

SUMMER WORK FOR AP US HISTORY for the school year 2021-2022:

The AP US History course includes summer work. The summer assignment is to familiarize yourself with American history from the end of World War II to the present. Having a sense of how the American story has played out over the last 75 years will give you interesting context and perspective for your study of that story from its beginning – it will help you make connections and see themes and understand continuity and change over time more easily. Plus, your advance study of the most recent decades of the American story will allow us to cover that material from a position of familiarity at the end of the year, maximizing the time we have available before the AP exam for general review.

We will NOT review the summer material in class before you are tested on it at the beginning of the school year. Accordingly, it is important that you teach yourself this material well. Allowing yourself sufficient time to master the material and keeping notes of your thoughts as you study this material over the summer will considerably ease the strain of the test over the summer material – and will facilitate your review of the material as you prepare for the AP test at the end of the academic year.

BOOKS NEEDED

You will need two books for this summer work: (1) the principal textbook for the course, Jane Kamensky *et al.*, *A People and A Nation* (11th edition, 2019) published by Cengage (please note that this is a different textbook than used by the CCDS AP US History course in recent years); and (2) an AP review book entitled *Advanced Placement United States History* (4th edition, 2021) published by Perfection Learning. The books will be available through the MBS book service used by CCDS by mid-summer, but you can get both books sooner by going directly through their publishers or through Amazon. The ISBN numbers for the books follow:

- *A People and A Nation* (11th edition, 2019)
 - Hardcover 978-1-337-40271-2
 - Ebook 978-0-357-69076-5
- *Advanced Placement United States History* (4th edition, 2021)
 - Softcover 978-1-6903-0550-7
 - Ebook 978-1-6903-0551-4

ASSIGNMENT DETAILS

1. Read and study the last six chapters (chapters 24 through 29) in Kamensky. To help you master the material in Kamensky, I will create study guides for each of the chapters and forward them to you by email. The study guides will help you focus on the key terms and key material in each chapter. You **DO NOT** have to write out answers to the key terms and focus questions to effectively use the study guides. But before you begin to read a chapter in Kamensky, I encourage you to look over that chapter's study guide to get a big-picture perspective and an idea of what you should be looking for before you dive into the details. You can also use the study guides to test your mastery of the material after you read a chapter in Kamensky: look back at the key terms and focus questions and see if you can offer reasonable definitions and responses. To reinforce the material in Kamensky, and to plug gaps left by Kamensky's narrative, read and study Units 8 and 9 in the AP review book.
2. Be prepared for a test covering post World War II American history within the first few days of school. The test will include a variety of question types: likely question types include multiple-choice, matching, and short-answer. This test will likely count for as much as 1/5 of your first quarter grade.

FINAL THOUGHTS

AP US History is a college-level course (as opposed to an eleventh-grade college-preparatory US history course) designed for highly-motivated students. **You will be expected to assume responsibility for completing heavy reading and writing assignments throughout the year.**

Within the framework of this rigorous academic course, we make every attempt to engage each student in a shared enthusiasm for the study of history and a shared pride in the achievement of completing the difficult academic tasks we tackle. Another major goal of this course is that it be a memorable experience for all of us, a turning point in our intellectual and personal understandings.

If you have any questions at all about the AP course, please reach out to Mr. Fossett.