

Advanced Placement United States History – Summer Assignment 2008-2009

Required Text: The American Pageant – Twelfth edition.

Due date: August 22, 2008

Welcome to Advanced Placement United States History. This assignment requires that you read the textbook and write responses from the readings. Your responses must reflect an understanding of the content and that you are prepared to independently master reading material. Responses should also reflect a level of writing that is appropriate for a college level course. Each question is ten points each for a total of one hundred and fifty points. All responses should be handwritten and be roughly one side of a page in length. They should not exceed a page and a quarter. *Read Chapters 1-5 of the American Pageant.*

1. Summarize the motives, expectations, problems, and rewards associated with the age of European expansion.
2. It is sometimes said that the Europeans who came to the Americas settled a “virgin land” that was unused and unspoiled. Write an essay demonstrating that this is or is not an accurate description of what happened.
3. What was the nature of slavery in Africa before the arrival of the Spanish?
4. Are the *conquistadores* to be considered villains or heroes for their actions in the Americas?
5. Describe both the positive and negative benefits of the Columbian Exchange on the New and Old World.
6. What lessons do you think English colonists learned from their early Jamestown experience? Focus on matters of fulfilling expectations, financial support, leadership skills, and relations with the Indians. What specific developments illustrate that the English living in the plantation colonies tried to apply these lessons?
7. In many ways, North Carolina was the *least* typical of the five plantation colonies. Describe the unique features of colonial North Carolina and explain why this colony was so unlike its southern neighbors.

8. Compare and contrast the ways in which tobacco and sugar affected the social and economic development of colonial America.
9. Rank the items in the following list, starting with the one that you think had the most important consequences. Then justify your ranking. Finally, speculate as to what might have happened had these events not occurred.
 - a. The cultivation of tobacco in Virginia
 - b. The introduction of slavery into the plantation colonies
 - c. The “enclosing” of croplands in England
10. Compare and contrast the motives of their founders, religious and social orientation, economic pursuits, and political developments of TWO of the early colonial settlement areas.
South
New England
Middle
11. Compare and contrast the Confederation of New England and the Dominion of New England. Be sure to cite the date of the founding, state the reasons for their creation, describe how they functioned and what they accomplished, and explain why they were ultimately abandoned.
12. State and explain your position on whether or not political authority should be used to enforce a particular view of morality. Then explain why you would *or* would not have been in favor of banishing Roger Williams and/or Anne Hutchinson from Massachusetts Bay.
13. Construct a definition of *Puritanism* using the concepts of predestination, calling, covenant, Protestant ethic, and conversion.
14. What did John Winthrop mean when he said, “we shall be as a city upon a hill.” Did the Massachusetts Bay Colony reach this objective? Why or why not?
15. To what extent had the Massachusetts Bay colonists endorsed the idea of the 'separation of church and state.'