

Teacher: Mr. Greer
Course Website: www.mrgreer.net

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Dear Student,

Looking forward to working with you next fall, I applaud your decision to undertake AP United States History, a rigorous, college-level history course. This will detail the summer reading assignment for the course. The summer assignment serves two purposes: (1) it is a test of the seriousness of your commitment to doing AP level coursework in US History and (2) it helps you gain a critical head start on your studies as there are only 70 class meetings until the AP United States History exam on 6 May 2011.

I will assist you along the way so please ask questions at anytime, including this spring and summer. During the summer, I will check my email at least once every 2-3 days. Also refer to my website for further information.

Please share the parent letter and summer assignment instructions with your parent. If they or you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me.

*Good Luck,
Mr. Greer*

Directions: As you complete each of the steps, check the blank to help you keep track and manage your work.

- ___ 1. Send Mr. Greer an email from an email address that you will be using over the summer and next year. (If you change your email address let Mr. Greer know)

- ___ 2. Visit ACS's website (http://www.acsamman.edu.jo/hs/ap_us_history.cfm) to download each chapter (Ch 1-5) of the summer reading assignment. They are PDF files so you will need Adobe Reader to read them. Go to High School in the menu and then select "AP Summer Reading Assignments" and then select "AP US History." Contact Mr. Greer if you are having trouble doing this.

- ___ 4. Visit the detailed description of the AP US History course at the following link:
http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/ap/sub_ushist.html

To Do Before 5 August 2010

- ___ 5. Purchase a copy of the *US History Skillbook: With Writing Instruction and Practice* by Michael Henry, PhD, 2005, for use during the year in this course.

- ___ 6. Read each chapter of the summer assignment from your textbook that you downloaded from the ACS website. Take notes as you read the chapter (can be handwritten or typed) in your preferred format. At the beginning of each chapter's notes, create a heading that contains your name and chapter number. Try to take no more than 3 pages of notes on any chapter. Check your notes with the online chapter outlines to ensure that you have taken relevant, concise notes. These notes are to be contained in your US History binder in the "Notes" section. Simply copying the outline notes will not be acceptable; you need to take your own notes.

___ 7. After you have read and taken notes on each chapter, go to the online learning center to complete the multiple choice quiz for that chapter. Access the link from Mr. Greer's website or type in the link below. Each quiz has 31 questions that you will answer (of course you can use your notes and text to help you). The website is http://college.hmco.com/history/us/kennedy/am_pageant/13e/student_home.html

___ 8. After you have taken the multiple choice quiz for a given chapter, email your results to Mr. Greer using his school email address provided above. The results of these quizzes will be part of your first Unit exam taken during the 2nd class period of the school year.

** any results received via email after 5 August 2010 will be reduced by 50%; additionally, you might be asked to reconsider your enrollment in AP US History if these tasks have not been done prior to this deadline.*

___ 10. Acquire the following materials for class:

- ✓ A 3 inch 3 ring binder to contain handouts, notes, course materials, and outside readings
- ✓ loose leaf paper
- ✓ section dividers (5)

If you would like to begin the year with some extra credit, read one of these books over the summer to help you gain background information/ additional knowledge for themes that will be studied in class:

- A. *Narrative in the Life of Fredrick Douglass* by Fredrick Douglass
- B. *John Adams* by David McCullough
- C. *1776* by David McCullough

The get the "book report" instructions from Mr. Greer's website for how to complete a report on the book you have read for AP. If the report is done well, you will be able to exchange the score for a reading quiz result in the 1st quarter. This report is due before 30 September 2010.

Exam Prep Books – if you think you would like additional help in your preparations during the year and leading up the AP Exam next May, here are have some suggestions:

1. *United States History* by AMSCO (John J. Newman and John M. Schmalbach authors).
2. *Threads of History* by Michael Henry, PhD, 2006.
3. Barron's, Kaplan, or Princeton Review on US History (look for 2009-10 latest publications).
4. *The American Pageant: Guidebook – A Manuel for Students* by Mel Piehl – review prep book based on *Pageant*.

