

Honors U.S. History

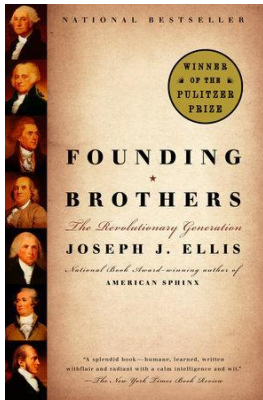
Mrs. Kim Gardner

2022-2023

Summer Reading Assignment

Part I. Read *Founding Brothers: The Revolutionary Generation* by Joseph Ellis.

(you will need a copy of this book for class)



From the back cover of the book...

“The United States was a more fragile hope than a reality in 1790. During the decade that followed, the Founding Fathers – reexamined here as Founding Brothers – combined the ideals of the Declaration of Independence with the content of the Constitution to create the practical workings of our government. Through an analysis of six fascinating episodes – Hamilton and Burr’s deadly duel, Washington’s precedent-setting Farewell Address, Adams’ administration and political partnership with his wife, the debate about where to put the capital, Franklin’s attempt to force Congress to confront the issue of slavery and Madison’s attempts to block him, and Jefferson and Adams’ famous correspondence – *Founding Brothers* brings to life the vital issues and personalities from the most important decade in our nation’s history.”

Assignment Directions: Read the *Founding Brothers* preface (“The Generation”), which will help provide some context. Then read the rest of the book and address the prompts below in essay format. Each essay should be approximately one to one-and-a-half pages typed (**double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12 pt font**) for a total of six to ten pages.

Ch. 1: “The Duel”

Discuss the significance of the duel as it related to the young, fledgling nation. Why does Ellis spend an entire chapter on it? Why is it the first chapter?

Ch 2: “The Dinner”

Describe the "sharp differences" dividing the leadership of the revolutionary generation.

Ch 3: “The Silence”

Explain what the census of 1790 showed regarding slavery. Contrast the arguments of the North and the South on the issue of slavery.

Ch. 4: “The Farewell”

Explain what Washington had in mind when he composed the Farewell Address.

Ch. 5: “The Collaborators”

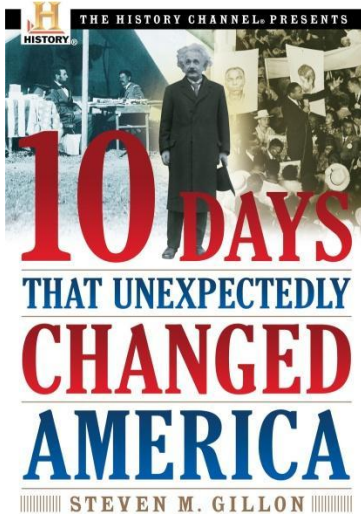
Ellis indicates that "the truly effective centers of power were located in two political partnerships based on personal trust." Explain and discuss this statement.

Ch. 6: “The Friendship”

Adams and Jefferson had conflicting visions of the American Revolution. Explain the essentials of this difference.

****a quick note about plagiarism: please don't do it**** *Founding Brothers* is a rather short book and I know if you give it a chance you will find the material captivating. This reading will provide a framework of knowledge about the founding of our nation that will help you throughout the course and make you a better citizen of the United States. Sticking with the book and finishing it will help you build reading endurance and will be incredibly beneficial to you on standardized tests and life beyond high school. My policy concerning plagiarism and cheating is that if you share the work you share the grade. So the highest grade you could get on this assignment is a 50 which isn't a great way to start the semester.

Part II. Read the introduction and the first chapter (“Massacre at Mystic”) of *10 Days That Unexpectedly Changed History* by Steven M. Gillon. No need to write anything but there will be a quiz on this material the first day or two of school. I recommend reading with a pencil in hand and marking info you deem important and/or interesting.



Both books are available at Barnes & Noble in Mandeville.