

AP US History Grade 9 Summer Work 2011

For the Class of 2015!

June 10, 2011

Dear _____,

Welcome to AEHS **pre-IB/AP US History for freshmen!** In **pre-IB Advanced Placement United States History** you will study America's story from colonial times to the present, and you will do so in depth. One major distinction between this course and a regular 9th grade US History course (either honors or regular) is the amount of time covered. Regular classes begin their study of US History with the Reconstruction Era that took place after the Civil War (1865). We will begin with settlement and the Puritans-that's the 1600s. That means we will study about 200 more years of history. But the most significant distinction between our course and the others is that we will do more depth. In addition to this comprehensive amount of material, we will work on critical reading, writing, and research skills. **Time management will become your best friend; lack of success in that area will create undue stress in your life.** This may prove to be one of the most challenging courses you have ever taken. But with hard work comes satisfying results. If you commit to do your best, you should not be dissatisfied with the outcome. Be prepared to grow academically this year in AP US History.

Taking the AP US History class as a freshman was a stressful experience for me, mainly due to the fact that I couldn't manage my time well enough to read the assigned chapters. Yet even though I was behind and Mrs. Carballo seemed to be racing through the decades, I learned so much about managing my time (through horribly mismanaging it in the beginning) and gained so much needed experience in taking AP tests that it was worth the struggle.

Hannah O'Toole '08

When I first read the letter from Mrs. Carballo over the summer, my first thought was to back down, telling myself I couldn't do this and it was WAY too hard for me. However, throughout the year, this class really helped me develop my reading, writing, and analysis skills and I was able to greet success, with the never-ending help of Mrs. Carballo, of course. It really is possible to get an A, believe it or not.

-Mary Coyne '08

You will be issued 4 books for this course. Two are textbooks (secondary sources) and two are primary source readers. These books will be kept at home. In this class, you will have lots of reading to do at home each week. You will do most of the reading over the weekend, as you will need to arrive in class each Monday with all of the secondary reading in your head. That means that you will have to read a chapter in *The Americans* (the easier book) and a corresponding chapter in *Out of Many* (the harder book) each weekend. During the week you will have primary sources to read. With this in mind, consider how using these companion websites could be useful in helping you get through the reading.

I'm not gonna' lie. This class was freaking hard. The reading took up a lot of weekends, working on writing wasn't easy, and the projects took a lot of effort. However, it truly is rewarding to take this class even if you don't get as good a grade as you normally get. I was a generally A student, and I really had to struggle to get a B in this class. But I learned a lot more in this class than any other class I have taken, and so there is no doubt in my mind that it was worth all of the effort and hard work.

-Alex Bodaken, class of '08

The Three-Part Summer Assignment

Part 1: An email of introduction

Part 2: Study the textbooks' websites, come up with an action plan for success

Part 3: Participate in the Book Recommendation Discussion Board on www.turnitin.com.

Part 1: Introduce Yourself to Mrs. Carballo

For the **first part of** your summer assignment, I want you to send me an email for the purposes of introduction and clarification. It is important for you to start thinking of yourself as a vital member of the AEHS Class of 2015, so in the subject line of your email write your first name and "Class of 2015". In your message please tell me some things about yourself including but not necessarily limited to the questions that follow. **If possible, attach a digital picture of yourself.** Here is a picture of me



Albert Einstein High School



Why are you taking this class?
What questions do you have about the summer assignments?
What did you like about middle school?
What are you looking forward to in high school?
What worries do you have about entering high school?

What kind of learner are you?
What books are you reading this summer?
What have you heard about this class?
Who do you know that has taken this class?
What are you doing this summer?

[Patricia L Carballo@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Patricia_L_Carballo@mcpsmd.org)

You should send this first part during the beginning of the summer. If you don't hear back from me in a few days it means I am on vacation. Be patient. I will email you when I return. When I respond to your email I will send you the information you need to submit Parts 2 and 3 of the summer assignment. The submission of these parts will be done electronically to the website www.turnitin.com. You will need the class registration # and password in order to enroll in my online class. I will send this info to you in my email response. So, the sooner you do this first part of the summer assignment, the more time you will have to complete the last 2 parts.

