

**AP U.S. Government & Politics
Summer Assignment**

All students are required to read Howard Fineman's *The Thirteen American Arguments: Enduring Debates that Define and Inspire our Country*. Choose the ONE argument you believe is still the most important today and write an argumentative essay about why you believe it to be so. Use outside sources to support your claim (e.g. current news stories, current political platforms, current political topics/debates, etc.) Remember that the goal of an argumentative essay is to persuade the reader.

Be sure to parenthetically cite your sources (including the Fineman text) and create a works cited page using MLA format. You will be graded using the following rubric:

Introductory Paragraph - 20 Context - 10 Thesis - 10	
Body Paragraphs - 50 Claim Statements - 10 Evidence - 20 Argument - 20	
Counter-claim - 10	
Conclusion - 10	
Technical - 10 Grammar Punctuation/Capitalization MLA Format	

This assignment is due on the FIRST day of school in August to your GoPo teacher. Turn in a hardcopy, even if you do not have the class on your schedule until the spring. If you are unsure of who that might be, you may turn it in to Mrs. Crawford in room 2117. Late assignments will be penalized.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please email Mrs. Crawford at Jennifer_Crawford@dekalbschoolsga.org.

Looking forward to a wonderful year!