



THE STEWARD SCHOOL

AP United States History

Summer Work 2025

- **due dates:** Assignments 1-3 due before class on Monday 8/25
Assignment 4 due by Tuesday 9/2
- **estimated time:** 6 hours, plus a visit to a historical site
(for planning purposes only; work until you finish)

*Let me tell you what I wish I'd known
When I was young and dreamed of glory
You have no control: Who lives- Who dies- Who tells your story?*

George Washington in *Hamilton: The Musical*

Hello Spartans,

I am happy you have chosen AP United States History (APUSH)! APUSH is a challenging but fun course that will teach you to think like a historian and to write and argue about history effectively. The College Board develops our curriculum, and it is extensive. However, the central theme of AP US History is also the central theme of *Hamilton*. Your job next year is not just to learn facts about history, but also to think about which stories get told, how those stories get told, and why those stories matter. It is much more complex but also a more rewarding challenge than just preparing for a big test. We will do that too, but I hope you will join me in considering the essential questions of history.

To hit the ground running in August, you will complete summer assignments that will introduce you to course resources, historical thinking skills, and some content knowledge. I expect that you will put forth a significant effort throughout the year. You have chosen to take a college course while in high school, and doing well will require that you make it a priority. You should be prepared to complete approximately 45 minutes to an hour of outside work per class meeting, and you will have assignments over most school breaks. However, I understand that you have many other classes and activities on your schedule. The most important thing we can do to ensure our mutual success is to communicate with each other. Once upon a time, I survived APUSH – as will you.

Please find information on your books and summer assignments below. First, you should join the Google Classroom using the invitation I will send to your Steward email address. Assignment details and additional APUSH resources will be posted there. You can reach me at Sarah.Dwelle@stewardschool.org if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you, and have a great summer!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Dwelle

Required Books

1. Required Textbooks:

You can purchase print copies (new is preferred) from your favorite bookseller. You may also use the free online textbook or download the free PDFs from the website below.

The American Yawp

<https://www.americanyawp.com/>

American Yawp, Volume 1: to 1877 (OER) (Paperback)

Author: Locke, Joseph L.

Edition: 2019

ISBN 13: 978-1-5036-0671-5

ISBN 10: 1-5036-0671-6

MBS Direct SKU #: 2257476

Publisher: Ingram Publisher Services

Publisher Imprint: Stanford University Press

American Yawp, Volume 2: Since 1877 (OER) (Paperback)

Author: Locke, Joseph L.

Edition: 2019

ISBN 13: 978-1-5036-0688-3

ISBN 10: 1-5036-0688-0

MBS Direct SKU #: 2243621

Publisher: Ingram Publisher Services

Publisher Imprint: Stanford University Press

The American Yawp is a “massively collaborative open U.S. History textbook” supported by Stanford University Press and listed by the College Board as a suggested textbook for AP US History. The digital edition is updated regularly. There will be minor differences between the print editions and the dynamic digital text. The instructor will make students aware of any substantive differences.

Summer Assignments

Your summer work is broken into separate assignments to help you understand course expectations. They will also give you a jump start on course content. Please do not wait until the last minute to complete these assignments. However, you should complete them in August so the content is fresh at the start of the school year.

Due Dates: All assignments must be completed before school starts on August 25, except for the Historical Site Visit, due Tuesday, September 2.

1. **Google Classroom:** Join the APUSH Google Classroom using the invitation sent to your school email account. All assignments that need to be submitted will be posted in Classroom, along with resources to help you complete those assignments.

NOTE: If you are new to Steward and cannot access Google Classroom before the school year, please email sarah.dwelle@stewardschool.org for instructions.

2. **Textbook and AP Classroom Activities**

due date: Monday, August 25

estimated time: 3 hours

Complete the following activities.

