

Olathe North High School

AP Literature & Composition Summer Assignment 2026

To ensure a successful beginning to next year, you will read *The Nickel Boys* by Colson Whitehead, winner of the 2020 Pulitzer Prize for fiction. It is best if you purchase your own copy; however, we do have copies available for checkout. Please contact one of us before the end of school to check out a copy.

The work you do this summer is the foundation for the beginning of next year. You should complete your reading by **Monday, August 17**. We will work with this novel for the first 3-6 weeks of class with such activities as in-class writing, small group and whole class discussions, Socratic seminars, passage analysis, and creative projects. Therefore, if you do not read during the summer, you will be behind from the first day of school.

Earning College Credit

There are two ways to earn college credit for English during your senior year:

- 1) **Take the AP exam in May 2027.** The college credit you earn depends on the score you earn and what your chosen college awards for your score. You should check your potential colleges' AP policies online.
- 2) **Enroll in College Now.** Senior AP English counts as two semesters at JCCC: Composition I in the fall and Composition II in the spring. You will enroll and pay for each semester separately. If you are considering College Now, we **highly recommend** that you read all information available on the JCCC College Now website and complete your JCCC application before school starts.

JCCC College Now website: jccc.edu/collegenow

Senior AP Teacher Information

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Skills & Knowledge We Expect You to Have Mastered Prior to This Class

- 1) Writing well-developed paragraphs
 - a. Topic sentence/assertion/central claim for a paragraph
 - b. Use of evidence to prove assertion
 - c. Commentary connecting evidence to assertion
 - d. Use of multiple pieces of evidence along with commentary per paragraph
 - e. Concluding/transition sentences
- 2) Use of Text in Writing
 - a. Paraphrasing & summarizing
 - b. Embedding direct quotes so they integrate into the grammar of your own sentence
 - c. Using a colon to introduce a quote with a complete sentence
- 3) Grammar & Punctuation Conventions
 - a. Punctuating direct quotes properly
 - b. Italicizing or underlining book titles