

AP US History, Ballard High School - 2019-20
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Welcome to AP US History! We will not distribute the textbooks until school starts, so our summer reading will use a text on-line that provides a different perspective than our class textbook.

Class Materials for APUSH

1. 3 ring binder (1 ½”) dedicated to this class with 8 dividers
2. College Rule Notebook Paper (200-300 Pages)
3. AP test prep book (Kaplan, Princeton Review or AMSCO books are all fine)
4. 2 boxes of Kleenex

Summer Assignment: Read Chapters 1 and 2 of Howard Zinn’s “A People’s History of the United States”.

Write a short but specific responses to the following prompts. Each prompt should be ½ page, typed, double spaced or 1 page handwritten (1 page typed or 2 pages handwritten total). All work is due the first day of school, and will be graded.

People’s History of the United States (Howard Zinn), Chapters 1-2

Found at: <http://www.historyisaweapon.com/zinnapeopleshistory.html>

Ch. 1: Compare Columbus’ log entries with Las Casas’s journal entries.

- 1) Identify differences and similarities (like how each describes the Arawaks).
 - a) Identify topics the other did not discuss.
 - b) What accounts for the differences? the similarities?

Ch. 2: Zinn argues that racism is not natural.

- 1) Does he mean that racism is caused by human decisions or historical forces? Explain your answer by first defining the difference between historical forces and human decision.
 - a) What is a “historical force”?
 - b) Do such forces compel humans to make decisions they would otherwise not have made?

Your responses should use specific ideas and evidence from Ch. 1 and Ch. 2 of Zinn to demonstrate that you have read and understood it.

We look forward to seeing you in class. Enjoy the summer!
- Mr. Lee and Mr. Feise