**AP US History Summer Assignments**

**Directions**: Each of the following assignments is a MANDATORY requirement for enrollment in AP US History. Failure to complete and turn in any of the assignments by the due date of July 18th at the senior high school guidance office will result in your dismissal from the course. Read the instructions carefully for each assignment and make sure you understand what each is asking you to do. After these assignments are collected they will be graded and this grade will become part of your first marking period grade in the course. In total the three assignments will be worth 130 points. (50 points for your summer book essay; 50 points for your completed US map and 30 points for the Historiography article questions)

**Note concerning plagiarism w/ Summer work:**  Please note that using any resources on the internet or other students regarding your summer book to complete your assignments will be considered plagiarism. **In submitting your summer work you are pledging that your work is the result of ONLY your effort**.

I will be available to answer any questions over the summer if any arise. My school email address is [kristoffer.rhinehart@ship.k12.pa.us](mailto:kristoffer.rhinehart@ship.k12.pa.us) and my phone number is 717-530-5559. Please be patient if you do contact me, it may take me a few days to respond but be assured that I will respond.

***Assignment #1***

***America in Fiction (and Non-Fiction)***

Your first assignment is to read one of the American fiction classics on the following list and write a 4-6 page essay which identifies the book’s main thesis/idea/position and connects it to the period of US history that it is written in/about. This can be a challenging assignment, so please consider the author’s thesis carefully and try to discover how exactly that idea fits into historical developments or trends in American history during that time period. If you have trouble with this you can certainly ask me, or search for the general ideas of others on the internet (***you should not copy these ideas in whole in your paper, this is merely to provide guidance)***. As far as guidance with the writing of the paper, please see the grading rubric included here for specific information. Generally, though, your final paper should be 4-5 pages in length (DO NOT GO OVER OR UNDER THIS REQUIREMENT – part of this assignment if to work on identifying what is essential and important to discuss and what is not) typed, double spaced in Times New Roman or Calibri font.

One of the most important parts of this assignment is to be able to identify the author’s thesis and then illustrate how he/she supports that thesis/idea with supporting evidence and examples. These examples should be both contained in the book itself and also present in US historical developments from the time period the book is set in, since you are connecting that book to the time period it is set in/discussing. The example below is a present day example of this type of logic:

Ex. -- Shippensburg Area Senior High School has a great AP program. (Thesis)

-- The SASHS AP program has excellent teachers (Supporting Argument)

-- More than 90% of SASHS AP teachers have their master’s degree or higher (how does this piece of information sustain the supporting argument—i.e., why is it important

that so many teachers have their master’s degree? (Detail to Sustain Argument)



**AP US History Summer Book List**

***Title*** ***Author***

**Colonial America**

*The Glorious Cause* Robert Middlekouff

*Johnny Tremain* Ester Forbes

*My Brother Sam is Dead* C.& JL Collier

*The Scarlet Letter* Nathaniel Hawthorne

*Moby Dick* Herman Melville

*Last of the Mohicans* James Fennimore Cooper

**Pre-Civil War/Civil War**

*The Strange Career of Jim Crow* Woodward C Vann

*The Alamo*  Lon Tinkle

*12 Years a Slave* Solomon Northup

*To Be A Slave*  Julius Lester

*Across Five Aprils* Irene Hunt

*Adventures of Huck Finn* Mark Twain

*The Killer Angels* Michael Shaara

*Little Women*  Louisa May Alcott

*The Red Badge of Courage* Stephen Crane

*Uncle Tom’s Cabin* Harriet Beecher Stowe

*Up From Slavery* Booker T Washington

*Gone With the Wind* Margaret Mitchell

**American Frontier and Native Americans**

*Native Son* Richard Wright

*When the Legend Dies* Hal Borland

*Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*  Dee Brown

*Virgin Land* Henry Nash Smith

*O Pioneers* Willa Cather

*Old Yeller* Fred Gipson

*The OX Bow Incident* W Van Tilburg Clark

*Sounder* William Armstrong

*Where the Red Fern Grows* Wilson Lewis

*The Call of the Wild* Jack London

**Early 20th Century to World War II**

*The Jungle* Upton Sinclair

*Main Street* Sinclair Lewis

*Babbitt* Sinclair Lewis

*A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* Betty Smith

*Sister Carrie* Theodore Dreiser

*Hard Times* Studs Terkel

*All the Kings Men* Robert Penn Warren

*The Grapes of Wrath* John Steinbeck

*The Man Nobody Knows* Bruce Barton

*The Great Gatsby* F. Scott Fitzgerald

*Of Mice and Men* John Steinbeck

*To Kill a Mockingbird* Harper Lee

*The Invisible Man* Ralph Ellison

**WWII and Post WWII America**

*Catch-22* Joseph Heller

*The Catcher in the Rye* JD Salinger

*A Bright Shining Light* Neil Sheehan

*Dear America: Letters Home from Vietnam* Bernard Edelman

*1984* George Orwell

*Animal Farm* George Orwell

*Hiroshima* John Hershey

The Help Kathryn Stockett

*Snow Falling on Cedars* David Guterson

**Summary of Summer Book Paper Requirements**

**Directions**: The following are a short summary of the sections your summer book paper should have. Please remember the length of the paper is to be 4-6 pages (no more, no less). I will also provide general guidelines as far as the length of various sections – these are guidelines NOT requirements.

