

Mrs. Curioso  
Wheeler High School

**UConn ECE US History Since 1877**  
*Summer Work 2020 – 2021*

**Assignment**

Read a nonfiction book *of your choice*, related to United States history, 1877 - 2020. Write a critical analysis of the book, and present your analysis to the class upon returning to school in the fall.

*Questions to consider while reading your book:*

- What are the main points, ideas, or arguments of the work?
- How is the work organized?
- What evidence/support does the author give?
- Is this topic relevant to you/current issues?

**Written Analysis** – 100 points

- Minimum 3 pages, typed, double-spaced
- Questions to help you generate content for your *analysis*
  - What is the main argument by the author?
  - Is any of the evidence weak or insufficient? Is the evidence/support particularly effective or strong? In what ways?
  - Are there any sections I don't understand? Why?
  - Can I supply further explanation to clarify or support any of the main points, ideas, and arguments?
  - Does the organization of the work help me understand it, hinder my understanding, or neither?
  - Did anything in the book resonate with me on a personal level and/or illuminate a current issue in the United States today?

**Presentation** – 50 points

- Minimum 5 minute PowerPoint
- Include relevant excerpts from the book to provide context/evidence
- Use written analysis questions to drive your presentation content

**Due Dates**–

- Book must be approved by **Friday, July 3**
- Written analysis is due **Wednesday, August 26**
- Presentations are due/begin **Wednesday, September 2**

Questions? Email – [curiosos@northstonington.k12.ct.us](mailto:curiosos@northstonington.k12.ct.us) or Instagram - @MrsCurioso

**Past student book selections**

- Jackson, 1964 – Calvin Trillin
- Just Mercy – Bryan Stevenson
- Never Quit – Jimmy Settle/Don Reardon
- Plan of Attack – Bob Woodward
- The New Jim Crow – Michelle Alexander