

AP World History ***Summer Reading Assignment***

Congratulations! You have opted to take AP World History at SCHS next year! This is going to be a journey that spans thousands of years, studies millions if not billions of lives, and will hopefully give you an understanding of how we got here, to this very moment, in human history. We will be looking at history as a broad survey, but the point of the summer reading assignment is to give you all some perspective on some key concepts, eras, and/or individuals in history. To do this you will be to read **ONE** of the following books from the following categories:

Big Pictures of History:

- ❖ *Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed*- Jared Diamond; theories about the fall of civilizations
- ❖ *Salt: A World History*- Mark Kurlansky; world history through the salt trade
- ❖ *History of the World in Six Glasses*- Tom Standage; using 6 different beverages to tell the story of the world

People:

- ❖ *Genghis Khan and the Making of the Modern World*- Jack Weatherford; The Mongols and the man who made them mighty.
- ❖ *Samurai William*- Giles Milton; A English sailor rises to prominence in the court of the reigning Shogun, Ieyasu.
- ❖ *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier*- Ishmael Beah; true story of a boy soldier in Sierra Leone

Global Politics and War:

- ❖ *King Leopold's Ghost*- Adam Hochschild; Account of megalomaniac King of Belgium, his cruelty and those who fought him after unexpectedly finding themselves witnesses to a holocaust
- ❖ *1848*- Mike Rapport; Stories from Europe during 1848, otherwise known as the year of revolution.
- ❖ *A World Undone*- GJ Myer; A look at WWI and how this conflict changed Europe and the modern world.

Once you have chosen your book, your summer assignment is two parts: a reading/reflection journal and a summative paper on the book, both should be printed out and are due on the first day of class.

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU STAY ON TOP OF YOUR READING DURING THE SUMMER; THE ASSIGNMENT IS 200 PTS AND WILL IMPACT YOUR 1ST SEMESTER GRADE. Contact

ccamey@scspk12.org if you have questions on the assignment. Details on the assignments can be found on the next page.

PROJECT DETAILS →

Summer Assignment Details

Part 1: Reading/Reflection Journal (100 pts)

Part one will be a reading journal which you will keep as you read and should span **EACH CHAPTER** of the book. You will need to find 2-3 passages from each chapter that you found interesting, controversial, enlightening or otherwise remarkable, write them down (using page number and chapter), and compose a brief, 1-3 sentence reflection as to why that passage stuck out to you. **THESE PASSAGES WILL BE VERY HELPFUL WHEN WRITING THE SUMMARY PAPER.** Reading journals should be typed and a physical copy is to be handed in on the first day of class.

Part 2: Summary Paper (100 pts)

Part two will be a summary of the book that you have read. **Summary papers should be formatted as follows: Times New Roman 12 pt. font, 1 in. margins, double spaced. Your paper should be between 3-4 pages in length and should reference the book throughout (see section on reading journals).** Your paper should give a general synopsis of the book (What was it about? What were the main points?), Descriptions of the individuals featured in the book (Who were the important people discussed in the book? Why are they important to their historical era?), and finally a personal reflection on the work (Did you learn anything new? Has this book changed your view of history?). **This paper will be handed in on the first day of class.**

Rubric: Journal

- ❖ Covers all chapters in book: 50 pts
- ❖ Has AT LEAST 2-3 quotes/passages from book & reflection: 50 pts

Rubric: Summary

- ❖ Meets formatting requirements (Times New Roman 12 pt font, 1in. margins, double spaced): 20 pts
- ❖ Meets length requirements (3 full pages minimum 4 full pages maximum)*: 20 pts
- ❖ Has a clear and obvious synopsis of the book (Main ideas/themes): 20 pts
- ❖ Contains multiple references/reflections from the book (Reading Journal): 20 pts
- ❖ Contains personal reflection on the book: 20 pts

*If papers are a little over 4 pages, that is fine.