

# Advanced Placement United States History

## Summer Reading Assignment

In preparation for the 2009-2010 school year

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Due date: the first Friday of school, August 28, 2009

(Please note that students enrolled in the Dual US History courses have a different assignment. **Students in the AP section and also earning dual credit for the course must only complete this assignment**).

AP US History is jam-packed with information about our past...all our past from 1492-2000. We will find many American historical figures to admire, and we will find plenty of others to despise. Our past is not always pretty, but we will study it all. The goal of this course is to successfully prepare you to take the AP US History exam on May 7, 2010. In order to get off to a running start, we must begin our study during the summer months. There are **two parts** to the assignment. **Both parts are due the first Friday of school, August 28, 2009.**

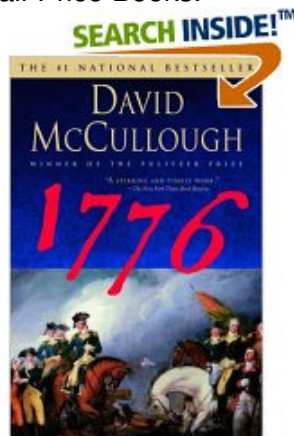
### To do well on this assignment you must follow the directions!

If you have any questions about the course or the summer assignment please feel free to contact me. Course information can also be found on my outreach page.

### Your Summer Assignment:

#### Part I:

- You will need to purchase and read *1776*, by David McCullough. Copies are readily available at all major bookstores, Amazon.com (pre-owned copies sell for under \$5), and at Half Price Books.



While reading, you will be required to keep a reading journal for **every chapter** of the book. For each chapter, your journal should include the 4 topics as follows in this order:

- THESIS:** The author's thesis or main point for the chapter – this is often found in the introduction of the chapter and revisited at the conclusion. What is the author trying to prove to you in this chapter?
- VOCABULARY CHART:** on the left, write down any historical term, event, person, place or reference that you do not fully understand; on the right, write down any general vocabulary word you do not understand. Research an explanation for the vocabulary and record the information.

<u>History Vocabulary</u>	<u>General Vocabulary</u>
term – explanation	term – explanation

3. **GENERAL NOTES:** follow the events or argument the author puts forth – remember the S word in history: SIGNIFICANCE! What was the significance of what you wrote down – if you don't know, you probably shouldn't have written the note.

4. **REFLECTION:** At the end of the chapter – in your own words – what was the point of the chapter, what did it make you think about while reading (any links to other parts of history?), what questions do you still have about the chapter?

Your reading journal can be in a notebook or on loose-leaf notebook paper that is neatly together in chronological order. The journal must be **hand-written** – no typed notes or copied and pasted entries from the internet. **Your journal will count as a major grade and is due August 28.** Additionally, you will take a quiz on the book during the first week of school (**Note: you will take the quiz before the journal is due. The expectation is that this assignment is completed over the summer and should be complete on the first day of school even though the due date is on Friday**). This will be the only time during the school year that you may use your notes (your reading journal) on a quiz. Only handwritten reading journals will be allowed as notes for use on the quiz. During the summer I will post on my outreach page the exact date of the quiz.

#### **Part II:**

- Familiarize yourself with the expectations for the AP US History course and the test. Access the following website and complete the worksheet on the 2 pages that follow. **This assignment is due the first Friday of school, August 28. It will count as a daily grade on the first six weeks.**

<http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/public/repository/ap-us-history-course-description.pdf>

**INFORMATION ON THE COLLEGE BOARD ADVANCED PLACEMENT  
UNITED STATES HISTORY SITE**

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**List the twelve titles of the themes covered in an AP US History Course.**

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**Review the sample multiple choice questions that are given. What are three generalizations that you can make about the 40 sample questions.**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**What are the three parts contained in the free – response section of the exam?**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**What does DBQ stand for?** \_\_\_\_\_

**High scores on a DBQ are earned only by essays that:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**On part B and C, how many essay choices will you be given and how long will you have to write the essays?**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Define the following 5 – point AP grading scale**

- 5 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 1 \_\_\_\_\_

List five of the resources you can find at [www.apcentral.collegeboard.com](http://www.apcentral.collegeboard.com)

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