

## US I Honors History Summer Reading 2018-2019

Your summer reading assignment is to read Joseph Ellis's *Founding Brothers* (2000).

**Read and take notes on the entire book**, making sure that you address the questions below within your notes. You should have many pages of notes. The notes must be hand written in a composition notebook.

**You will be required to write a timed essay analyzing this book during the first week of school. You will be able to use your notes while writing the essay. Therefore, if you have taken detailed notes while reading the book, it will assist you in writing your essay. You will also hand in your composition notebook for a grade. It will be graded on organization and depth of information.**

### Joseph J. Ellis, *Founding Brothers*

Throughout this book, the author draws a comparison between what could be considered the two revolutionary moments in the founding of the United States of America: 1776 (the Declaration of Independence and the fight for self-government) and 1787 (the creation and ratification of the U.S. Constitution). As you read the book, please make note of any examples you find of comparisons or tensions between these two revolutionary moments.

Keep in mind:

- What ideals, beliefs, and values does each “revolution” represent?
- Which “founding brothers” are most closely associated with each revolution and why?
- What are the similarities between the two revolutions?
- What are the differences between the two revolutions? What tensions or conflicts arise as a result of these differences?
- What impact do the ideals of each revolution have upon the key issues that faced the early United States? Consider especially the following issues:
  - Economic policy
  - Slavery
  - Foreign policy
  - The rule of law