choices: Then choose **ONE** additional document from each of the following chapters (1,2,3, and 4) to further your understanding of the text. In a 6-8 sentence response, justify why you chose the document and what that source indicates to you that the textbook does not.
