

AP English LITERATURE Summer Reading**SENIOR COURSE**

East of Eden, John Steinbeck (It's long. Get started early.)

In preparation for the year ahead, we are assigning *East of Eden* for you to read. This reading has been chosen for its literary merit, its compelling drama, and as a basis for studying Biblical allusions. Since allusions to the Bible occur frequently in literature and AP English students should be able to recognize them, we ask that you read and research the first four chapters in the Book of Genesis from the King James Bible. We will go into more depth with the importance of these allusions to the work overall when you return. This assignment can strengthen your prowess as a reader--a vital skill for this challenging course.

You must have the above work completed by the first day of school. Know that when you return to school in the fall, you will have important assignments that involve the summer reading. Although there is not a required written assignment due upon return, you would be wise to take notes on the work and to engage in supplementary reading. We want you to enjoy reading the work, but also be thoughtful and analytical to demonstrate your commitment to the class. There will be a few copies in the counseling office available for checking out, primarily reserved for need-based students.

Please contact Ms. Gossard (holly.gossard@bvsd.org) or Ms. Freeland (anne.freeland@bvsd.org) if you have any concerns or questions. Happy Reading!