Dear APUSH Students and Parents/Guardians:

Welcome to the wonderful world of Advanced Placement United States History. Mr. Dickey and Mr. Hudson are thrilled to have you joining the ranks for the 2018-2019 school year.

A few things about our class you might want to know before the year gets going:

1. We read. We read a lot. The general pace is about 30 pages in the textbook per week. Some weeks it might be a little bit more and some weeks it might be a little bit less. It will fluctuate, but the fact that reading the textbook (or whatever has been assigned) is essential to your success in the class and on the exam will never change. This leads up to point #2...

2. You’re going to be asked to develop your ability to learn independently. The reason we expect you to keep up with the reading is we simply do not have enough time to cover every single thing in class. Therefore, in order to ensure you walk into the exam with as complete an understanding as possible, you’ll be held accountable for taking control of information outside of what we discuss in class. Reading will be checked through weekly(-ish) quizzes, and tests might include aspects solely covered in the assigned pages. We’ll always be available for any help or clarification you need, in class or out!

3. Point #3 is a natural partner to point #1. Not only do we read a lot, we also write a lot. More than half of our exam involves writing, so we would not be preparing you thoroughly if we didn’t ask you to write Long Essays and Document-Based Essays (which oddly enough are usually longer than the Long Essays). Working on our writing is a yearlong process!

4. Lastly, there will not be a summer assignment. Come ready to get to work on Day 1!

If there is anything else you need to know, want to ask, or cannot wait to say, please feel free to email us. We can’t wait to see you all back in September. Have a fun, safe, inspiring summer until then!

Best,
Mr. Dan Dickey
Mr. Clay Hudson

P.S. Just in case you were hoping for something historical to do over the summer, we’ve left a few recs below. You have so many great things to read, watch, listen to, or visit. Ask your parents about what they think is interesting and make it a family thing!
Here are some **RECOMMENDATIONS** from us:

***Please consult your parents/guardians regarding the selection of reading and/or viewing material or regarding visiting historical sites!***

**Books:**
- *John Adams* by David McCullough
- *One Summer* by Bill Bryson
- *Walking with the Wind* by John Lewis
- *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*
- *Unbroken* by Laura Hillenbrand

**Documentaries:**
- Any documentary made by Ken Burns
- *America: The Story of US*
- *Africans in America*
- *American Experience series*
- *God in America*
- *Eyes on the Prize*
- *An Inconvenient Truth*
- *The Mormons*
- *Soundtrack for a Revolution*
- *The Fog of War*

**Movies:**
- *Miracle*
- *October Sky*
- *Good Night and Good Luck*
- *1776*
- *Lincoln*
- *Gone with the Wind*
- *Birth of a Nation*
- *Iron Jawed Angels*
- *Inherit the Wind*
- *Citizen Kane*
- *Modern Times*
- *Casablanca*

**Richmond Places:**
- Hollywood Cemetery
- The Valentine
- Virginia Historical Society
- VMFA
- American Civil War Museum: White House and Museum of the Confederacy
- American Civil War Museum: Tredegar
- Iron Works
- John Marshall House
- Deep Run Schoolhouse
- Hanover Courthouse
- Hanover Tavern
- Maymont
- Monumental Church
- Scotchtown
- St. John’s Church
- Virginia Capitol and Executive Mansion

**Other Big Ticket VA Sites:**
- Colonial Williamsburg
- Yorktown
- Jamestown
- Monticello
- Montpelier
- Ashlawn-Highland
- Mount Vernon
- Gunston Hall
- Battlefields
- Plantations
- Appomattox Court House
- Pamplin Historical Park
- Mariner’s Museum
- Frontier Culture Museum