- Watch the Period 1 introductory video at [Period 1: 1491–1607 | Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History](#).
- Read textbook Chapter 1: “Indigenous America (digital title)/The New World (print title)” AND Chapter 2: “Colliding Cultures” up to the “Jamestown” section. These are pages **1-41** in the print textbook. As you read, complete **ONE** of the following:
 - Take handwritten notes using one of [these methods](#).
 - OR**
 - Fully annotate your hard copy of the book or copies of the digital PDFs, following the specific annotation guidelines posted in Google Classroom.
 - OR**
 - Complete the “Guided Reading and Analysis” worksheets for Chapters 1 and 2 (up to the “Jamestown” section). These will be posted in Google Classroom and should also be handwritten.
- Complete the Unit 1 Progress Check in [AP Classroom](#). Keep an eye on your email for login instructions. They will be posted in Google Classroom once they are available, likely in early August. Note that this Progress Check is essential practice for AP-style multiple-choice questions, which some students find particularly challenging. You will also have a formal test on this material early in the school year.

3. **Secondary Source Readings: *Portrait of America: Volume 1***

due date: Monday, August 25

estimated time: 2 hours

PDF copies of these readings will be available in Google Classroom. Read the following essays and respond thoroughly and thoughtfully to **THREE** questions at the end of each (you may choose your questions). Submit your responses in Google Classroom and be prepared to discuss the readings during the first week of school.

- David E. Stannard, *The American Holocaust: Columbus and the Conquest of the New World*.
- Gary Nash, *Black People in a White People's Country*.

4. **Historical Site Visit**

due date: Tuesday, September 2

estimated time: 1 hour, plus the visit time

See pp.5-8 below.

Also recommended but not required: see some suggested books, movies, and documentaries below.

Summer Assignment #4: Historical Site Visit

Due in Google Classroom by Tuesday, September 2.

For this part of the summer assignment, you are to visit a site that has some importance in United States history. You will spend time there, photograph yourself, and then write about what you learned.

Step 1: Visit a site of historical significance. You must use a location that you visit this summer. Spend at least 30 minutes at the site, learning about its importance. Here are some suggestions for possible visits within the Richmond area, although you are welcome to go anywhere in the world that is relevant to U.S. History!

- [Canal Walk](#)
- [Chimborazo Medical Museum](#)
- [Cold Harbor Battlefield](#)
- [Henricus Historical Park](#)
- [Hollywood Cemetery](#)
- [Manchester Slave Trail](#)
- [Maymont](#) (visit the Dooley Mansion)
- [Meadow Farm Museum](#)
- [Mid-Lothian Mines Park](#)
- [Monument Avenue](#)
- [Scotchtown](#)
- [St. John's Church](#) (go for the speech!)
- [The Chesterfield Museum Complex](#)
- [The John Marshall House](#)
- [The Maggie L. Walker Historic Site](#)
- [The Museum and White House of the Confederacy](#)
- [The Virginia Historical Society](#)
- [Tuckahoe Plantation](#)
- [Valentine Richmond History Center](#)
- [Virginia Capitol](#)
- [Virginia Holocaust Museum](#)
- [The American Civil War Center at Tredegar](#)

Step 2

Take a picture of yourself at the site. This is both to confirm that you have been there, and so we can share your pictures in the classroom. **Please print a 4 x 6 or 3 x 5 picture to turn in with the assignment, OR post your color picture in Google Classroom classroom with your written reflection.**

Step 3

Write about your visit. Tell us where you went, when, and what you learned. Share approximately three thoughtful and well-organized paragraphs about your visit.

Sample

Please read the sample on the next page. Email me if you have any questions. Thank you!

Mrs. Dwelle

August 29, 2021

Summer Assignment: Historical Site Visit

Visit to Berlin - July 20, 2021 **(not really- for sample purposes only!)**

On Tuesday, July 20th, during a visit to Berlin, I visited "Checkpoint Charlie." Although it is now in the center of a bustling, unified city, during the Cold War Checkpoint Charlie represented both the literal and symbolic division between communist East Berlin and democratic West Berlin. After the Second World War, the victorious allied powers (U.S., Britain, France, and the Soviet Union) divided the German capital into four zones, with each administering one of the four. At the same time, the Soviet Union controlled all of East Germany surrounding the city. In June of 1948, the Soviet Union tried to gain control of all of the city of Berlin by closing all transportation and communication routes from democratic West Germany into democratically controlled West Berlin. The United States and its allies were forced to conduct the "Berlin Airlift," in which planes dropped thousands of tons of supplies in West Berlin until the Soviets conceded and allowed West Berlin to remain democratic.

