

APUSH Students for the 2017-2018 school year

A subject like United States History can be learned anytime and anywhere. Introducing yourself to U.S. history topics before the school year starts will help you recall and develop a deeper understanding of those topics when they are covered in class. You should expect **3-5 hours of homework in AP U.S. History per week throughout the school year.** Working on AP U.S. History *6 days per week for 30-45 minutes will get you to 3-5 hours.* We are asking you to start that work during the summer. Work on the following assignments for 30-45 minutes per day or figure out a system that works for you that gets you to 3-5 hours per week. ***Please do not spend more than 5 hours per week even if that means you will not get all of the assignments done.**

Completing the following assignments during the summer will not only help you learn the content more efficiently in class, it will also keep you from overloading your homework schedule during the school year.

Some of these assignments will be challenging since you are working through A.P. United States History curriculum and practice tests for the first time. It is okay to struggle. Again, introducing yourself to U.S. History topics and A.P. style test questions will help you out as the school year progresses.

There are two categories of assignments:

Required – These assignments will be included as part of your 1st or 2nd semester grade. If you do not finish these assignments during the summer, you will need to complete them during the school year. You will get actual due dates from your teacher when you are enrolled in class at the beginning of the school year.

Optional – These assignments will not be included as part of your 1st or 2nd semester grade. They are opportunities to learn United States History through watching shows or reading books.

We recommend completing as many of these assignments as possible during the summer.

The following “assignments/activities” will help you prepare for the AP U.S. History Curriculum:

Required (Assignments 1 – 4)

1. Purchase the 2017 edition of The Princeton Review: Cracking the AP U.S. History Exam. It is an AP U.S. Prep Book.
2. Complete Part I, II, III, IV, and V of the AP U.S. History Princeton Review Prep Book
 - Part I – Read (skim)
 - Part II – Complete the multiple-choice portion of Practice Test 1. Check answers and *record your score on the Practice Test 1 Answer Key*. Read the Practice Test 1 Explanations. Nobody expects you to get many correct at this point
 - Part III – Read (skim)
 - Part IV – Read (skim)
 - Part V – Read and *take notes in the margins of each page*. Mark the text by highlighting, underlining, and/or circling main ideas and themes. Answer and correct the multiple-choice questions for each chapter in Part V. Part V is where you will spend the bulk of your time, as it is your introduction to the AP U.S. History curriculum.
 - Part II – Retake Practice Test 1 to see if your score improved after working through Part V.
 - Part VI – You can save Practice Test 2 until later in the school year or take it during the summer. When you do take it, check answers and record score on the Practice Test 2 Answer Key. Read Practice Test 2 Explanations.

3. Naviance: Go to naviance.com. Username – Student ID Number, Password = last 4 digits of your Student ID Number and the day you were born.

- Complete all Practice Quizzes (25) and all Exams (3) with a 60% or higher
 - i. You will need to get to 60% before this assignment is due in early May. It is okay if you are not able to get to 60% during the summer.
- There are Lessons available in Naviance that are comparable to the Princeton Review chapters. The Lessons are not required, but they might help you on the quizzes and they will help you increase your knowledge of world history.

4. Choose **one** of the following options to increase your knowledge of U.S. History. You might want to explore each option to see which one will work best for you.

- Crash Course U.S. History (YouTube) – Episodes 1 – 47
- Khan Academy (khanacademy.org) – Start with the AP US History skills and test strategies and then work through the 9 Historical Periods. There are videos to watch, summaries to read, and quizzes to complete.
- Apushreview.com: Under the “NEW APUSH CURRICULUM” drop down menu, you will find 10-minute videos for each Historical Period. You will also find multiple key concept videos for each historical period. The last three videos are review items. Previous APUSH students have said these videos are very helpful. Watch them all.

Assignment number 4 is required because we know students who supplement what we do in class with one or more of these options have a better chance to earn a higher score on the A.P. exam. They also show a better understanding of the subject throughout the year.

Optional

Watch movies, series, documentaries, or videos about U.S. History. Historical Fiction is okay. Look up the historical accuracy after you watch. Here are a few options

- America: The Story of US
- Turn
- The Men Who Built America

Read a book about U.S. History. Historical Fiction is okay. Look up the historical accuracy after you read. Here are a few options:

- Agent 6 – Tom Rob Smith
- Chesapeake or Centennial - James A. Michener

Note: If you have any questions on how to complete your summer homework, please come by and see us in our classrooms before school lets out for the summer.