

Welcome to AP History II. This summer you must read **one** of the following two books. Both deal with racial issues and developments in the post-Civil War United States going into the 20th century.

Because of the unique situation this year, I'm **not** assigning any questions or any written work to accompany your reading. The information you read will complement much of what we cover during the year. There will likely be an assessment in September on the information in these books, and you should expect that on the first day of school (regardless of whether or not we are actually "in" school). So pick up a book, lay down on a blanket in the yard, and enjoy your summer vacation. If you have any questions please email me at jkyle@pthsd.net.

Option I:

Packard, Jerrold M. *American Nightmare: The History of Jim Crow*. St. Martin's Griffin, 2003.

ISBN# 978-0-312-30241-2

American Nightmare: The History of Jim Crow by Jerrold Packard looks at the development and history of racial segregation and discrimination from the Civil War up to the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Packard looks not only at the historically important points and people along the way (14th amendment, *Plessy v. Ferguson*, W.E.B. DuBois, A. Philip Randolph), but he puts them together in a compelling story of the history of a struggle for freedom and first-class treatment. *American Nightmare* provides a seamless and continuous look at a critical theme in U.S. History that is covered throughout the entire year of U.S. History II. (If you choose this option, don't worry about getting too much past World War II, which is covered in chapter six.)

Option II:

Foner, Eric. *The Second Founding: How the Civil War and Reconstruction Remade the Constitution*. W.W. Norton & Co., 2019.

ISBN# 978-0393652574

Eric Foner is widely considered to be America's premier historian on the black experience in American during and following Reconstruction. In this new work, *The Second Founding*, Foner assesses the impact of the three "Reconstruction amendments," the 13th, 14th, and 15th, the latter two of which he argues reshaped the constitution and set America on a new path. To be sure, Dr. Foner recognizes the slow growth of social and political change for black Americans following the Civil War, but once identified as such by the Supreme Court and other federal courts in the early 20th century, the new interpretation of the Constitution wrought by these amendments introduced new freedoms into American society and constrained state actions in a way that the founding fathers never intended.