

DE US/VA Summer Assignment 2024

Courses: HIS 121: United States History to 1877 (Fall)
HIS 122: United States History Since 1865 (Spring)
United States/Virginia History (APS)

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Welcome to HIS 121 and 122! I am very excited to welcome you to the course and look forward to working with you this upcoming school year! We will begin our work with an analysis of Jared Diamond's *Guns, Germs, and Steel* as well as a response article by J. R. McNeill. Below you will find the details of the assignment as well as the rubric for how it will be graded. Please feel free to email with any questions and/or concerns. *Note: during the summer, I will be checking email periodically but not daily.*

Due Date: Monday, September 9, 2024 at 11:59pm on NOVA Canvas.

Assignment:

- Read *Guns, Germs, and Steel*.
- Answer Yali's question in eight (8) full and complete paragraphs using evidence. You can find the question on page 14 in the Prologue.
 - Use the paragraph outline from EPF (remember - only use third person):
 - Intro sentence
 - Evidence with a lead-in
 - Analysis (explanation)
 - Conclusion
 - Use specific evidence in each paragraph:
 - Paragraph 1: evidence from any chapter in Part 1.
 - Paragraph 2: evidence from a *different* chapter in Part 1.
 - Paragraph 3: evidence from any chapter in Part 2.
 - Paragraph 4: evidence from a *different* chapter in Part 2.
 - Paragraph 5: evidence from any chapter in Part 3.
 - Paragraph 6: evidence from a *different* chapter in Part 3.
 - Paragraph 7: evidence from any chapter in Part 4.
 - Paragraph 8: evidence from a *different* chapter in Part 4.

- Read J. R. McNeill’s article “The World According to Jared Diamond”.
 - Answer the following question in two (2) complete paragraphs using the structure from EPF: what is McNeill’s strongest argument against *Guns, Germs, and Steel*? Why is that the strongest?
 - Use one (1) piece of evidence in each paragraph.

Footnotes and Bibliography:

For this course, you will be required to use Chicago 17th (NB) style for citations. For assistance with formatting in Chicago style, please visit [Purdue OWL website](#). Your submission should include footnotes and a Bibliography page that are properly formatted. You will be using *Guns, Germs, and Steel* and J. R. McNeill’s article as your two sources. Cite *Guns, Germs, and Steel* as a book and J. R. McNeill’s article as a journal article.

Format:

Your paper should be a Word document that is double-spaced and uses size 12, Times New Roman font. If you are writing the paper in Google docs and then plan to convert it to Word, do so at least a day before the due date because converting to Word from Google docs makes changes to formatting sometimes. Doing so a day before will give you the time to fix it before you submit. *Note: Your body paragraphs must contain ONLY one (1) piece of text evidence that you are analyzing.*

Plagiarism:

Any paper that is plagiarized, even in part, will receive a **zero (0)** for a grade in APS and in NOVA. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, taking credit for another author’s work, using an AI generator, etc. APS administration, NOVA administration, and parents/guardians will also be contacted if this happens.

Grade:

This will count as a summative assessment grade for both MP 1 (APS) and HIS 121 (NOVA).

Audio option:

To access an audio version of *Guns, Germs, and Steel*, go to APS myaccess and click on Sora. In the top right, enter the book title in the search bar and click on borrow. There are three (3) copies available.

I look forward to meeting you this fall!

~Ms. Ladner

Rubric:

Points	20	15	10	5
Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear, focused answers to the prompts • Supporting details and examples prove answers • Text evidence support answers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear, focused answers to the prompts • Most supporting details prove answers • Most text evidence support answers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unfocused thesis • Generalized supporting details not specific to thesis • Text evidence does not clearly support thesis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unfocused answers • Inadequate or missing supporting details • Inadequate or missing text evidence
Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paragraphs directly answer Yali's question using evidence from required chapters in each part • Paragraphs directly answer the prompt about McNeill's article 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paragraphs mostly answer Yali's question using evidence from required chapters in each part • Paragraphs mostly answer the prompt about McNeill's article 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paragraphs vaguely answer Yali's question using evidence from required chapters in each part • Paragraphs vaguely answer the prompt about McNeill's article 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paragraphs do not answer Yali's question using evidence from required chapters in each part • Paragraphs do not answer the prompt about McNeill's article
Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each paragraph is formatted with a clear intro sentence • Each paragraph includes a single piece of evidence with a lead-in • Each paragraph includes sufficient and strong analysis • Each paragraph includes a conclusion sentence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most paragraphs are formatted with a clear intro sentence • Most paragraphs include a single piece of evidence with a lead-in • Most paragraphs include sufficient and strong analysis • Most paragraphs include a conclusion sentence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some paragraphs are formatted with a clear intro sentence • Some paragraphs include a single piece of evidence with a lead-in • Some paragraphs include sufficient and strong analysis • Some paragraphs include a conclusion sentence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Few paragraphs are formatted with a clear intro sentence • Few paragraphs include a single piece of evidence with a lead-in • Few paragraphs include sufficient and strong analysis • Few paragraphs include a conclusion sentence
Evidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses evidence from required chapters in <i>Guns, Germs, and Steel</i> • Uses evidence from McNeill's article 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses evidence from most of required chapters in <i>Guns, Germs, and Steel</i> • Uses evidence from McNeill's 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses some evidence from required chapters in <i>Guns, Germs, and Steel</i> • Uses evidence from McNeill's 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses either only one (1) of the required sources or none • No text evidence is formatted

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Text evidence is formatted correctly (Chicago) Bibliography is formatted correctly (Chicago) 	<p>article</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Text evidence is mostly formatted correctly (Chicago) Bibliography is mostly formatted correctly (Chicago) 	<p>article</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Majority of text evidence is formatted incorrectly (Chicago) Majority of Bibliography is formatted incorrectly (Chicago) 	<p>correctly (Chicago)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bibliography page is entirely incorrect (Chicago) and/or missing
Conventions / Style	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No grammatical and/or spelling errors Size 12, Times New Roman, double-spaced Formal language only Strong and varied sentence structure Eight (8) full and complete paragraphs based on the four parts of <i>Guns, Germs, and Steel</i> Two (2) full and complete paragraphs based on McNeill's article 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fewer than five (5) grammatical and/or spelling errors Two (2) out of the following are used: size 12, Times New Roman, double-spaced Majority of response contains formal language Language is appropriate to topic Fewer than eight (8) full and complete paragraphs based on the four parts of <i>Guns, Germs, and Steel</i> Fewer than two (2) full and complete paragraphs based on McNeill's article 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fewer than ten (10) grammatical and/or spelling errors One (1) of the following is used: size 12, Times New Roman, double-spaced Response contains some formal language Language is somewhat appropriate to topic Fewer than six (6) full and complete paragraphs based on the four parts of <i>Guns, Germs, and Steel</i> Fewer than two (2) full and complete paragraphs based on McNeill's article 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More than ten (10) grammatical and/or spelling errors None of the following are used: size 12, Times New Roman, double-spaced Majority of response contains informal language Language is not appropriate to topic Fewer than four (4) full and complete paragraphs based on the four parts of <i>Guns, Germs, and Steel</i> One (1) or no full and complete paragraphs based on McNeill's article

Total: _____/100