In 1961, East Germany and the Soviet Union started building the Berlin Wall, a concrete barrier around West Berlin designed to prevent East Germans from fleeing West. The only way to pass between the parts of the city was to go through the militarized Checkpoint Charlie. In 1961, American and Soviet tanks had a standoff at the checkpoint. During his visit to Berlin in 1963, American President John F. Kennedy also visited Checkpoint Charlie, which became a lasting symbol of the Cold War. Today, the actual checkpoint no longer exists, but the original sign is there, and it has become a tourist attraction, along with a replica of the checkpoint itself.

Although the Cold War ended 30 years ago, it is still possible to see its lasting impact on Berlin. Formerly communist-controlled East Berlin is still less developed and vibrant than West Berlin, although that distinction is clearer in some parts of the city than others. Berlin is also unique among the places I have visited regarding its approach to public history. The city's role in history spans centuries and is visible in various ways. However, the legacies of Nazi control during the Second World War and Soviet control during the Cold War are handled sensitively. For example, the city has acknowledged the impact of its Nazi past not only with a large Holocaust memorial but also by placing the names of Jewish families who were killed in the sidewalks outside their former residences. As Berliners travel throughout the city, it has deliberately been made impossible to entirely forget or ignore the painful legacy of the past.

I have attached a picture from Checkpoint Charlie and a picture of one of the sidewalk memorials. Berlin is unlike any other city I have visited in terms of its approach to its own complex history. It makes a fascinating comparison with Richmond, and I would love to visit again to explore further.





RECOMMENDED BUT NOT REQUIRED

It will enhance your APUSH experience if you take advantage of the summer to read or watch books, films, or documentaries about US History. Below are just a few recommendations.

Some Suggested Books

Nonfiction

1491: New Revelations of the Americas Before Columbus by Charles C. Mann
The Rediscovery of America: Native Peoples and the Unmaking of US History, Ned Blackhawk
Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America, Ibram X. Kendi
Albion's Seed by David Hackett Fischer
John Adams by David McCullough
Alexander Hamilton by Ron Chernow
Founding Brothers: The Revolutionary Generation by Joseph Ellis
Lafayette in the Somewhat United States by Sarah Vowell
What Hath God Wrought by Daniel Walker Howe
Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln by Doris Kearns Goodwin
Confederates in the Attic by Tony Horwitz
Frederick Douglass: Prophet of Freedom by David W. Blight
Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee: An Indian History of the American West by Dee Brown
The Great Bridge by David McCullough
The Bully Pulpit by Doris Kearns Goodwin
The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration by Isabel Wilkerson
With Courage and Cloth: Winning the Fight for a Woman's Right to Vote by Ann Bausum
The Fifties by David Halberstam
Embers of War: The Fall of an Empire and the Making of America's Vietnam by Fredrik Logevall
Parting the Waters by Taylor Branch

Historical Fiction

Devil in the White City and other books by Erik Larson
Killer Angels by Michael Shaara
The Confessions of Nat Turner by William Styron
March by Geraldine Brooks
The Underground Railroad by Colson Whitehead
The Last Days of Night by Graham Moore

Many others- find one that looks interesting to you!

US History on Screen: Some Suggestions

Please get approval from your parents before watching anything that is Rated R!

