

## Reading List 2023-24

## AP US History (APUSH)

You will be required to read one of the following biographies and two of the topical works. You will be required to have read one of these choices by the beginning of the semester. **In other words, over the summer. You are to choose either a biography or a topical work from the lists labelled (1) for your summer book.** For each of these choices, you will answer an essay-type question in class, with a format similar to a Free Response question on the AP exam. They are arranged chronologically to coincide with the material covered in class. The first essay will be given the last class day before Labor Day weekend. You must send me an e-mail over the summer informing me which is your FIRST book choice. I've tried to create a list of books with some broad interest, which have been written by a variety of popular and serious historians and novelists. **PLEASE E-MAIL MR. SMEADER AT HIS SCHOOL E-MAIL ADDRESS BY JULY 1 WITH YOUR SELECTION. THAT WAY, YOU CAN AVOID READING THE "WRONG BOOK."**

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### Biographies

#### Summer Reading (1)

Alexander Hamilton by Ron Chernow

His Excellency, George Washington by Joseph Ellis

Benjamin Franklin: An American Life by Walter Isaacson

John Adams by David McCullough

Andrew Jackson: His Life and Times by H. W. Brands

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#### Before Christmas Vacation (2)

Lincoln by David Herbert Donald

Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave

Sherman: A Soldier's Passion for Order by John Marszalek

Robert E. Lee: A Life by Allen Guelzo

An Honest President: The Life and Presidencies of Grover Cleveland by H. Paul Jeffers

Titan by Ron Chernow

Meet You in Hell: Andrew Carnegie, Henry Clay Frick, and the Bitter Partnership That Transformed America by Les Standiford

## Before Memorial Day (3)

Theodore Rex by Edmund Morris

Coolidge by Amity Shlaes

Traitor to His Class by H.W. Brands (FDR Biography)

The Admirals by Walter Borneman

Truman by David McCullough

Master of the Senate by Robert Caro (LBJ biography of his time in the U.S. Senate-LONG book)

American Caesar by William Manchester

Eleanor Roosevelt: The Defining Years by Blanche Wiesen Cook

## **Topical Works**

### Summer Reading (1)

Carnage and Culture by Victor Davis Hanson

Mayflower by Nathaniel Philbrick

Revolutionary Characters: What made the Founders Different by Gordon Wood

The British are Coming: The War for America, Lexington to Princeton, 1775-1777 by Rick Atkinson

1776 by David McCullough

In the Hurricane's Eye: The Genius of George Washington and the Victory at Yorktown by Nathaniel Philbrick

The Drillmaster of Valley Forge by Paul Lockhart

Washington's Crossing by David Hackett Fischer

Undaunted Courage: Meriwether Lewis, Thomas Jefferson and the Opening of the American West by Stephen Ambrose

1812: The War that Forged a Nation by Walter R. Borneman

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### Before Christmas Vacation (2)

Sea Of Glory: America's Voyage of Discovery, The U.S. Exploring Expedition, 1838-1842 by Nathaniel Philbrick

Stillness at Appomattox by Bruce Catton

In the Kingdom of Ice; The Grand and Terrible Polar Voyage of the USS Jeannette by Hampton Sides

Devil in the White City by Erik Larson

The Greater Journey: Americans in Paris by David McCullough

Mr. Wilson's War by John Dos Passos

Dead Wake by Erik Larson

The Given Day by Dennis Lehane

## Before Memorial Day (3)

The Forgotten Man by Amity Shlaes

Freedom from Fear : The American People in Depression and War, 1929-1945 (Oxford History of the United States) by David M. Kennedy

Hard Times: An Oral History of the Great Depression by Studs Terkel

Hemingway, The Paris Years by Michael Reynolds

The Aviators: Eddie Rickenbacker, Jimmy Doolittle, Charles Lindbergh, and the Epic Age of Flight by Winston Groom

Freedom's Forge by Arthur Herman

The Guns at Last Light by Rick Atkinson

Scorpions by Noah Feldman

Ike's Bluff by Evan Thomas

The Making of the President, 1960 by Theodore White

The Great Society by Amity Shlaes

The President, the Pope, and the Prime Minister by John O'Sullivan