**A. Title Page** – your paper should have a title page with the information contained below on it in the appropriate locations. The title page does NOT count towards your 4-6 page length requirement.

Title of Book

By Author’s Name

Report by:

Student’s Name

AP US History

Period 2A

Mr. Rhinehart

**B. Introduction** – an introduction is essential to any paper/essay. Your introduction should do all of the following (approximately 1 page):

* Capture the reader’s attention
* BRIEFLY explain what the book is about and what time period in US it is set in
* Contain the THESIS for your paper (this should connect the book with the time period)

-- Ex: Upton Sinclair’s *The Jungle* is a book which accurately portrays the struggles of working class Americans during the Progressive Era, discusses the positives of socialism and successfully influenced reforms at the national level due to its popularity.

**C. Body of the Paper** – this is the meat of the paper. Your thesis will be explained and supported and your arguments will be discussed. (3 pages)

* Explain the thesis of your paper (you should have three main points in your thesis, each should be discussed in approximately 1 page)
* You should not be retelling the entire story contained in the book – choose a few illustrative passages and points and use those to support your main arguments. Use specific examples from the book or quotes from others.
* You should also identify in this section how your book connects to external historical factors – what historical events, trends, ideas were popular during the time period? How does the book connect to those?

**D. Conclusion** – this is where you summarize and tie things together (approximately 1 page).

* You should summarize your main argument and thesis at some point in your conclusion
* At some point in your conclusion you should analyze/evaluate the book – was it good? Bad? Why? You need specific examples and evidence here, not just a general opinion (i.e. evidence from the book itself to explain your analysis, sales stats, reviews/awards, is the author convincing in his thesis? What would improve the book? etc…)

**E. Works Cited Page** – an accounting of any outside sources that you used to complete and support your paper. This should be done in either APA or MLA format. In text Citations should also be used where appropriate. This page does NOT count towards the 4-6 page requirement.

***Assignment #2***

**US Map Activity**

Using the map (s) provided, locate and label each item on a US map. You will have a map quiz on these locations the first week of school that will assess your ability to locate these items. **You can use the following websites to test your knowledge of the items:** [**http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/web\_games.htm**](http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/web_games.htm)

[**http://www.worldatlas.com/webimage/testmaps/usstates.gif**](http://www.worldatlas.com/webimage/testmaps/usstates.gif)

If you need help locating the items please use the following websites for reference:

**States and Capitals:** [**http://img3.wikia.nocookie.net/\_\_cb20071102135202/criticalmass/images/f/f4/US\_map\_-\_states\_and\_capitals.png**](http://img3.wikia.nocookie.net/__cb20071102135202/criticalmass/images/f/f4/US_map_-_states_and_capitals.png)

[**http://alabamamaps.ua.edu/contemporarymaps/usa/basemaps/uscapz2c.jpg**](http://alabamamaps.ua.edu/contemporarymaps/usa/basemaps/uscapz2c.jpg)

***Assignment #3***



**What is historiography?**

* Read Davis and Woodman, Conflict and Consensus in Early American History, “Introduction: History and Historians” (provided after this assignment) This selection describes the work that historians do and explains what historiography is. After reading this chapter, create a well-developed response to each of the following questions:
* **Your answers must satisfy the following requirements:**
  + Each answer should be about three to four sentences long. Please write or type the question before your answer.
  + Start each answer with a sentence or two that express your main idea(s).
  + The idea(s) must be clear, logical, and argumentative (can be supported by evidence from the article).
  + When needed, provide specific evidence (examples) from the article that will support ideas expressed at the beginning of your short answer. Whether it is a direct quote from the book or a reference (paraphrase), indicate the page in parenthesis.
  + Your answers should be done in complete sentences with no or minimal grammar and sentence structure mistakes. Please use 12 font, Times New Roman (if typing).

#1: What is historiography? Please define the term and provide an example.

#2: Why is the emphasis on “facts” insufficient for an understanding of history?

#3: What factors account for the differing interpretations of particular historical instances (events, trends, etc…)?

#4: What do the authors mean when they state that “coming to grips with conflicting interpretations of the past is more than an interesting classroom game…?”

#5: In what fundamental ways do conflict (revisionist) and consensus (traditional) oriented historians differ?

#6: What is meant by historian John Higham’s criticism of consensus historians “homogenization” of U.S. History?

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