



WHITE PLAINS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
WHITE PLAINS HIGH SCHOOL
550 NORTH STREET
WHITE PLAINS, NEW YORK 10605
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Emerly Martinez
Principal

June 2023

Dear Students:

Greetings! Welcome to English 3 Honors for the 2023-2024 school year. This course is often seen as a bridge to AP Literature, SUPA, and ECE, which are course options with college credit available during senior year. Consequently, this course is more rigorous and will require you to read, analyze, and write across multiple genres: short stories, novels, poetry, essays, speeches, and excerpts from memoirs, biographies, and autobiographies.

Because this course is seen as a pre-AP class because of the rigorous expectations in these higher level classes, one of the course goals is for you to walk into a college-level classroom with a greater sense of mastery in reading, writing, speaking, and critical thinking. For the summer reading assignment, please choose one of the following books to read: *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevens **or** *A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest J. Gaines. Both books are available at no cost to you on Sora, accessible through the WPHS library website. You can find instructions on how to use Sora by going to the following link:
<https://wphslibrary.libguides.com/c.php?g=154422> .

To demonstrate you have read the books, please write us a letter or an essay about your reflection and reaction to it. In your written piece, tell us what you enjoyed about the novel, what questions the book raises, and discuss the parallels between your book of choice and American society today. This writing piece should be a minimum of three paragraphs. Please be prepared to submit this written response on the first day of school.

In September, you will be asked to demonstrate and apply your knowledge of both books. You will be expected to recall specific details from both texts in a formal reading assessment.

We look forward to meeting you in September! Have a safe and healthy summer.

Sincerely,

Jessica Livingston

Patricia Melcher