

AP US HISTORY 2017-18

Ms. Tara Reffner
Summer Assignment

Greetings and welcome to AP US History!! (aka **APUSH!**)

This is a historical survey course designed to increase the student's understanding of the social, political, and economic history of the United States, from the exploration of North America to the present day. These events will be studied from a variety of perspectives to provide a balanced view of history.

This course is taught at a college level. The AP curriculum stresses higher order thinking skills within a rigorous academic context. Therefore, the student will be required to frequently analyze, synthesize, and evaluate primary and secondary historical sources as well as memorize, comprehend, and apply facts. The proficiency of these skills will be essential to earning possible college credit on the AP US History Exam to be administered Friday, May 11, 2018.

When the fall semester begins, we will "*hit the ground running,*" meaning we will be starting on content right away, after introductions and setting up notebooks. The summer assignment is designed to get us back into the habit of examining, analyzing and evaluating events and issues of the past as historians. It is crucial that both parts of your summer assignment are complete and ready to turn in when we return to North County on our first day of school.

Preparation for class is essential. You will need a three ring binder for this class, we will be taking notes...lots of notes! Since we will spend a great deal of time interpreting a wide array of primary sources, having multiple colors of highlighters and colored pencils/pens will be prove extremely beneficial. (Avoid sharpies...they bleed and can make a mess.)

This year, we have been blessed with a long summer break. (*Thank you Mother Nature and Governor Hogan!*) I want to make sure you have an enjoyable summer. If you have any questions, either about the course or the summer assignment, please don't hesitate to contact me. I will be checking my email regularly, and will work to get back to you in a timely manner.

Thank you,

Tara L Reffner treffner@aacps.org

AP US HISTORY 2017-18

Ms. Tara Reffner
Summer Assignment

Part 1: Content

Text: Henretta, James, et al. *America's History*. Boston: Bedford St. Martin's, 8th/AP Edition, 2014.

- Part 1 Transformations of North America 1450-1700
- Chapter 1 Colliding Worlds, 1450-1600 pp 6-37 (These pages are attached to this packet)

Directions: Read Chapter 1, *Colliding Worlds*, 1450-1600 and complete the chapter review on your own paper. (This review is attached to this packet.) This portion of the assignment is due September 6, 2017, our first day of class. Be prepared to discuss these terms and concepts in class.

Part 2: Film Assignment

This APUSH film review assignment is designed to supplement student knowledge of a particular historical period, person(s), event, or institution through the analysis of a related film. This is an opportunity to experience a rich encounter with history, as well as connect the rise of cinema as a prominent facet of American cultural history.

Historical films have the capacity to open up history to a wide audience. They can provide us, the viewers a unique insight to events that we may never have the opportunity to experience. Even though it is true that no movie can be *entirely* accurate, when a film is of high quality, writers, directors, and actors can immerse audiences into the past, captivating our attention and connecting our understanding to history beyond the classroom.

For this assignment, students are responsible for critically viewing each film, evaluating its historical accuracy, and writing an overall evaluation/critique implementing the guidelines provided. Students will be expected to complete 2 total film reviews; students may choose only 1 film per section. Each film review will count for a summative grade, and will be due September 6, 2017

Please note some of the films are rated "R" and "TV MA." You must have parental consent prior to viewing. "R" and "TV MA" ratings are primarily for language and/or violence.

Films are listed on the following page.

AP US HISTORY 2017-18

Ms. Tara Reffner
Summer Assignment

Please note some of the films are rated "R" or "TV MA." You must have parental consent prior to viewing. "R" and "TV MA" ratings are primarily for language and/or violence.

Choose *one* film from *each* category:

The New Nation 1600-1900	The American Century 1900-2000
<p>The Crucible (1996) – Salem witch trials; Puritans (PG13)</p> <p>Last of the Mohicans (1992) – French & Indian War (R)</p> <p>John Adams (2008)—HBO series of John Adams- Revolutionary War and Federal Period (TV 14)</p> <p>Johnny Tremain (1957) Revolutionary War (NR Walt Disney, made before ratings system; suitable for all audiences)</p> <p>Turn (Season 1 AMC-Available on Netflix)- Revolutionary War (TV 14)</p> <p>The Patriot (2000) – Revolutionary War (R)</p> <p>1776 (1972)- Revolutionary War (G)</p> <p>Amistad (1997)—Trans Atlantic Slave Trade (R) <i>(includes nudity & racial violence)</i></p> <p>Roots (1977) – Path of Diversity in America (TV-14)</p> <p>Roots (2016) – Path of Diversity in America (History Channel TV 14)</p> <p>12 Years a Slave (2013) - Fugitive Slave Act/Antebellum Era (R)</p> <p>Gettysburg (1993) – decisive battle of the Civil War (PG)</p> <p>Glory (1989) – Civil War; African-American regiment 54th Massachusetts (R)</p> <p>Lincoln (2012) – President Lincoln & the Civil War (R)</p> <p>Gangs of New York (2002) – Civil War era cities and immigrants (R)</p> <p>Far & Away (1992) – Immigration & Western Frontier Land Grab (PG13)</p> <p>Tombstone (1993)— Law & Order on the Western Frontier (R)</p> <p>True Grit (2010) – Law & Order on the Western Frontier (PG13)</p> <p>Wyatt Earp (1994)—Law & Order on the Western Frontier (PG13)</p> <p>Little Big Man (1970) –Sand Creek Massacre (PG)</p>	<p>Ragtime (1981) The Gilded Age (PG)</p> <p>Sergeant York (1941) World War I (Made before ratings system; approved for all audiences)</p> <p>The Untouchables (1987)—Al Capone & the 1920s (R)</p> <p>Cinderella Man (2005)—1930s working class (PG13)</p> <p>Seabiscuit (2003)—Horse Racing & the Depression Era (PG13)</p> <p>To Kill a Mockingbird (1962)—Civil Rights & the Great Depression (PG)</p> <p>Tora, Tora, Tora (1970) – Pearl Harbor (PG)</p> <p>Band of Brothers (2001) – HBO series World War II, 101st Airborne (TV MA)</p> <p>Letters from Iwo Jima (2006)—WWII Pacific (R)</p> <p>Patton (1970)—WWII General (PG)</p> <p>Pearl Harbor (2001) –World War II (R)</p> <p>Saving Private Ryan (1998) – World War II (R)</p> <p>Red Tails (2012) – Tuskegee Airman (PG 13)</p> <p>42 (2013)—Jackie Robinson & Civil Rights (PG 13)</p> <p>Good Night, and Good Luck (2005)— McCarthyism & the Red Scare (PG)</p> <p>October Sky (1999) –Post Sputnik; Space Race (PG)</p> <p>The Majestic (2001) – McCarthyism; Hollywood blacklisting (PG)</p> <p>Dr. Strangelove (1964) – Cold War arms race (PG)</p> <p>Thirteen Days (2000) – Cuban Missile Crisis (PG13)</p> <p>Good Morning, Vietnam (1987) – Vietnam War (R)</p> <p>We were Soldiers (2002)- Vietnam War (R)</p> <p>The Help (2012) – Civil Rights Movement (PG 13)</p> <p>Hidden Figures (2016)- Civil Rights, Space Race (PG)</p> <p>Apollo 13 (1995)—1970s Space Race (PG)</p> <p>All the President's Men (1976) Watergate (PG)</p> <p>Argo (2012) – Iranian Hostage Crisis (R)</p> <p>Miracle (2004)—1980 Olympic Games (PG)</p>

AP US HISTORY 2017-18

Ms. Tara Reffner
Summer Assignment

Film Review Format

Student Name
Date Submitted
Class Period

Title of Film (Year Produced)
Genre
Director
Main Actors
Awards (nominations or wins)

The Truth:

Research the true history of the historical event, person(s), time period, or institution portrayed in the film. You may want to begin with a film review site for an overview of the film, but this site will NOT provide students with the historical background, or content needed, to complete the review assignment. For research, students should use print or online resources such as *Hippocampus*— excellent short videos!—at <http://www.hippocampus.org>.

The Film:

Plot: Write a synopsis, or summary, of the film. Make sure that your summary makes sense to a reader who does not know the movie. Do not refer to specific scenes and do not try to explain everything.

You must also include the next items, but not as different parts (they may be included in your description of the story)

- Place and time: Where does the action take place? When does the action take place? (present time, 19th century)
- Is the story chronological (according to the order of time) or flash back
- Background: society, country, kind of people (age, culture social class), historical time, etc.

Comparison & Evaluation:

To what extent is the film historically accurate? Identify specific accuracies and director's liberties with the film. How has the film furthered student knowledge of the history portrayed?

Provide an evaluation of the film. Give your opinion, but it must be more than "*I liked it.*" This is important as the reviewer can express the elements of the movie they enjoyed or disliked. However, as in all good journalism, the reviewer should also give *impartial* details, and allow the reader to make their own mind over an issue the reader liked or disliked. ***Opinions should be explained to allow the reader to determine whether they would agree with your opinion.***

AP US HISTORY 2017-18

Ms. Tara Reffner
Summer Assignment

Important:

The reader understands you are writing this review; therefore, do NOT use 1st or 2nd person personal pronouns (I, me, us, we, you). Also, this is a formal writing assignment—be sure to check your work for GUMS (grammar, usage, mechanics, and spelling) errors.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is never ok. Do NOT copy another writer's work. All reviews are to be TYPED, single spaced, and are subject to submission to online plagiarism checkers. Students will receive a grade of 0% on work that is plagiarized, parent phone call, referral to administration.

All resources must be cited, MLA format.

