

APUSH Summer Assignment

Below is a list of movies depicting various events, eras, and people of U.S. History. The list is not complete by any measure, but it does offer a sampling of the chapters that tell the story of America. For your summer assignment you must watch the movies **marked with an asterisk**. Plus, watch as many of the others as time and interest allows. Remember, with each movie your understanding of our complex and diverse history will grow. Hopefully, you will appreciate the ideals on which the country was founded (even in those instances when we have fallen short) and the continual effort to “create a more perfect union.” So pop some popcorn and enjoy.

Movie Choices:

The Crucible

*Last of the Mohicans**

*1776**

John Adams--HBO Series

*Amistad**

12 Years a Slave

Glory

Lincoln

Far and Away

*Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee**

*Iron-Jawed Angels**

Inherit the Wind

*The Great Debaters**

Grapes of Wrath

*The Tuskegee Airmen**

Flags of Our Father

Windtalkers

42

Trumbo

Good Night and Good Luck

*Mississippi Burning**

Malcolm X

Selma

The Butler

The Help

Brooklyn

*Bridge of Spies**

Thirteen Days

Good Morning Vietnam

Forest Gump

*All the president's Men**

Frost/Nixon

Norma Rae

Milk

*Argo**

Charlie Wilson's War

Black Hawk Down

Step 1:

Find a legal method for obtaining the movie, such as Netflix, Redbox, On Demand, YouTube, Hulu, Amazon Prime, or even your local library.

Step 2:

Watch the movie. Take some notes to assist you in the next step. (I would suggest that you view the films chronologically according to the events being portrayed.)

Step 3:

Type a heading that includes the name of the movie and the date you watched it.

Also, include the **course theme** you believe is most prominently portrayed throughout the movie. (The **course themes** are listed on the following page.)

Under the heading *type* a paragraph using 150-200 words to explain your choice of theme offering an example from the film that corroborates your choice (include word count). Most movies embody several themes; simply pick the theme for which you can offer the best explanation. Additionally, offer an assessment/evaluation of the movie on a scale from 1-10 with an explanation for your decision and assess the efficacy of the film's portrayal of the historical narrative.

Step 4:

Find your next movie. Repeat.

On the First Day of school or by August 18, 2017, regardless of the semester that you will be taking APUSH, you will turn in your typed assignment.

APUSH THEMES

B-A-G-P-I-P-E

B elief System

➤ Ideologies, Religion, Art, Literature, Artistic Expression, Cultural Values, Science, Philosophy, Ideals, Morality, Moral Values, Popular Culture

A merica in the World

➤ Competition for Resources, Dominance, Foreign Policy, Diplomacy, Expansionism, Imperialism, Global Connections, Global Trade, Global Communications, Global Conflicts, World Wars, Military & Economic Involvement in the Developing World

G eography & Environment

➤ Climate, Geography, Environment (Natural & Man-Made), Interaction with Environment, Natural Resources, Exchanges: Plants, Disease, Animals, Technologies

P eopling

➤ Movement To/From/Within the U.S., Nativism, Immigrant Groups, Demography, Indigenous Populations, Immigrant Debates

I dentity

➤ Gender, Gender Roles, Class, Racial/Ethnic Identities, National Identity, Regional Identity, Nationalism/Patriotism, Group Identities, Assimilation

P olitics & Power

➤ Constitution, Role of State, Political Process, Political Party System, Government, Federalism, Federal/State, Local Governments, Liberty, Rights, Democracy, Citizenship, Authority, Power

E conomy

➤ Agriculture, Commerce, Trade, Manufacturing, Labor Systems, Jobs, Ways of Working, Labor & Social Class, Economic Developments, Land Distribution, Trade Patterns/Exchange, Innovation, Transportation, Technology, Globalization, Capitalism, Free Markets, Communism, Socialism, Industrialization, Regulation

Postscript: It is advisable for you to at least listen to the musical *Hamilton*. And it certainly will not hurt you to become obsessed with it, even memorize it. The musical offers a fresh and catchy snapshot of the Revolutionary Era. It's all about recognizing that history fun.

Note: You will have to purchase your review text book and the following supplemental reader. Please have these by the end of the first week of class.

Review Text: United States History, Preparing for the Advanced Placement Examination 2015 Edition, An AMSCO Publication, John Newman, John M. Schmalbach

ISBN: 978-0-7891-8904-2

Supplemental Reader: A People's History of the United States, Howard Zinn

ISBN: 978-0-06-083865

Advice from APUSH students:

- “You get what you put in! If you study and participate, you will find the material much more interesting.”
- “Enjoy the class! Do not wait until the last night before a test to study, even if you do that for other tests. Getting a prep book also really helped me succeed in the class!”
- “It's hard and you definitely have to put in a lot of effort, but it's definitely worthwhile and probably the most enjoyable class I had this year.”
- “There is a lot of writing on the tests – I didn't expect that. Don't study the night before the tests, review over a few days. It's easier to understand all the material that way.”
- “It can be very stressful, but it's very manageable.”
- “Apply yourself and remain focused. Do the readings and participate.”
- “Read the textbook. Don't wait until the night before to study for tests, review material over time. Memorizing info doesn't help that much, more important to understand causes/effects/reasoning.”
- “Very challenging, but definitely worth it. You will learn so much!!”
- “This class requires a lot of work that you need to be willing to put the time in for. This includes a lot of work on your own to make sure you have a firm grasp of the unit.”
- “It's challenging, but if you work hard and stay ahead you'll realize how interesting it actually is.”
- “Make sure to study for several days before the tests because there is very little homework. Make a list of important evidence throughout the year.”
- “Stay on top of your readings/work and participate in class because you will feel much more prepared when it comes time for the AP exam.”
- “Make sure you read your assigned textbook chapters because it is really helpful. Follow/pay attention to the [class] calendar. If you're looking for last minute studying, John Green Crash Course U.S. History videos are really helpful.”

- “Don’t expect to get an A on every test. Try to participate and get involved as much as possible.”
- “Read the “readings” assignments! Watch apushreview.com videos as you go, not just before a test.”
- “Enjoy the class & be engaged, because it goes by really fast! Really let yourself explore the history & always have fun! Ask lots of questions & make connections.”
- “Keep everything in perspective. Yes, the U.S., like all other nations, has its dull spots. However, what we have here is amazing. Recognize the country has made its fair share of mistakes, learn from them, and help