

Students,

I hope this note finds you and your families doing ok. As school will be officially closed for at least a few weeks as of this writing (through April 3, 2020), I will be providing optional recommended activities to keep your mind sharp and expand on what we have already learned in class this year.

We finished US involvement in WW2 and were about to begin talking about the next major era for the United States: The Cold War. The assignments I provide today are optional but recommended. **They are NOT extra credit and will not be graded**, but rather a way for you to keep yourself learning during this challenging time.

Since my US History class has a focus on writing, reading, and discussion, I will provide resources focused on those Areas.

**Reading – Spend at least 30 minutes a day reading a history related book or listening to an audio book**

Reading is fundamental to learning and should be constantly practiced. Here is a link to eBook sources: <http://www.ssjcpl.org/books/teenResources/default.html> - Requires library card (Tracy Library)

And of course, School Library eBook Resources:

<https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/ui/40456>

Many other free eBook resources are available:

<https://openlibrary.org/> - free but registration required

[http://www.gutenberg.org/wiki/Main\\_Page](http://www.gutenberg.org/wiki/Main_Page) - basic and includes older titles, no registration

<https://www.juniorlibraryguild.com/at-home> - free, registration optional

*Recommended Reading – fiction and nonfiction*

The Jungle by Upton Sinclair

A People's History of the United States by Howard Zinn

Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee: An Indian History of the American West by Dee Brown

Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe

The Triumph of Improvisation: ... the End of the Cold War by James Graham Wilson

The Oath and the Office: A Guide to the Constitution for Future Presidents by Corey Brettschneider

Debating the 1960s: Liberal, Conservative, and Radical Perspectives by Michael W. Flamm

To America: Personal Reflections of an Historian by Stephen E. Ambrose

**Writing: Spend 30+ minutes a day writing about historical events or figures and/or relating them to events of today**

I recommend you begin a journal either handwritten or electronic. Read about “this day in history” from the link below and respond to it – compare to today, investigate the reason for that historic event or choice made by a historic figure.

<https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history>

<https://www.historynet.com/today-in-history>

<https://www.onthisday.com/history/>

<https://www.britannica.com/on-this-day>

**Discussion: Spend at least 15 to 30 minutes a day discussing what you've read or written about**

If you haven't already done so, connect with a classmate from my USH class or another teacher's US Class to discuss what you've read, share reading lists, or touch base. I recommend you don't rely on close friends only – try reaching out to any other Juniors in US History. Discussing from multiple perspectives helps us grow and better understand what we learned.

**Other resources:**

*Consider exploring museums that offer virtual experiences:*

British Museum - <https://britishmuseum.withgoogle.com/>

National Gallery of Art (USA) - <https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/national-gallery-of-art-washington-dc?hl=en>

Musée d'Orsay, Paris - <https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/musee-dorsay-paris?hl=en>

Pergamon Museum, Berlin - <https://artsandculture.google.com/entity/pergamon/m05tcm?hl=en>

The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles - <https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/the-j-paul-getty-museum?hl=en>

Museum of Modern Art, New York - <https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/moma-the-museum-of-modern-art?hl=en>

The Art Institute of Chicago - <https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/the-art-institute-of-chicago?hl=en>

Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum and Foundation New York -

<https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/solomon-r-guggenheim-museum?hl=en>

I will be available via email should you have questions. I will try to forward this note to all parents as well.

Stay safe and practice safe interactions with others:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/prevention.html>

Regards,

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***"It's a great day to be a Jaguar!"***