



**The Catholic High School of Baltimore
Summer Reading List**

Teacher's Name: Mrs. Robinson-Brown

School Year: 2017-2018

Grade Level: 10

Course No.: 221

Course Name: Honors US History

Academic Level (Honors/AP/CP1/CP2/CPA): Honors

READING: *Hidden Figures: The Untold Story of Four African-American Women Who Helped Win the Space Race* by Margot Lee Shetterly

ASSIGNMENT: The following assignment is due the first full day of classes. Please expect that additional assignments and discussions on the content of the book will be a part of the agenda for the first few classes.

Choose one of the following questions to answer in a well-constructed essay. Use examples from the book and include the page numbers as a form of citation.

Question 1: Hidden Figures uncovers the story of the women whose work at NACA and NASA helped shape and define U.S. space exploration. Why is their story significant to our cultural, social, and scientific history?*

To answer this question, consider the historical context of their story. What was life like for women at the time and more specifically women of color? How did their integral participation in NACA and NASA make an impact on our cultural history, or social history and our scientific history?

Question 2: In what ways does the race for space parallel the civil rights movement? What kinds of freedoms are being explored in each?*

To answer this question, consider the movement for equality during wartime. Take into account how life was different for women and men as well as the opportunities afforded to people of color during this time. Consider the daily struggles people of color faced compounded by the struggles all Americans faced during the war. Consider the scientific

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developments that were the result of the space race. Reference the chapters, “Degrees of Freedom” and “America is for Everybody.”

* *Hidden Figures Teaching Guide* Margot Lee Shetterly and Kim Racon

Criteria for Success and Grading

- Introduction (20)– provides a focus for the essay; states the question being answered; begins to set the tone for the essay and outlines how the question will be answered throughout the body
- Body (30pts) – accurate information as presented in the book; appropriate citations including page numbers; well-developed examples to illustrate statements/claims made to answer the writing prompt.
- Conclusion (20)- supports the introduction and examines the implications and significance of the claims/statements/ examples in the body of the essay
- Style and Conventions (10pts) – academic language and vocabulary is used to write a formal essay; evidence of proof-reading; correct usage of grammar and standard English conventions

Essay is worth an 80 point test grade.

ASSIGNMENT DUE DATE: First Day full day of classes