

**Welcome to History of the Americas, a.k.a. H.o.t.A.!** If you have forecasted for this course in the fall, you are required to purchase one of our US texts and read the first chapter by the first day of school, September 6.

*A People's History of the United States*, by Howard Zinn: Read Chapter 1 "Columbus, the Indians, and Human Progress." Since this is YOUR book, we HIGHLY recommend you highlight important passages and make connections with the themes Zinn is addressing.

Our reason to assign this before class should indicate that we are going to hit the ground running, so to speak, and we have A LOT of history to cover within one year. Our plan is to review the early historical context between contact and collisions of cultures from the Latin American perspectives, which will set the stage for other historical issues within the Americas. Our hope is that you have remembered some details of your American history, particularly from Native and European contact to the American Revolution, to tie this to Latin America and develop some general, but informative, comparisons.

A few words about purchasing this book: You do NOT need a brand new copy; used copies are fine. You do NOT need the version with the "questions" at the end of the chapter. To avoid the most expensive version of this text, you might want to pick up the completed text in ONE book; there is a version where the history is divided into TWO books and is more expensive that way. You need your OWN copy; sharing is really detrimental to you and someone else.

If you have any questions at all, please contact Mr. Graham, Ms. Loprinzi or Mr. Sten. Our email addresses are available on the CHS website.

Best regards,  
Your H.o.t.A. teachers

P.S. Check out this FREE online Zinn source:  
[www.historyisaweapon.com/zinnapeopleshistory.html](http://www.historyisaweapon.com/zinnapeopleshistory.html)