

**WESTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL**

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL STUDIES**

**AP U.S. HISTORY**

**Summer Assignments**

**MR. CHRISTMAN**

Welcome to Advanced Placement United States History! Throughout this coming year we will be examining, analyzing, and interpreting in depth the pivotal moments of our country’s history. Though comparatively brief when the duration of foreign nations is taken into account, the United States is nevertheless rich in its foundations, beliefs, and character. This course uncovers U.S. History from the 15th century through the 21st century. In order to prepare for the AP examination (May 2021), we will need to get a head start this summer on some basics. The following assignments are to be completed and handed in the first day of school. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me via email this summer. I look forward to working with you next year!

Email – [chriswi@richmond.k12.ga.us](mailto:chriswi@richmond.k12.ga.us)

**Assignment 1 - Significant People (required)**

Knowing people and events will help you gain the knowledge needed to analyze the bigger connections and themes in U.S. History. Using the website below, look through the list/descriptions and choose one person each from the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries and prepare a one-page handwritten summary of their life and WHY they are historically significant.

<http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2006/12/the-top-100-influentialfigures-in-american-history/305384/#slide100>

**Assignment 2 - Geography (required)**

Using the US map from the link below (or one you prefer), label and color the two maps according to the following directions. You will find multiple internet resources to assist you. Use colored pencils or crayons – not markers - when asked to color.

<http://www.coloringcastle.com/pdfs/us_states/united_states_blank.pdf>

Map #1 – Coloring Skills

A. Label all 50 states and their corresponding capitals.

B. Color each state a different color from those bordering it.

C. Mark, color, and label the Great Lakes and the Great Salt Lake.

D. Mark, color, and label the Mississippi, Missouri, Hudson, Rio Grande, Ohio, and Columbia Rivers.

Map #2 – More Coloring Skills!

A. Outline, label, and shade the original 13 colonies in purple.

B. Outline, label, and shade the Louisiana Purchase in green.

C. Outline, label, and shade the Independent Republic of Texas in yellow.

D. Outline, label, and shade the Oregon Country in brown.

E. Outline, label, and shade the territory acquired in the Mexican Cession of 1848 in red.

F. Outline, label, and shade the Gadsden Purchase in pink.

**Assignment 3 – Early North America (required) – Reading**

Read Chapter 1 (*The City on a Hill, 1492-1707*) and Chapter 2 (*Colonial Adolescence, 1707-63*) of *A Patriot’s History of the United States*, by Larry Schwiekart and Michael Allen. Schwiekart’s and Allens’s book has introduced new Conservative perspectives into the study of American History that have not been seen in histories of our nation for quite some time. This can be bought at most book stores or read online at <http://apushcanvas.pbworks.com/w/file/fetch/101399611/A%20Patriots%20History%20of%20the%20United%20States.pdf>

# Read Interview with Larry Schweikart: Patriotic History. This can be found at <https://historynewsnetwork.org/article/10001>

Read a critical comparison of A Patriot’s History of the United States, and the Leftist history *A Peoples’ History of the United States* by Howard Zinn. The review was written by Joe McVeigh. This review can be found at the following website: <https://andreadallover.com/2011/02/23/patriots-vs-peoples-part-i-patriots-introduction/> . Also, read the second article comparing Schwiekart/Allen with Zinn by Brittany Anderson. Her review can be found at <https://www.scribd.com/doc/115585535/Zinn-v-Allen-Paper-2>

Respond to the following after your reading:

A. Purpose – According to Zinn, what is his main purpose for writing *A People’s History of the United States*? What would you consider to be his thesis? According to Schwiekart & Allen, what are their main purpose for writing *A Patriot’s History of the United States*? What would you consider to be their thesis?

B. Perspective – How might a person’s race and social class affect a person’s view of history. How does Zinn address this issue in A People’s History of the United States? On page 8 of Why Students Should Study History, Zinn says, “Objectivity is neither possible nor desirable. It’s not possible because all history is subjective; all history represents a point of view.” Zinn also says teachers should give their opinions in class. Do you think this is appropriate in a high school course? Why or why not?

C. Critique – What do you think about Howard Zinn’s approach to history? What did you like or dislike? What do you think of Schwiekart’s & Allen’s approach to history? What do you like or dislike? Which one of these historians (Zinn or Schwiekart/Allen) would you rather have as your history teacher(s)? Why?