



ENG 402: Advanced Placement English Literature & Composition Summer Reading

Dear students,

Welcome to Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition! You have chosen a challenging, but rewarding path. This course is for students with intellectual curiosity, a strong work ethic, and a desire to learn. I know all of you have been well prepared for the “Wonderful World of Literature” in which we will delve into a wide selection of fiction, drama, and poetry.

In order to prepare for the course, you will complete a Summer Reading Assignment prior to returning to school in the fall. Your summer assignment has been designed with the following goals in mind: to help you build confidence and competence as readers of complex texts; to give you, when you enter class in the fall, an immediate basis for discussion of literature – elements like narrative viewpoint, symbolism, plot structure, point of view, etc.; to set up a basis for comparison with other works we will read this year; to provide you with the beginnings of a repertoire of works you can write about on the AP Literature Exam next spring; and last but not least, to enrich your mind and stimulate your imagination.

If you have any questions about the summer reading assignment (or anything else pertaining to next year), please feel free to email me (esargent@vdoh.org). I hope you will enjoy and learn from your summer reading. I am looking forward to seeing you in class next year! Have a lovely summer!

Read:

All the Light We Cannot See, Anthony Doerr

- Please annotate as you read (annotations will be due on our first day of school)

One (1) additional text from the attached AP reading list

- Please annotate as you read (annotations will be due on our first day of school)
- Note: you may also want to select a text that does NOT appear on the list. If this is the case, please email Mr. Sargent for approval before reading.
- **Parents and students are encouraged to research individual choice texts, as the content varies.
- Common Sense Media (www.common sense media.com), Goodreads (www.goodreads.com), and Wikipedia (www.wikipedia.com) are excellent resources to consult and will help in determining if the content of a text aligns with your family’s individual media guidelines. If you are unsure of what book you may enjoy, ask a member of the English Department—we love talking about books, and can recommend a text from this list based on your interests! Parents are encouraged to read the texts in tandem with their child, as this creates the opportunity for dialogue about what they are reading and how they are responding to the texts.**

- **Some of the AP selections may contain any of the following:** sexual assault, domestic violence, death by suicide, graphic violence. Please RESEARCH your novel before making a final selection.
- **Academic Integrity: As with every class assignment, all summer reading work should be original – do not consult online resources, or collaborate with peers on this assignment. Give yourself plenty of time to complete this assignment in a thoughtful and thorough manner. I am interested in your original thoughts and ideas, not another person’s insights or observations.**

Write:

- A 500-word essay based upon the following AP prompt on **either** text:
 - *In a well-written essay, analyze how [author] utilizes literary elements and techniques to [convey/portray/develop a thematic, topical, or structural aspect of the passage that is complex and specific to the novel].*
- On the first day of class, bring at least one complete college application essay. This essay needs to be a different and new topic from the essay you wrote during your junior year. We will begin conferencing these essays upon your return.

If you have the time and inclination, please select further summer reading from the attached list of College Board referenced works. Note: you will not need to know every work listed, but being familiar with as many great works as possible will only help you.

Mr. Sargent

AP Selections:

The Age of Innocence, Edith Wharton
All the King’s Men, Robert Penn Warren
Another Country, James Baldwin
As I Lay Dying, William Faulkner
Atonement, Ian McEwan
Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man, James Weldon Johnson
Beloved, Toni Morrison
Black Boy, Richard Wright
Bleak House, Charles Dickens
The Blind Assassin, Margaret Atwood
Bone: A Novel, Fae M. Ng
Catch-22, Joseph Heller
Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, Tennessee Williams
Ceremony, Leslie Marmon Silko
The Color Purple, Alice Walker
Crime & Punishment, Fyodor Dostoevsky
Doctor Faustus, Christopher Marlowe
A Doll’s House, Henrik Ibsen
Dreaming in Cuban, Christina Garcia
East of Eden, John Steinbeck
Emma, Jane Austen

The Fall, Albert Camus
A Farewell to Arms, Ernest Hemingway
500 Words or Less, Juleah del Rosario
A Gathering of Old Men, Ernest Gaines
The Grapes of Wrath, John Steinbeck
Great Expectations, Charles Dickens
Go Tell it on the Mountain, James Baldwin
Heart of Darkness, Joseph Conrad
The House of Mirth, Edith Wharton
Jude the Obscure, Thomas Hardy
The Kite Runner, Khaled Hosseini
A Lesson Before Dying, Ernest Gaines
Light in August, William Faulkner
Long Day's Journey into Night, Eugene O'Neil
Mrs. Dalloway, Virginia Woolf
My Antonia, Willa Cather
Native Son, Richard Wright
1984, George Orwell
Old School, Tobias Wolff
One Hundred Years of Solitude, Gabriel Garcia Marquez
Out of Africa, Isak Dinesen
The Plague, Albert Camus
A Room of One's Own, Virginia Woolf
A Room with a View, E.M. Forster
Sister Carrie, Theodore Dreiser
Slaughterhouse-Five, Kurt Vonnegut
The Stranger, Albert Camus
Sula, Toni Morrison
The Sun Also Rises, Ernest Hemingway
Their Eyes Were Watching God, Zora Neale Hurston
The Things They Carried, Tim O'Brien
A Thousand Acres, Jane Smiley
Tracks, Louise Erdrich
Typical American, Gish Jen
Uncle Tom's Cabin, Harriet Beecher Stowe
We Were the Mulvaney's, Joyce Carol Oates
Wuthering Heights, Emily Bronte
The Zoo Story, Edward Albee