

College Application Notebook 2009

Directions: As the AP US history course draws to a close, the time remaining of your junior year could be used wisely to begin looking at some tasks that await you in a couple of months. You will be required to complete and submit for a grade in the essay/projects category your completed college application packet. The contents of the notebook are defined below.

As with all assignments in this course, they should demonstrate significant effort, be characterized by attention to detail, and be professional in appearance. The written components of the assignment must be typed using a 12 point font, preferably Times New Roman, or some similar font style. Assignments not adhering to these requirements will be graded down. Acquire a 1 inch three ring notebook and submit the following list of materials in the order provided. Your notebook components must be separated by dividers, perhaps reused from your academic year notebook. This project is due on June 2, 2009.

The following components of the application process are required.

1. Cover letter to a teacher or counselor requesting a letter of recommendation. This should be relatively short, certainly no longer than one page. In the letter, explain to the recommender **what you contributed to the course you shared**. Specifically, let the recommender know what, from your perspective, the recommendation letter is based upon. Was it excellent class participation? Detail orientation? Essay writing? Outstanding lab work? Remind the recommender of the contributions you made to class. **Also state what you got out of the class**. You may address to any appropriate person you wish. If you wish to ask me for a letter of recommendation, your cover letter should be addressed to Mr. Cartnal. You will receive information in your English class on the proper format.
2. Personality Inventory. Use the Naviance system that Mrs. Spangler demonstrated to you to create this.
3. Brag Sheet. Use the Naviance system that Mrs. Spangler demonstrated to you to create this. You will give this to the teachers and counselors that you ask to write letters of recommendation.
4. UC Application – Use the web address to access the current UC application and instructions. Complete the application online, print it out, and submit it as part of this portfolio.
5. College Search and Rationale – Perform college searches on Naviance, College Board, and Princeton Review. Cross reference the results to arrive at a list of 20-30 colleges or universities of interest. Explore the colleges further using all the available resources to arrive at a list of 5 schools of interest, many of which you will apply to. You must write a convincing rationale for applying to each of the five schools on your list. A combination of public and private schools are appropriate. The University of California only counts as one school, even though many of you will apply for admissions to more than one UC campus.
6. AP US Performance Analysis Sheet – You will be given this in class. I wish for you to create a spreadsheet of your essential grades and performance in this class. In completing this, you will see the broad academic trends that describe your performance in this class.
7. **Optional:** This is not required for your college project. I wanted you to know that there are many excellent and relatively user-friendly resources from which to find means to financially support your university education. In the future, you may wish to explore www.fastweb.com for details on scholarships, grants, and loans. I would recommend that each of you submit a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). Be proactive and begin the dialogue about this topic with your parents. For more information, see <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>

Due date: Tuesday, June 2nd At the Start of Class

Notes: