Summer Reading for: AP World History / CP/AP U.S. Government and Politics / CP United States History / AP United States History

**AP World History**

**Test during the first week of classes—Monday, 12 August 8 - Wednesday, 14 August**


Cartoonist Art Spiegelman tells two stories simultaneously, one familiar to any student of history or citizen of the world, the Holocaust; the other, the sometimes horror of child-parent entropy. The author explores the unspeakable tenure of those cast into concentration camps through conversations between his autobiographical self and his father, captured in word and image. This graphic novel explores not only the atrocities of Hitler's Jewish genocide, but the legacy of the survivor. What is to become of those who are left is a theme explored as the father-son relationship unfolds and more of their pasts are illuminated. Most notable in the artwork are the anthropomorphized characters, where the Jews are represented by mice, the Nazis as cats. This use of artistic license gives the reader a distance from the familiar subject only to draw them in deeper with the distinguishing characteristics of the animal types.

For this assignment, the students will take a multi-format examination the first week of class. This will include multiple-choice, short answer and essay-style questions that will seek to assess the student's completion, comprehension and critical thinking of the assigned reading.
CP/AP U.S. Government and Politics

Due on the first day of class—Monday, 12 August


U.S. Congressman and presidential candidate, Ron Paul discusses the Constitutional foundations of American government and comments on a variety of contemporary political issues. Paul’s approach to politics is straightforward and thoroughly engaging. Paul’s arguments will elicit a wide range of reactions—sometimes forcing one to rethink his or her views and often prompting the defense of one’s view—on issues like abortion, illegal immigration, government regulation of the economy, and U.S. foreign policy.

For this assignment, read The Revolution: A Manifesto and choose three (3) quotations from each chapter that stand out to you. For each quotation, write 2-3 sentences explaining the historical/political context and the significance of the quote. See below for an example of the assignment:

P. 6 “This revolution, though, is not altogether new. It is a peaceful continuation of the American Revolution and the principles of our Founding Fathers: liberty, self-government, the Constitution, and a non-interventionist foreign policy.”

Here, Ron Paul offers the thesis of his book. Paul lays out his core beliefs and in doing so, suggests that they are rooted in the American political tradition of the Founding Fathers. Clearly, Paul believes that the United States has moved too far away from these founding principles and it will require a peaceful revolution to recapture those ideas.

*Band of Brothers* documents the epic account of bravery, camaraderie, triumph, and grief as told through the stories of the parachute-infantrymen of “Easy” Company who experienced the Second World War. The various ways in which soldiers cope with the realities of war will be a crucial topic of discussion (and the topic of an essay) during the first several weeks of the first quarter in US History. For this assignment, read *Band of Brothers* and choose two (2) quotations from each chapter that stand out to you. For each quotation, write 2-3 sentences explaining the historical context and the significance of the quote. See below for an example of the assignment:

P. 20 “When the men were issued their rifles, they were told to treat the weapon as they would treat a wife, gently.”

Ambrose is discussing the fact that, in battle, the soldiers would need to rely on their weapons to protect their lives and the lives of their fellow soldiers. Because of this, it was of the utmost importance for the men of “Easy” company to keep their rifles clean and well maintained.

The United States was more a fragile hope than a reality in 1790. During the decade that followed, the Founding Fathers—re-examined here as Founding Brothers—combined the ideals of the Declaration of Independence with the content of the Constitution to create the practical workings of our government. Through an analysis of six fascinating episodes—Hamilton and Burr's deadly duel, Washington's precedent-setting Farewell Address, Adams' administration and political partnership with his wife, the debate about where to place the capital, Franklin's attempt to force Congress to confront the issue of slavery and Madison's attempts to block him, and Jefferson and Adams' famous correspondence—*Founding Brothers* brings to life the vital issues and personalities from the most important decade in our nation's history.

For this assignment, read the Founding Brothers preface ("The Generation"), which will provide the context of the era. Reading each subsequent section, respond to the prompts below in a separate essay. Each essay should be one to two pages typed (double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12 pt font) for a total of six to twelve pages.

**Ch. 1: “The Duel”** Discuss the significance of the duel in relation to our young nation. Why should this be the first chapter?

**Ch 2: “The Dinner”** Describe the "sharp differences" dividing the leadership of the revolutionary generation.

**Ch 3: “The Silence”** What did the census of 1790 show regarding slavery? Contrast the arguments of the North and the South on the issue of slavery.
Ch. 4: “The Farewell” Explain what Washington had in mind when he composed the Farewell Address.

Ch. 5: “The Collaborators” Ellis indicates that "the truly effective centers of power were located in two political partnerships based on personal trust." Explain and discuss this statement.

Ch. 6: “The Friendship” Adams and Jefferson had conflicting visions of the American Revolution. Explain the essentials of this difference.