



- 1.) Acquire a copy of A Short History of the United States by Robert V. Remini. It is available on Amazon, Barnes and Noble, at Quail Ridge Books, the Wake County Public Library, and here at LHS. Cost will vary from free (the library) to approximately 22 dollars.
- 2.) Read the first eight chapters of the book--approximately 244 pages.
- 3.) When school resumes in the fall, you can go to blackboard and take the on-line quizzes for that chapter. The quiz will be objective in nature (multiple choice, true/false, sequencing) and will have a time limit with it. Points earned will be extra credit points.
- 4.) Prior to your first day of school, read Chapters 1 and 2 from The American Nation by Garraty (your textbook). Be sure to take detailed notes. Be sure to note why people, places, things are important as well as what they are. Your notes should be detailed, but not a regurgitation of the book. You may want to skim back through Remini or purchase an AP USH test prep book prior to reading Garraty in order to better identify relevant material that you should focus on.

I tend to like the Amsco review text (because that's what I used when I took AP) lots of folks here have used the REA book with great success as well.

Traditionally, the most difficult tasks for AP U. S. History students are finding the time to do the work well, identifying important historical information, and taking an analytical perspective on that information. Previous students almost universally suggest getting ahead on the reading in the summer. The list of starred chapter subheadings at the front of each chapter will help you with the second task, and the third task will be the focus of much of our time together. When you are reading this summer, pay **a lot of attention to the starred list of chapter subheadings** on the front page of every chapter. At minimum, you must be able to identify them, explain their historical significance, and explain how they relate to one another.

Personally, I have found that writing my own notes aids my retention of information in a way that typing them does not. Also, avoid the temptation to copy what you do not understand. Putting the information in your own words is the **ONLY** way to handle this course.

Students in the past have found that two methods of note-taking are especially efficient and effective. You can find information on these methods at the following sites: SQ3R (<http://www.ucc.vt.edu/stdysk/sq3r.html>) and Cornell Notes (http://www.clt.cornell.edu/campus/learn/LSC_Resources/cornellsystem.pdf)

Do not hesitate to contact me with questions. I can be reached at dahunt@wcpss.net. You can call school and leave a message for me at 870-4250. Give me a couple of days to get back to you. I will be gone 3 and 4 day stretches throughout June and July. I tend to be at school daily in August getting ready for the coming year and golf season.

Good luck, happy reading, and have a great summer!