Sample Review

Jennifer Wilson
May 25, 2012
1st Period

Pocahontas (1995)
Animation, Adventure, Drama
Mike Gabriel
Mel Gibson, Christian Bale, Billy Connelly

The Truth:

Pocahontas was daughter of Powhatan, the chief of the Algonquian Indians in Virginia, near Jamestown, the first permanent English settlement. In 1607, the English leader of the Jamestown settlement Captain John Smith was taken captive of the Algonquian Indians. During a ritual ceremony in which the chief feigns to bludgeon the captive, John Smith was "saved" by the chief's daughter, Pocahontas, when she covered his body with her own in a dramatic display of saving him. Following the mock execution and saving of Smith, Powhatan took Smith as an honorary member of his family; Pocahontas and Smith became friends. Over the next year, relations with the Algonquian and English remained friendly and mutually beneficial via trade; however, by 1609, hostilities grew between the American Indians and English. Injured in a gunpowder explosion, Captain John Smith was forced to return to England, subsequently eroding existing relations.

In 1613, Pocahontas was initially taken as captive of an English settlement in the Jamestown community; enjoying relative freedom within the community, Pocahontas began studying Christianity and formed a friendship—and later romance—with the tobacco pioneer John Rolfe. With Powhatan's consent, and following her baptism and adopting of the English Christian name Rebecca, Rolfe and Pocahontas married. A general peace and a spirit of goodwill between the English and the Indians resulted from this marriage.

In 1616, Rolfe, Pocahontas, and their son Thomas returned to London to much fan-fare as Pocahontas' arrival generated a fire-storm of interest. She was presented to King James I and even reunited with her

AP US HISTORY 2017-18

Ms. Tara Reffner

Summer Assignment

friend John Smith, whom of which she believed to be dead. In 1617 the Rolfe family returned to Jamestown; however, Pocahontas did not survive the journey, dying of pneumonia or tuberculosis.

Historians widely credit Pocahontas for not only serving as a representative of the Virginia Indians, but also as a vital link between the American Indians and the Englishmen. Without her courage and friendship, many believe Jamestown would have suffered much more greatly, perhaps even the same fate as the doomed Roanoke colony.

The Film:

Set in 1607 colonial America, Disney's Pocahontas captures the early relationship of the Algonquian Indians with the Englishmen, and their arrival at Jamestown. The first half of the film depicts the English as gold-hungry settlers woefully prepared for conditions of the Virginia terrain, poor relations between the American Indians and English, and the saving of Captain John Smith by Pocahontas. As a burgeoning friendship and love affair develops between Smith and Pocahontas, the chief's daughter, rivalries between the groups over land threaten the survival of Jamestown, the first permanent English colony in America. Smith and Pocahontas work together to bring peace to their communities, each acting as a liaison.

Comparison:

Overall, the relationship between Smith and Pocahontas in the Disney film is fairly accurate as she does save Smith from execution, although truly this was more of an act of ceremony than an actual threat to his life. And though they do develop a strong friendship that helped bring peace and prosperity to the Jamestown colony, Smith and Pocahontas never fall in love or marry, as depicted in the sequel. Whereas Pocahontas was only 12 years old when the English arrived and therefore the physical portrayal of Pocahontas is quite exaggerated in the film, the depiction of Jamestown, the gold fever, and rivalries are fairly on target thereby providing audiences an accurate visual of colonial life at the turn of the 17th century.

Considering Pocahontas is an animated Disney film, the storyline is well done: the animation and music are appealing and "kid" friendly, the love story is believable and strong, and the history is worthwhile for audiences to learn from.

IMDb . IMDb.com. Web. 11 May 2012. <<http://www.imdb.com/>>.

"Pocahontas." Jamestown Rediscovery . Preservation Virginia. Web. 11 May 2012.

AP US HISTORY 2017-18

Ms. Tara Reffner
Summer Assignment

Assignment #1: Content

Chapter 1: Colliding Worlds 1450-1600 pp. 6-37

TERMS TO KNOW: On your own paper, identify and explain the significance of each term below.

Key Concepts and Events	Key People
tribute	Hiawatha
matriarchy	Martin Luther
animism	Mansa Musa
patriarchy	Vasco da Gama
primogeniture	Christopher Columbus
peasants	Hernan Cortes
republic	Moctezuma
civic humanism	Pedro Alvares Cabral
Renaissance	
guilds	
Christianity	
heresy	
Islam	
Crusades	
predestination	
Protestant Reformation	
Counter-Reformation	
trans-Saharan trade	
<i>reconquista</i>	

REVIEW QUESTIONS: Answer these questions on your own paper to demonstrate your understanding of the chapter's main ideas.

1. How did the rulers of Native American, European, and African empires and kingdoms secure and sustain their power? How did ordinary people benefit or suffer under, their rule?
2. What role did religious and spiritual ideas play in shaping the experience of ordinary people on the three continents?
3. Why was long-distance trade in exotic goods such an important phenomenon in North America, Europe and Africa?
4. Compare the societies of the eastern woodlands of North America with the kingdoms of Western Europe. What similarities do you see? Differences? How do you weigh their relative importance?
5. How did contacts among Europeans, Native Americans, and Africans alter the economies of the three continents?