

**Brock University
Department of History**

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

HIST 3P16

Winter 2014

Dr. Mark Spencer

Assignment #1

This assignment has two parts. Please do Part A and Part B.

Part A: Secondary Source Summary

Write a four-page (approx. 1000 word) summary of Ray Raphael's *A People's History of the American Revolution*.

In your summary you should give particular attention to Raphael's argument. You will want to discuss all major aspects of that argument and give some details, but avoid becoming lost in the details. Indeed, you will have to be concise in your summary so to stay within your word limit. For this part of the assignment you are not required to (nor should you) consult any sources other than Raphael's book. When you quote from Raphael's book (as you should) provide citations (using *ibid* is fine; see Rampolla, 115) and be sure to quote accurately.

Part B: Primary Sources

Choose one of the following:

1) What do you think was the strongest aspect of Raphael's argument? Provide a 250-word answer to that question. Then, using the *America's Historical Imprints* database, find two primary sources that Raphael did not cite but which you think would further strengthen his argument. Provide full bibliographical details for the sources and explain, using one page for each source (about 250 words per source, 500 words in total) how each document would have been useful to Raphael.

OR

2) What do you think was the weakest aspect of Raphael's argument? Provide a 250-word answer to that question. Then, using the *America's Historical Imprints* database, find two primary sources that demonstrate the weakness of this aspect of Raphael's argument. Provide full bibliographical details for the sources and explain, using one page for each source (about 250 words per source, 500 words in total) how each document supports the weakness discussed above.

Note: Assignment #1 is due at the beginning of lecture on **Monday, February 3**. This assignment is worth **10%** of your final course grade.

Please review the section on "Written Assignments" in the outline for this course. Pay particular attention to the "Notes Concerning Assignments," the discussion of plagiarism, and the penalty for late submissions.

Remember to upload your assignment to Turnitin (see course outline for details) before submitting it to the instructor in lecture.