

Buford High School – AP World History – Summer Reading 2010

MEMORANDUM

To: AP World History Students for 2010-2011
From: Mr. Gilbert
Re: Summer Assignments / Contact Information
Date: May 10, 2010

1. Attached please find your Summer Assignments for 2010. You will a Historical Survey book and choose one of four Non-Fiction books. Please read the directions for each assignment carefully. If you have any questions, please see me at school OR send me an e-mail at sean.gilbert@bufordcityschools.org
2. You are responsible for securing copies of these books. I have found that AP students usually benefit from having their own personal copy of each book so that they can highlight significant passages and make notes in the margins. While you are not required to purchase the books, you will need copies of them for the first few days of class -- plan accordingly.
3. We will take an objective test covering the books you have read on the FIRST day of school – **Thursday, August 5**. We will then spend some time the book throughout the year.
4. Please complete the information at the bottom of this page and RETURN IT TO MR. GILBERT (Room 6208) before the end of the school year.

Name _____

E-Mail Address _____

Non Fiction Book Selection: **(Circle) Guns, Germs, and Steel, Salt, King Leopold's Ghost, Life Along the Silk Road**

By signing below, I verify that I have received and read the AP World History Summer Assignments for 2010.

Student's Signature

Parent's Signature

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Historical Survey Book

ALL AP WORLD STUDENTS MUST READ THIS BOOK:

Old World Encounters: Cross Cultural Contacts and Exchanges in Pre-Modern Times

By: Jerry H. Bentley

This book examines the spread of ideas throughout the world before 1492. It examines cultures, inventions, religions, and governments that advanced through their interactions before the Europeans began their explorations and conquests.

All AP World History students are expected to purchase this book and complete chapters 1 and 2. The rest will be used as the content is covered throughout the first semester.

There will be a test over this material the first day of school. Read it, take notes over it, and be prepared.

Non-Fiction Book

CHOOSE ONE OF THE BELOW BOOKS

There will also be a test over the books below. You, of course, responsible for only **ONE** of these books, and the questions will cover the material in the book you have informed me you are reading. .

Salt: A World History

By; Mark Kurlansky

This book takes an interesting perspective on the trade of this rock and how it has played a pivotal role throughout history. This will give students background information that can add depth to discussions and writing that will go on throughout this course.

King Leopold's Ghost: A story of Greed, Terror, and Heroism in Colonial Africa

By: Adam Hochschild

The Age of Imperialism in the 19th century set the stage for many of the modern issues going on in the world. This book analyzes the impact the Europeans(Belgians) had on the people of Central Africa. It also draws comparisons and connections between the issues of the past and the issues of today.

Guns, Germs and Steel: The fates of Human Societies

By Jared Diamond

This well known book is very intriguing in its analysis of what has made different societies develop and evolve in such different ways. It is a great study that will help develop the skills of comparing societies, which is a key part of AP World History.

Life Along the Silk Road

By Susan Whitfield

This book looks at different levels of society as a traveler goes along the Silk Road. It is historical fiction that examines life in Pre-Islam Asia. It reveals the life of the common man during this era in history. This is a rare perspective that most history books are not able to convey. It covers several important aspects of world history-cultural interaction, trade, economic influences, religious influences from all areas along the Silk Road.

There will be a blog/wiki set up for AP World History over the summer to log on and discuss the books you have chosen. Questions and topics will be added throughout the summer to help students stay on track with their reading.

<http://bufordapworld.pbworks.com/>

There are a couple other books that are study aides that will help during the year that are **optional** for students to purchase.

They are: ***5 Steps to a 5 AP World History*** by Peggy Miller (2010 edition)

Cracking the AP World History Exam the Princeton Review (2008 edition)

Again, these are optional, and will not be tested on, but will be very useful over the year in preparing to take the AP Exam.