Tyrrell Senior Religion Summer 2026 Assignment

Good Afternoon Seniors! Does that salutation sound great, strange, and merited- *Seniors*!

I hope that your summer vacation is going well- free time, fun time, work time, responsible time, volunteer time and reading a book time, too!

The following is your ***summer reading assignment for Senior Religion***- Fall semester World Religions!

Come sign out and pick up the book up at the front desk at ASH Rosary- Ms. Blamphin has copies for you to sign out-

***The Art of Living: the classical Manual on Virtues, Happiness, and Effectiveness*,** by Epictetus (pronounced: Eh-pick-tee-tus). It is a new interpretation (not translation) by Sharon Lebell.

To learn more about **Lebell and her interpretation read pp. 116-120!**

Please read the Prologue (vii-viii) and "The Spirit of Epictetus" (ix-xiii). The Prologue will give you a sense of Epictetus and his writings, a first century Roman philosopher, of the stoic school in Athens. "The Spirit of Epictetus" continues that introduction and sets the stage for his writings to follow. Lebell's piece (pp 116-120) will help you understand why she maintains Epictetus to be important for us today! It is an insightful piece on reading Epictetus!

Your assignment: Read Prologue, *Spirit of Epictetus*, and Lebell's mini-essay (pp 116-120)!

1- **Choose one week out of your summer** to *dedicate to reading* a section of Epictetus **in the morning and then in the evening.** Your daily am & pm readings can come from **anything on pages 3-79**, in any order you like! You choose what section you will read and reflect on.

2- I expect **seven entries with two sections (am and pm sub-entries for a total of 14 entries) (2 readings per day for a week! 2x7=14!)** a few sentences of reflection on the am and the pm section you chose. You will see that some sections are a few lines, others a paragraph or two, others a page or more. **You are free to choose whatever section to read (pp3-79), reflect and write on.**

Answer the following questions- use them as starting points for reflection:

a. What is Epictetus saying? Quote text to help you explain what you understand. (p.# needed)

b. Has this saying of Epictetus taken life for you in your own life? How? If not, why not?

c. Do you agree or disagree with what Epictetus states?

3- ***Be thoughtful and reflective!*** Take time to review your day to see if anything Epictetus says confirms your experiences/feelings/thoughts or not!

4- MSA is not up for the new school year yet, so please ***use a google doc*** and when you finish send it to me!

5- The summer assignment is ***due on or before August 12th,*** our first day of school! ***No late papers! 10 point deduction for the first day and 10 points each day thereafter!*** Any questions or concerns, email me!

Have a safe and fun summer!

Dr. Tyrrell, Senior Religion **wtyrrell@ashrosary.org**