

## AP US History Summer Assignment

Welcome to AP US History! Congratulations on accepting the challenge of taking a college level course. The following assignment is due the first day of class. The purpose of the assignment is to begin exploring our course long essential questions:

- *How do we create history?*
- *How do we make sense of history to better understand the present and future?*
- *How do we write about history?*

**Directions:** You are to type a 3-4 page chapter of a US History textbook entitled “9/11” (referring to September 11, 2001). You may only rely on your knowledge, your memory of the event, and the information found at <http://911digitalarchive.org/> to write this chapter. No other sources may be used.

Before you write consider the following:

- Who are you writing this textbook for? (Future generations...college students...5 year olds?)
- What does a person reading this textbook need to know about 9/11?
- Explore <http://911digitalarchive.org/> extensively. Be sure to BROWSE stories, videos, documents, etc. What does this raw information reveal about 9/11? What generalizations can you develop and support by looking at this information?

As you write:

- Type 3-4 pages in 12 point font, double spaced with 1 inch page margins.
- For the purposes of this assignment there is no need to cite sources, as you are expected to only be using <http://911digitalarchive.org/>.

*Please note: This assignment is intentionally vague; its purpose is to have you begin thinking about constructing the past as historians do. Historians must research in archives and draw generalizations from archived material. This information then must be corroborated with what the historian already believes to be true about past events and finally written about in a logical way.*

*Please e-mail me at [Joseph\\_F\\_Jelen@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Joseph_F_Jelen@mcpsmd.org) over the summer if I can help clarify anything for you.*