

SUMMER ASSIGNMENT AP US History I

Welcome to AP US History. To prevent your summer from becoming excessively tedious and to quench your inevitable thirst for historical edification, I have devised the following summer assignment:

1. Local Indian Tribe or Early White Settlement Research Project

Go to your local library, historical society, etc. and find out what you can about a group of Indians or early white settlers who lived in your area before 1800. You may choose a white or Indian settlement from outside of the immediate area in which you live, but it is best to stay as local as possible. Since specific presentations tend to be better than general ones, try to narrow the topic that you choose as much as possible. Starting off with an interesting and unique topic is the best way to ensure that your project turns out to be a good one. Find as many good sources of information as you can, and be sure to compile a bibliography.

Each group must produce one approximately 3-4 page **paper** briefly detailing their chosen settlement's history and must make a *lively and interesting presentation* to the class early in the school year. This presentation must include some sort of *visual aids*. You will have significant freedom to focus on whatever you find interesting, but questions about your white or Indian settlement that you should consider include:

- Where did they live and what was the significance of the location?
- How did they live? (how they made a living, their living conditions, the role of religion in their lives, traditions and customs, relations with other peoples)
- What happened to them? (fate of Indians, progress of settlement, etc.)

This assignment may be completed in groups of about four students. You may do the assignment by yourself if you wish, but finding a group will make it easier. Groups of five may be acceptable under some circumstances – see me about that.

Written portion **due** on the first Friday of the school year – presentations to follow (one test grade)

2. DBQ Essay (refer to the documents provided)

Analyze all of the documents pertaining to Wethersfield, Connecticut in the period from the 1750s to the 1780s and respond to the following question in a complete, well-written essay:

Based on your analysis of all of the other documents, does Document N **or** Document O provide a more accurate characterization of colonial Wethersfield? Explain your response using specific evidence from the documents.

Due on the first day of school (one test grade)

NOTE: You have all summer to complete these assignments, so, if you budget your time well, they should not be all that difficult or cause you excessive stress or anxiety. Please contact me if any questions arise. I am happy to help and will check my e-mail throughout the summer (jmeagher@holyname.net).