



# Pocono Mountain School District

Office of Curriculum and Instruction

East Junior High School

PO Box 200 · Swiftwater, PA 18370 · 570-839-7121

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## *AP US History Summer Reading Assignment*

Dear AP US History Student:

Congratulations on your enrollment in the Advanced Placement United States History course. This course has been designed to develop analytical skills and allow students to acquire a thorough knowledge of United States history. The course content is based upon “big ideas” in American history and will focus on the following concepts: identity, peopling, work, exchange, technology, politics, power, environment, geography, ideas, communication skills through the writing of coherent, analytical essays.

Enrolled students are expected to take the Advanced Placement (AP) examination in May. This is a three-hour exam consisting of: one multiple-choice section; one short-answer question section; one document-based essay requiring the students to answer a question using a series of relevant primary sources; and one section consisting of a long essay. The tests are then scored by readers for the College Board and ETS in June and final scores are available to download in early July. Scores range from 2 to 5, with 3 or better considered as “passing”, and therefore eligible to receive college credit in many universities and colleges.

AP US History is designed to be taught at the college level. Consequently, some students may initially find the pace and workload difficult. Class expectations will be provided to students at the beginning of the school year to prepare for this transition.

There is a mandatory summer reading and related writing assignment required for all students enrolled in AP US History. Students will read *Up from Slavery* by Booker T. Washington. This book has been in publication for many years and can be purchased from bookstores or online websites. The book is also available through a link on the district website <http://www.pmsd.org/page/889>.

Upon completion of the selected reading assignment, students will complete the related writing assignment using the attached directions. This assignment will be worth 10% of your first marking period grade and is due by Friday, September 9, 2022.

Sincerely,

Amy Buffington  
Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Federal Programs  
Pocono Mountain School District