<i>12 Angry Men</i>	<i>Gone With the Wind (1939)</i>
<i>12 Years a Slave</i>	<i>Good Morning, Vietnam (1987)</i>
<i>13th</i>	<i>Good Night, and Good Luck</i>
<i>1492: the Conquest of Paradise (1992)</i>	<i>Grapes of Wrath (1940)</i>
<i>1941 (1979)</i>	<i>Guess Who's Coming to Dinner</i>
<i>4 Little Girls</i>	<i>Harriet</i>
<i>42</i>	<i>High Noon</i>
<i>Alamo (1960)</i>	<i>Hidden Figures</i>
<i>All the President's Men (1976)</i>	<i>In the Heat of the Night</i>
<i>Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman</i>	<i>Inherit the Wind (1960)</i>
<i>Amistad (1997)</i>	<i>Inherit the Wind (1988)</i>
<i>An American Tail</i>	<i>Intolerance (1916)</i>
<i>Apollo 10½: A Space Age Childhood (2022)</i>	<i>Iron Jawed Angels</i>
<i>Apollo 13 (1995)</i>	<i>Judas and the Black Messiah</i>
<i>Argo</i>	<i>Killers of the Flower Moon (2023)</i>
<i>Band of Brothers</i>	<i>Last of the Mohicans (1992)</i>
<i>Battle of Midway (1942)</i>	<i>League of Their Own, A (1992)</i>
<i>Birth of a Nation (1915)</i>	<i>Longest Day, The (1962)</i>
<i>Black Hawk Down</i>	<i>Loving</i>
<i>Born on the Fourth of July</i>	<i>Malcolm X</i>
<i>The Boys in the Boat (2023)</i>	<i>Man in the Gray Flannel Suit</i>
<i>Cinderella Man</i>	<i>Manchurian Candidate (1962, DVD 1998)</i>
<i>Citizen Kane</i>	<i>Mank</i>
<i>Cold Mountain (2003)</i>	<i>Masters of Air (2023)</i>
<i>Crucible (1996)</i>	<i>Matewan (1987)</i>
<i>Dances With Wolves</i>	<i>Memphis Belle</i>
<i>Day After Trinity (1980)</i>	<i>Midway</i>
<i>Day the Earth Stood Still (1951)</i>	<i>Mississippi Burning (1988)</i>
<i>Do the Right Thing</i>	<i>Modern Times</i>
<i>Dr. Strangelove (1963)</i>	<i>Mr. Smith Goes to Washington (1939)</i>
<i>Driving Miss Daisy (1989)</i>	<i>Network (1976)</i>
<i>Eight Men Out (1988)</i>	<i>Nixon (1995)</i>
<i>Elvis (2022)</i>	<i>North and South - Book II (1986)</i>
<i>Fail Safe</i>	<i>North and South - Book III (1994)</i>
<i>Fat Man and Little Boy (1989)</i>	<i>North and South (1985)</i>
<i>Forrest Gump</i>	<i>October Sky (1999)</i>
<i>Free State of Jones</i>	<i>One Night in Miami</i>
<i>Gangs of New York (2002)</i>	<i>On the Waterfront (1954)</i>
<i>George Wallace (1997)</i>	<i>Oppenheimer (2023)</i>
<i>Gettysburg (1993)</i>	<i>Patriot, The (2000)</i>
<i>Ghosts of Mississippi (1997)</i>	<i>Patton (1970, DVD 1999)</i>
<i>Glory (1989)</i>	<i>Pearl Harbor</i>
<i>Gods and Generals (2002)</i>	<i>Platoon (1986)</i>

Pleasantville
Primary Colors (1998)
PT 109 (1963)
Quiz Show (1994, DVD 1999)
Ragtime (1981)
Raisin in the Sun (1961)
Reds (1981)
Roots (1977)
Rustin (2023)
Saving Private Ryan (1998)
Scarlet Letter, The
Selma
Shirley (2024)
Tetris
The 24th
The Aviator
The Normal Heart
The Post

The Right Stuff
The Scarlet Letter
The Social Network
The Trial of the Chicago 7
The United States vs. Billie Holliday
Thirteen Days
Till (2022)
Tora! Tora! Tora! (1970, DVD 1999)
Trumbo
Truman (1995 on HBO)
Unforgivable Blackness: The Rise and Fall of Jack Johnson
Untouchables, The (1987)
Wag the Dog (1997)
Wargames
We Were Soldiers

Other Documentaries

Anything by Ken Burns
Africans in America
America: The Story of US
American Experience series
An Inconvenient Truth
Eyes on the Prize
Fog of War
God in America
I Am Not Your Negro
Soundtrack for a Revolution
The Gilded Age