Essential Emailing Instructions: Make sure you put your name on any email message you send! I don't know your email names! The subject line of the email MUST include "AP US 9". If you leave the subject line blank, or neglect to put "AP US 9" there, I will delete your email without opening it and you will not receive credit for your work.

Part 2: Website Scrutiny and Action Plan

For the **second part** of your summer assignment (*due to www.turnitin.com by August 29*) I want you to become familiar with the companion websites to your textbooks. You will browse through the sites, do some of the activities, and answer some reflective questions at the end of this document. These two summer assignments will count as "homework completion grades".

For *The Americans* go to

www.classzone.com

Click on Social Studies- High School and State

Click on the red *Americans* textbook:



Go to Chapter 2: "The American Colonies Emerge". Check out each of these:

- **Research Links:** Look at some of these links
- **Flip Cards:** Do some of the flip cards
- **Ch. 2 Quiz:** Take the quiz

Don't worry if your scores are terrible, you don't need to report your score to me. Remember, you haven't read the chapter yet! Remember, the purpose of this assignment is to familiarize yourself with this companion website.

For *Out of Many* (the AP level text) Go To: http://wps.prenhall.com/hss_faragher_outofmany_ap

Here you will see the cover of an AP text: *Out of Many*

The text that you will receive in August will be the 3rd revised edition, with a red cover. At the top of the page ("Jump To") select "Chapter 3 "Planting Colonies in North America".

Read the objectives. Continue clicking on each item on the left menu to familiarize yourself with the resources available. You will want to bookmark this site and make use of it throughout the year.



Take some of the practice quizzes. DON'T worry if your scores are terrible! Remember you haven't even read the chapter yet! The point of this exercise is to get acquainted with this website so that it will be useful to you this year. Now you are finished looking at the Prentice Hall website for *Out of Many*. Answer the following questions and submit them to www.turnitin.com. Use the class registration # and password, to enroll in my AP US History Course 2011/2012. Check the assignments for the questions that are listed here. You can type these on a Word Document, and upload them to www.turnitin.com Make sure you put lots of thought into responses. Your responses should be detailed in order to provide sufficient evidence that you have focused on the task and can communicate this clearly in writing.

Number your responses as they are listed here:

1. **What** is your impression about the usefulness of these two websites? **Explain.**
2. **Which** site did you like better: the first one (classzone.com for the Americans) or the second (Prentice Hall for *Out of Many*)? **Explain.**
3. **Design** a plan in which you describe how you expect to accomplish your weekly reading assignments. Remember, you will have to read 2 chapters each weekend, and some primary source selections early in the week. How will you use these websites to help you with your reading assignments? **Tell me your plan.**
4. **Assess** your reading and writing strengths and weaknesses. What will be the most challenging part of this course for you? What will come more easily? What skills do you want to work on this year?

Make sure you have answered all parts of the questions above.

Email this assignment NO LATER THAN **August 29** to: [Patricia L Carballo@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Patricia_L_Carballo@mcpsmd.org)

Part 3: Reading For Pleasure

Log in to www.turnitin.com. You should have already registered in my AP US History Class 2011/2012. Now you need to register in my **ALL STUDENTS** class for the purpose of participating in our Book Recommendation Discussion Board. Click on "Discussion". Read the directions. You must post one submission and reply to at least 2 others. Use the course # and password that I emailed to you. You will see entries from lots of other upperclassmen. You will have the opportunity to discuss your favorite books with these students. Your assignment is to post one book recommendation, and to respond to at least two other postings. You can certainly do more than this. I hope you will check in with this discussion board throughout the summer to find suggestions from your peers for some engaging summer reading.

For more student perspectives, read on....

This class is all about diligence. The more you study and keep up with the reading, the better you will do.

