

Advanced Placement United States History

Optional Summer Assignment

2020

The following are not required but are encouraged.

Books will help you deepen your understanding of certain time periods. You will receive credit for what you do, but will not be penalized if you choose not to do these optional assignment.

History Nonfiction and/or Historical Fiction book (optional)

An approved list and reading guidelines are listed. From the booklist, you may read up to TWO books. When we return for the Fall Semester, you will receive instructions on how to get credit for your efforts. {Please look on amazon or Good Reads for synopses of titles.}

APUSH Nonfiction and Historical Fiction Approved Summer Reading List

LIMIT of TWO (2) TOTAL: 1 fiction; 1 nonfiction (or 2 nonfiction) – must be different authors

Historical Fiction

Follow the River by James Alexander Thom
The Kitchen House by Kathleen Grissom
The Invention of Wings by Sue Monk Kidd
Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe
The Killer Angels by Michael Shaara

Non-Fiction

1491: New Revelations of the Americas Before Columbus by Charles C. Mann
The First American: The Life and Times of Benjamin Franklin by H.W. Brands
The British are Coming by Rick Atkinson
John Marshall: Definer of a Nation by Jean Edward Smith
American Lion: Andrew Jackson in the White House by Jon Meacham
The Indifferent Stars Above: The Harrowing Saga of a Donner Party Bride by Daniel James Brown
Twelve Years a Slave by Solomon Northup
Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass by Frederick Douglass
The Age of Gold: The California Gold Rush and the New American Dream by H.W. Brands
Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era by James M. McPherson
Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln by Doris Kearns Goodwin
Up From Slavery by Booker T. Washington
Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee: An Indian History of the American West by Dee Brown
Reconstruction: America's Unfinished Revolution 1863-1877 by Eric Foner
Destiny of the Republic: A Tale of Madness, Medicine, and the Murder of a President by Candice Millard
The Souls of Black Folk by W.E.B. DuBois
City of the Century: The Epic of Chicago and the Making of America by Donald L. Miller

The following authors have multiple nonfiction works from which to choose:

David McCullough:

1776

John Adams

The Pioneers: The Heroic Story of the Settlers Who Brought the American Ideal West

Brave Companions

The Greater Journey: Americans in Paris

Ron Chernow:

Alexander Hamilton

Washington: A Life

Grant

Titan: The Life of John D. Rockefeller

The House of Morgan: An American Banking Dynasty and the Rise of Modern Finance

Joseph J. Ellis

His Excellency: George Washington

The Founding Brothers

The Quartet: Orchestrating the Second American Revolution, 1783-1789

American Sphinx: The Character of Thomas Jefferson

First Family: Abigail and John Adams

Stephen Ambrose:

Undaunted Courage: The Pioneering First Mission to Explore America's Wild Frontier

Nothing Like it in the World: The Building of the Transcontinental Railroad

Historical Nonfiction and Historical Fiction Reading Guidelines

LIMIT of TWO (2) TOTAL: 1 fiction; 1 nonfiction (or 2 nonfiction) – must be different authors

Consider the following as you read your book(s):

- Flag interesting passages or points
 - You don't need to annotate but may if it helps you process what you are reading
- Consider as you read:
 - Nonfiction – event's/person's historical significance
 - Fiction – historical accuracy
- After you have read the book, go back and look at your flagged passages
 - Choose 8-10 passages/quotes that reflect the following:
 - Summarizes or encapsulates the significance of the event/person in history
 - Provides insight into how this event/person fits into the big picture of history
 - Represents something you learned that surprised you and gave a different view of the event/person
 - Exemplifies author's bias/agenda. Why is the author telling this story?
 - Represents where/when in history the author chose to start and stop their narrative
 - Connects the event/person to current U.S./world events
 - Represents each narrative (if there are multiple)
- At the beginning of school, I will provide instructions for the book review and/or discussion.