

Advanced Placement United States History Summer Reading Assignment

There are three components to the AP US History summer reading assignment. Each element of the assignment has been carefully chosen to enhance student achievement in the course and on the AP Exam given in May. **All 3 elements of this assignment will be due on Monday, August 8.**

Please contact Claire Cox (claire.cox@gcssk12.net) with any questions regarding this assignment.

Part One: Textbook Reading Assignment

In this course, it will be very important to learn how to read the text book for understanding and take notes on what you have read. Please check out these websites and videos for tips on taking notes and for success in this AP level course.

<http://coe.jmu.edu/learningtoolbox/cornellnotes.html>

<http://www.hercampus.com/high-school/preparing-college/6-tips-rocking-your-ap-classes>

<http://www.dartmouth.edu/~acskills/docs/takinglecturenotes.pdf>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UAhRf3U50IM>

Once you have looked through these tips for success, please read Chapter 1 and 2 (p. 2- 43) in your AP US History textbook (The American Pageant) and take thorough notes on this reading. You must take notes in YOUR OWN handwriting and turn these in on the first day of class. You must also be prepared to answer questions on this reading using your notes.

*The textbook reading assignment is scanned and available on my GHS webpage for easy viewing.

Visit Miss Cox's webpage at the following address: <https://sites.google.com/a/gcssk12.net/ap-us-history-cox/home>

Part Two: Pre-Columbian Societies Article Reaction

Visit *Gilder Lehrman's History by Era* site at the following address:

<https://www.gilderlehrman.org/history-by-era/americas-1620>

1. Explore the Timeline. Click on each point and read text for an overview of the era.
2. Read the introduction by Christopher L. Miller "The Americas to 1620" (be sure to follow prompts to read the entire essay).
3. Scroll down to "Sub Era" and click on "American Indians."

- a. Read the introduction by Elliott West (be sure to follow prompts to read the entire essay).
4. Scroll down to “Essays” and read the three following essays:
 - a. “Cahokia: A Pre-Columbian American City” by Timothy R. Pauketat
 - b. “Change and Crisis: North America on the Eve of the European Invasion” by Christopher L. Miller
 - c. “The Columbian Exchange” by Alfred Crosby
5. After reading all three essays, choose **one** of the five essays (includes the two introductions) you have read and write a **1-2 page** reaction. Your reaction should do one of the following:
 - a. Comment on a new insight you have as a result of the reading.
 - b. Note something you **did not understand** and what you did to try to understand it.
 - c. Make a connection between a specific idea in the essay and other readings or ideas you have addressed in other classes (does not need to be Social Studies).
6. I prefer that you type this portion of the assignment. If you choose not to type the assignment, your essay should be written in black ink, it **must** be legible.

*You can create a free student account with gilderlehrman.org to access a variety of excellent resources to use throughout the year in our APUSH course.

Part Three: Presentation on Native American Nations

Each student will research the culture of **one** Native American Nation (of your choice) from the list below. You should create a presentation that answers questions about your chosen culture. Be prepared to share and discuss what you discovered with our class. We will use the information you present to compare and contrast these cultures. Please record your answers to the questions listed below and use them to create a visual presentation (i.e. PowerPoint/Prezi/Google Slides). Your presentation should share the answers to these questions as well as any additional information you want to include. Support your points with rich details.

Choose **one** of the following cultures:

1. Natchez
2. Navajo
3. Iroquois

4. Anasazi (Pueblos)
5. Delaware (Lenape)
6. Choctaws
7. Creek
8. Pequots

Research the Native American culture you have chosen. Make certain to focus on their ancient societies and examine the aspects of the Native American nation by including the following information:

1. Social Structure
 - a. How is the society organized?
 - b. Is it communal or hierarchical?
 - c. Is it matrilineal or patrilineal?
2. Political Structure/Leadership
 - a. Who has power?
 - b. How are tribal decisions made?
 - c. What role do religious leaders play in decisions?
3. Economic Subsistence and Trade
 - a. How did they survive? Agriculture/Hunter-gatherer?
 - b. Did the trade with other groups? If so, who?
4. Dwellings
5. Origins Story
 - a. If possible, find an origins story for the culture. What does it reveal about the values and beliefs of the culture?
 - b. If you cannot find an origins story, find an artifact from the online exhibit and explain what it reveals about the culture.

Suggested Resources for Presentation:

You are encouraged to use the resources listed below; however, you will probably find it necessary to consult additional, **reliable** sources. Please cite all sources that you use in a list and include this in your presentation.

Brief overview of the different cultures of Pre-Columbian American:

<http://www.gilderlehrman.org/history-by-era/american-indians/resources/cultures-americas-1200-bc%E2%80%93ad-1600>

National Museum of the American Indian- “The Infinity of Nations” Virtual Exhibit:

<http://nmai.si.edu/exhibitions/infinityofnations/>

National Museum of the American Indian- Collections Search to look for artifacts:

<http://nmai.si.edu/searchcollections/home.aspx>

National Museum of the American Indian- Additional Resources:

<http://nmai.si.edu/explore/forfamilies/resources/>

Origins Stories Resource:

<http://www.indigenouspeople.net/legend.htm>