Name_____

AP American Government & Politics *Mr. Lewis* Summer Reading

The independent reading requirement is an important feature of an advanced placement course. It serves to help you become an active reader and thoughtful reader and to prepare you for college level work. The books below may be found at the local library, purchased online or at a bookstore. You are required to turn in your independent reading assignment and this cover sheet on the first day of the course. **Late work will not be accepted.** It will count as 25% of your quarter grade.

While reading you must complete a Dialectical Journal (sometimes called a double-entry journal or a reader response journal). A Dialectical Journal is a journal that records dialogue, or conversation, between the ideas in the book and the ideas of the reader. This is what you must do in your journal: keep a dialog with yourself. Identify interesting passages from the reading (including page number where it can be found), then write down your thoughts, questions, insights, and/or ideas pertaining to the passage. The important part is that you, the reader, are reading something and responding to it with your feelings and ideas. The assignment consists of **TWO parts: a one/two page summary of the author's thesis/main idea (and supporting details) AND 15 entries from the book (5 from the beginning, 5 from the middle, and 5 from the end).** It must be legibly handwritten in blue or black ink. Your journal entries will be graded based on your understanding and the insightfulness of your conversation. (One sentence response is not acceptable. The project should be 4-6 pages double-spaced or equivalent written. It is preferred that it is typed, but written work will be accepted.) Therefore, you should NOT list a quote that you do not understand and simply say "interesting idea, but I do not understand it or care to understand it." The two/three page summary of the author's main idea will be graded on the basis of your ability to indentify the thesis, along with evidence/details that support it.

Here is what a Didactic Journal looks like:

Dialectical Journal

Quotation	Page	Why do I find this quotation interesting or important?
Quotation	Page	Why do I find this quotation relevant?

Select one of the books below:

HRC: State Secrets and the Rebirth of Hillary Clinton by Allen, Jonathan and Parnes, Amie

Audacity of Hope by Barack Obama

Crippled America: How to Make America Great Again by Donald J. Trump

Start this project early, as you may have trouble getting a book or completing it effectively if you wait until August. If you need to reach me over the summer, you may contact me at sweetland3@yahoo.com. I will be traveling in several regions of the world including Europe this summer and posting some stories if you like to follow my athlete page – Facebook: Harvey Lewis Ultrarunner. The electronic version of our textbook will be coming and I will update you on the chapters you must read for this summer.