

AP U.S. History
Summer Assignment 2018
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Welcome to Advanced Placement United States History! This course will prepare you for the AP exam in May 2019, as well as prepare you for college. Advanced Placement is designed to be a college-level course, which will be extremely challenging. Hard-work and dedication will be necessary to succeed. Below are your summer assignments in order to give you a preview of the course. **Assignments are due on the first day of class of the 2018-19 school year.**

Assignment #1

Memorize all 45 U.S. Presidents in order. In addition, you must memorize the dates that they were in office, as well as under what political party they were elected.

For example: George Washington (None) 1789-1797; John Adams (Federalist) 1797- 1801; Thomas Jefferson (Democratic-Republican) 1801-1809, and so on. (Note: the start date for the Presidents is based on when they actually take position of office.)

You will create a table listing each president, years in office, and political party. In addition, you need to list at least three major events or issues/controversies that took place during their tenure.

On the first day of class, you will have your first quiz on the U.S. Presidents. You need to memorize the U.S. Presidents in chronological order. By knowing all of the Presidents and eras at the start of the school year, it will make it easier for you to focus on the issues that each of these leaders faced. The mental knowledge of knowing the presidents will provide a framework for additional concepts and topics. So in building our “body” of U.S. History, the presidents and eras are the initial “skeleton”, and events, issues and concepts like the Embargo Act (Jefferson), the Trail of Tears (Jackson), or the League of Nations (Wilson) are the “sinew,” “organs,” and “skin.” In other words, you will be a little bit ahead of the game and will do that much better on the AP exam in May.

Assignment #2

Write an essay (3-5 pages) on who you think is the most important president in U.S. history. Essays should be typed doubled-spaced in 12pt. Times New Roman font with 1” margins. Provide evidence to support your conclusions. If you rely on sources for quotes or observations/insight, you need to cite those sources within your essay and provide a works cited page at the end of your essay. Essays will be graded based on content, organization, formatting, and grammar/spelling.

If you need help in citing sources or how to do a works cited page, the following website will provide some assistance: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/>. You may use MLA or Chicago style when cited sources.

Assignment #3

Create a table listing all of the amendments to the Constitution. Provide a brief synopsis (what does the amendment say and do) and the dates in which the amendment was ratified. For each amendment, provide a brief explanation as to why it was proposed. In other words, was there an issue or event that led to its passage?

Assignment #4

There are nine periods that students will study in AP U.S. History:

- Period 1 1491-1607
- Period 2 1607-1754
- Period 3 1754-1800
- Period 4 1800-1848
- Period 5 1844-1877
- Period 6 1865-1898
- Period 7 1890-1945
- Period 8 1945-1980
- Period 9 1980-present

Create a table and provide an explanation for each period as to why the periods are divided in this nature. As you tackle this subject, ponder the following questions: Was there an event or trend that provided a starting and ending point for each period? What makes each period unique from the others?

In addition, provide six key events or trends for each period. Identify at least five people in each period who had a major impact during that period.

The summer assignment will count as a major test grade for the 1st nine-weeks.

If you have any questions, please feel free to send me an email over the summer at broach@asd2.org.

Note: Students will complete four research papers (6-8 pages) over the course of the year. Students will receive the topics and due dates on the first day of school. Each paper will be due towards the end of each nine-week grading period. Looking over the Purdue website listed in Assignment #2 is highly recommended.