

APUSH summer assignment Mrs. Becker

- 1- **Read** the keynote address “Whose History is it” by Dr. Jill Lepore of Boston University. Be prepared to discuss the thesis of Dr. Lepore’s speech on the first day of class. (Is history told by those who have the best evidence? Are there “historical facts”? Who determines what “history” is? Are differing opinions helpful to discovering historical truths or a distracting hindrance?)
- 2- Choose one topic from the list below that interests you, then **write a 2-5 page research paper** that explores different viewpoints of the event of your choosing. In the paper be sure to summarize the event then discuss the various individual viewpoints of the event

* Note: research assignment need not follow a 5 paragraph format but should include an introductory paragraph including a **thesis statement, several body paragraphs with a focused topic sentence, and a conclusion of your findings**. This assignment is meant for you to explore all possible viewpoints of a historical event, as a historian would, in order to determine for yourself what is “historical truth”. Be sure to use more than one source and NO WIKIPEDIA.... it is a good jumping off point, but do not base all your research on one source...

- o Olaudah Equino’s accounts of the slave trade: (also known by the name Gustavus Vassa) fact or believable fiction?
- o John Winthrop and the Puritan society: sinners or saints?
- o Metacom (also known as “King Phillip” or “Metacom Phillip”) hostile native or cultural warrior?
- o USS Maine- what was the cause? What are the American/Spanish motives?
- o Margret Sanger: women’s health pioneer, or catalyst towards the degeneration of American society?
- o The Scorpion- was the US attacked by Soviet submarines? Motives and evidence?
- o Presidential assassination: Kennedy- Were the Warren Commission’s findings accurate?

** if there is another controversial issue, event, or person you wish to research please email me Alexis.Becker@vbschools.com

I respond promptly to all student emails and I will add my two cents to any questions you might have!

LAST BUT NOT LEAST....

3- Visit a local historical site and bring back evidence of your visit. (That could be a receipt, brochure, photo of you at the site....) Enjoy the site and get ready for a fun filled year of history!!!! (the reason for this visit is to stop any possible requests for a field trip later in the year.....not going to happen so go enjoy one now!!!)

Again, please feel free to email me over the summer with any questions about the assignment or general questions about the course. Enjoy your summer and get ready for a challenging course.

