**Welcome to AP US History!!**

As you prepare for the next academic year, your AP US History teacher would like to provide you with an activity to help enhance your understanding of events in US History, as well as, support your reading, writing, and thinking skills.

During the summer please read any one of the listed books and complete a book critique activity. (Complete a critique for each book). Both critiques must be complete and submitted electronically (shared on google docs) by the first day of school.

Please share with one of the following teachers:

[kelly.dunbar@bcsemail.org](mailto:kelly.dunbar@bcsemail.org)

mary.biggers@bcsemail.org

You can also access the assignment through the AP Weebly [www.owenhsdunbar.weebly.com](http://www.owenhsdunbar.weebly.com)

**Book Critique Rubric**

Mandatory: Read 1 Book

Read **two** books = 1 Extra Credit Quiz Grade

The book critique should be written in standard essay for (about 3 pages in length, 12 point font, Times New Roman, Double Spaced) It must have a cover page and use proper grammar. Contents must include:

1. **The Story**
   1. What is the story, in brief? Do not spend much time on this topic  **15 pts**
2. **The Background of Book**
   1. What is the historical and geographical setting? **15 pts**
   2. What historical time period does the book deal with?
3. **Background of Author** **20 pts**
   1. Who is the person writing the book?
   2. Why did the author choose to write this book?
   3. Is there a definite viewpoint or bias expressed?
   4. If the book is a fictional account, does it cover an historical event, a true story, an eyewitness or autobiographical account, a work of fiction based on general information?
   5. If the book is nonfiction, how does the author present the event or time period?
4. **Application 20 pts**
   1. What do you think can be learned in terms of U.S. History and the culture of this nation?
   2. Was it written in the same time period with which it deals with? How did this impact the writing.
5. **Evaluation 20 pts**
   1. What parts of the book or quotation from the book will be indelibly etched on your mind?
   2. What human connections did the book help to make for you with other places and people and other times?
   3. What makes this story part of history in the U.S.? What makes it a classic?
6. **Form 10 pts**

**Exploration**

*Guns, Germs, and Steel* By Jarred Diamond

*1491: New Revelations of the America’s before Columbus* By Charles c. Mann

**Colonization**

*The Scarlet Letter* By Nathaniel Hawthorne

**Revolutionary America**

*Common Sense* By Thomas Paine

*1776* By David McCullough

**New Nation**

*The Federalist Papers*, By Alexander Hamilton and James Madison

**Westward Expansion**

*The Significance of the Frontier in American History* By Frederick Jackson Turner

*Black Elk Speaks,* By John G. Neihardt

**Reform and Enlightenment**

*Civil Disobedience* By Henry David Thoreau

*Walden* By Henry David Thoreau

**Antebellum South**

*The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* By Mark Twain

*Gone with the Wind* By Margaret Mitchell

**Civil War**

*The Red Badge of Courage:* By Stephen Crane

*Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era* By James McPherson

**Populists**

*The Wizard of Oz* By Frank Baum

**Industrialization**

*The Jungle* By Upton Sinclair

*Matewan before the Massacre* By Rebecca J Bailey

*Storming Heaven*  By Denise Giardina

**Urbanization**

*Twenty Years at Hull House* By Jane Addams

**Progressive Movement**

*Women and the New Race* By Margaret Sanger

*The Souls of Black Folk* By W.E.B. Dubois

**Imperialism**

*The Influence of Sea Power Upon History*  By Alfred T. Mahan

**World War I**

*For Whom the Bell Tolls* By Ernest Hemingway

*A Farewell to Arms* By Ernest Hemingway

**1920s**

*The Great Gatsby* By F Scott Fitzgerald

**The Great Depression**

*The Fireside Chats of Franklin Roosevelt* By Franklin Roosevelt

*Franklin D. Roosevelt and the New Deal*  By William E. Leuchtenburg

*The Grapes of Wrath* By John Steinbeck

**WWII**

*Nazi Policy: Jewish Workers, German Killers* By Christopher R. Browning

*Hiroshima* By John Hersey

*Code Talkers: The First and Only Memoir* By Chester Nez

**1950s America**

*Fast Food Nation* By Eric Schlosser

**The Cold War**

*The Cold War A Military History* By Robert Cowley

*The Triumph of Improvisation* By Stephen E Ambrose

**Vietnam**

*America’s Longest War: The United States in Vietnam* By George Herring

**The Civil Rights Movement**

*A Raisin in the Sun* By Lorraine Hansberry

*The Autobiography of Malcolm X* by Alex Haley

*Parting Waters* By Taylor Branch

*Black Against Empire: The History of Politics in the Black Panther Party* By Waldo E. Martin Jr.

*A Taste of Power: A Black Woman’s Story:*  By Elaine Brown

**Contemporary America**

*All the President's Men* By Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward

*The New Jim Crow* By Michelle Alexander

**Environmentalism**

*Silent Spring*  By Rachel Carson