

## History of the Americas Summer Assignment

This summer assignment is for all students entering the junior year of the IB history program. This assignment is due the second day of class after the start of school, and will be a major grade. You will need to purchase the following book:

Wood, Gordon S. The Radicalism of the American Revolution.  
New York: Vintage Books, 1991 (ISBN: 0679736883)

### The Reading

In The Radicalism of the American Revolution, read *Introduction*, *Hierarchy*, and *Patriarchal Dependence*. This is 35 pages total; expect it to take you several hours and you might need to re-read some sections. If you have difficulty answering the prompt question (below) after this reading, the sections *Patronage* and *Political Authority* also have information that can assist you.

### The Writing

Write an essay answering the following:

Explain at least two ways in which Wood describes colonial America as pre-modern.

You must include explicit reference to examples provided in the text.  
Parenthetical references are fine.

This essay must be at least two full, typed pages in the standard paper format: double-spaced with one-inch margins and a 12-point Times New Roman font.

### Expectations

The grade a student receives will be directly related to how much of the following the student incorporates in the paper

- There are multiple, meaningful references to different sections of the reading, proving that the student has a solid understanding.
- The student uses concrete examples and does not use generalities.
- Examples from the text and analysis are relevant to the question.
- Grammar, spelling, punctuation, and capitalization mistakes are minimal.
- The paper is tightly focused on the question.

### Other reading

In the second semester, students will be assigned a biography of Abraham Lincoln. It is recommended that you obtain the book over the summer time to avoid not having it when needed for class.

Gienapp, William. Abraham Lincoln and Civil War America. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2002 (ISBN: 0195151003)