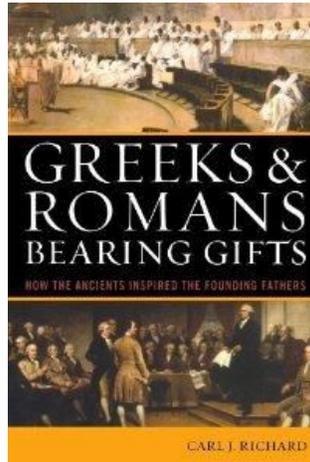


AP US Government – Summer Assignment, 2018-19

Mr. Moss

READ: *Greeks & Romans Bearing Gifts: How the Ancients Inspired the Founding Fathers*, by Carl J. Richard



In addition to handing in your responses to the following questions, there will be a graded, written exam on the book in the first week of school. Additionally, recitation of the passage from *The Declaration of Independence* is required of all students in the first week of school.

1. Write a brief reply for each of the following questions (150-200 words for each chapter). Type your responses.

Chapter 1

According to the book, where did the Founding Fathers (and other people of the 18th century) most commonly encounter the ancient Greek and Roman historians and orators? Who were some of these ancient writers and what were some of their more significant contributions to the Western heritage?

Chapter 2

What were some of the lessons the Founders derived from the republic of Sparta? What, in other words, were some of the strengths and weaknesses that the Founders saw in Sparta?

Chapter 3

In what way did Herodotus' claim that "free men fight better than slaves" inspire the Founders in their own day?

Chapter 4

What lessons did the Founders draw from the example of ancient Athens which led the Founders to favor a mixed government over a democracy in drafting America's Constitution?

Chapter 5

What did the fall of the Greeks to Macedon and Rome teach the Founders?

Chapter 6

What was it about Rome that the Founders admired so much, making Rome for the Founders the premier ancient model of good governance?

Chapter 7

Why did the Founders insist on a need for vigilance in establishing a republic? Vigilance against what? What did the fall of the Roman Republic teach the Founders?

Chapter 8

What lessons did the Founders draw the period of the Roman Emperors?

2. Memorize the following excerpt from *The Declaration of Independence*:

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.--That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, --That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.

