**PART I**

**Objective:** The readings selected for the APUSH summer assignment represent college level texts that constitute outside reading for many American History survey courses. The content featured in this assignment will serve as an important part of the early units covered in the course. Additionally, the readings provide students with the opportunity to see two different treatments of comparable material; one from the more traditional, objective approach, the other from a more subjective, opinion driven model.

**Assignment:** Carefully read excerpts from *A Short History of the United States* (Remini) <handed out in June/available in High School Social Studies or Guidance Office> and *A People’s History of the United States* (Zinn, Chapters 1-4) <found at http://www.historyisawapon.com/defcon1/zinncol1.html>. You are required to **take notes in Cornell style** while you read (see the following page for details and resources on the Cornell method.)

**Assessment:** Upon our return to school in September, your notes will be reviewed on September 4th and counted as an assignment grade. **You will have an in-class exam** on the content of the reading that will count as your first exam of the quarter. This exam will take place on September 5th.

**Suggestions:** As with any assignment of this length students are best served by completing it over the course of the summer. Writing your Cornell notes as you go along will not only help you to remember the information better, but they will provide an excellent resource when preparing for the exam in September. **Any questions concerning the summer assignment can be directed to mcauleys@gcufsd.net or ohagank@gcufsd.net or balanticj@gcufsd.net**.

**PART II**

You must secure a copy of the following review book: *United States History—Preparing for the Advanced Placement Examination, 2015, John J. Newman and John M. Schmalbach*. You may order the book on-line at the following address; [http://www.amscedpub.com/us-history-preparing-for-ap-exam](http://www.amscedpub.com/us-history-preparing-for-ap-exam). Previous additions WILL NOT SUFFICE as the APUSH course has been redesigned; only the 2015 edition reflects this change. **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL SEPTEMBER TO ORDER YOUR BOOK.** Past experience suggests that the company may run out of copies and you will have to wait several weeks until they can fill your order. **You will need the book for the first week of class and we will use it periodically throughout the year.**
Directions: Students should follow the Cornell Method described below while completing their summer reading assignment. Students should then summarize each chapter, followed by an overall summary of each reading.

Go to [http://coe.jmu.edu/learningtoolbox/cornellnotes.html](http://coe.jmu.edu/learningtoolbox/cornellnotes.html) for further description of the method, as well as [http://coe.jmu.edu/learningtoolbox/cornellnotes1.html](http://coe.jmu.edu/learningtoolbox/cornellnotes1.html) for an example.

http://www.staples.com/FocusNotes-Legal-Pad-Junior-Size-5-inch-x-8-inch/product_957419?cid=PS:GooglePLAs:957419&KPID=957419 - A legal pad that is already formatted for Cornell notes !!

**Cornell Notes**

Divide the paper into three sections.

- Draw a dark horizontal line about 5 or 6 lines from the bottom. Use a heavy magic marker so that it is clear.
- Draw a dark vertical line about 2 inches from the left side of the paper from the top to the horizontal line.

Document

- Write course name, date and topic at the top of each page

Write Notes

- The large box to the right is for writing notes.
- Skip a line between ideas and topics
- Don’t use complete sentences. Use abbreviations, whenever possible. Develop a shorthand of your own, such as using & for the word "and".

Review and clarify

- Review the notes as soon as possible after class.
- Pull out main ideas, key points, dates, and people, and write them in the left column.

Summarize

- Write a summary of the main ideas in the bottom section.

Study your notes

- Reread your notes in the right column.
- Spend most of your time studying the ideas in the left column and the summary at the bottom. These are the most important ideas and will probably include most of the information that will be tested