Jack Giblin, '13

This class had too much work, took too much of my time, and tested me brutally...and I enjoyed every minute of it.

Declan Enright '14

Mrs. Carballo's class is just like a bike. You're a little wobbly at first, but if you work hard you can get your own rhythm going. If you keep working hard, you can be successful.

Zemichael Yemane '14

In this class you have to find your own unique method to read the huge, scary *Out of Many*. Try talking about it with other students, actually doing those online quizzes afterwards and make sure you don't skip over scary words in the primary source readings. Guess what: when other students start their first AP class in 10th grade you will be totally calm, cool and collected about having so many pages to read! **Aimee Miller '12**

AP US History was probably the best and worst class that I took. It was the best in that I learned how to write good essays, how to take notes, and just about every other skill I'm going to need in high school. It was the worst in that to learn all of that it took a lot of time and work.

Alex Comas, '09



Albert Einstein High School



This class is like being in college without the parties.

Carol Anderson '13

I was anxious and scared when I read this letter the summer before high school and must admit this was the most challenging class of my freshman year. But stick with it because Mrs. Carballo's writing instruction really helps with other classes and you'll start to like history.

Love, Katie Dunn '10

This class is all about time management. Learn it.

Matthew Kaiser '14

The most important thing to remember about this course is that you **have** to keep up with the reading. If you keep up in class and with your homework, you'll be amazed at how much you can improve your writing, time management, and reading skills over one year. This class is worth it!!

Anna McGrady '09

This was by far the hardest and most time consuming class of my freshman year; yet my writing as also developed more than I could ever hope. Mrs. Carballo also introduced me to time management which I will use throughout my life.

Glenn Pastel '10

This class is challenging; but all the hard work and studying pays off in the end.

Cynthia Arrazabal '14

AP US History will challenge you to work hard and set priorities.

Katie Strosnider '13

Even though this class is extremely time consuming and difficult, it was the best thing I did my freshman year and I will always remember the things I learned. The fact that it is a college class intimidated me, but I feel very prepared and all other classes seem easy by comparison.

Anna Lukacs '08

READ! Do that and you'll be fine. Don't stress and good luck!

Leigh Harwood '11

At first the workload is overwhelming but you get used to it after the first quarter and understand how great this class is.

Robby Anthony '14

This class will at first be very threatening and you won't think you will be able to get good grades, but as the year goes on, it will become easier. Mrs. Carballo is a really good teacher who actually knows what she is talking about. Actually doing all the readings and writings will make the AP exam so much easier. AND ACTUALLY READ! I am the world's biggest procrastinator and I put off reading until Sunday nights at 10 and I wouldn't go to bed until 3 a.m. It sucked. So read most of the time and pay attention in class and you will be surprised at how much you love this class.

Caroline Jackman '10

Keep your stuff organized! It makes your life so much easier. As the works gets harder you will be so thankful that you're organized.

Nora Sands '13

This class is super difficult, but if you stay organized and manage your time wisely, and give it your all I promise it will pay off. I didn't think I could get through this class but I did! You'll feel so proud in the end. This class is worth all the hard work. You **CAN** do it!

Casey Lamkin '14

This course does demand a lot of effort. I advise you to get a group of classmates and review before the quizzes. Good luck! You will do just fine. Read, review and take the AP exam. If you pay attention you will do well. Trust me.

Marcus Townsend '13

This class was mind-blowing and definitely worthwhile. It sets you up for life with all the reading, writing and life skills Mrs. Carballo teaches you.

Alejandro Hernandez '14

This class is difficult...however that is why you decided to take it. So just remember to be prepared for what is ahead of you.

Cade McCormick '14

AP US History class is life-changing! You'll acquire skills you never knew existed. *(Plus, Mrs. Carballo is funny ☺)*

Erica Fuentes '13

This class is like a punch in the face. Lots of work, lots of reading and high expectations, but I am so glad I took it!

Margaret Plumart '14

