AP Literature and Composition
2026 Summer Reading Information
Mr. Mormile

<u>Assignment 1:</u> Reading Journal/Reflective Essay (Worth 1 Test Grade)

1. Choose your book and have it approved by me by the end of the school year. This is one of the first steps in becoming an AP student, and if you do not receive approval by me before the close of school on **Wednesday, June 17th** you have not satisfied the first of many requirements and will not move forward in the class.
2. Re-read the book that you have read within the last 3 years and keep a reading journal from which you will produce a 3-5 page reflective essay where you will address the following: What new discoveries did you come across in this work the 2nd time around? Since you already know the outcome of the book, did your re-read change your perspective of the entire work? If yes, how so? What conclusions can you draw regarding the benefits of re-reading a work? What was this experience like, to re-read a familiar book with "new" eyes?
3. On the first day of school, you are to submit to me **BOTH** your journal and your essay as you walk in the door or you will not move forward in the class.

<u>Assignment Two:</u> Flashcards/Terms for Literary Allusions and Literary Terms (Worth 1 Quiz Grade)

1. Make a flashcard for **EACH** term/allusion listed on the chart (the terms are on a separate sheet) Make sure you use **RELIABLE** information as you will be using these throughout the year.
2. Study these terms over the summer.
3. Show me these cards on the first day of school for credit.
4. Be prepared for a quiz on these terms on the first day of school!
5. Make sure the cards are legible, as I am grading them and you will be keeping them for future reference.

<u>Assignment Three:</u> Reading two epics/Analytical Essay-The Hero (Worth 1 Test Grade)

1. Write an analytical essay connecting the two main characters (who may or may not be heroes) with their respective societies. Consider where each hero was from, the time period/culture he represents, and the civilization from which he emerges. In a 5-7 page essay you are to analyze how each hero is essentially produced by his society, as Spencer explores in the statement below. Using this quote as your basis, discuss each heroic figure in depth, using corresponding quotes from the text, in order to prove your thesis. Outside research may be included, but be sure to cite all of your sources in MLA format on a Works Cited page at the end of the essay. Do NOT use Wikipedia as a source.
2. Use both texts in your essay; if you do not cite both works, you are not completing the assignment. Your words will mean very little without the text to back you up (as you shall discover more and more, every day in AP Lit.)

"(Y)ou must admit that the genesis of a great man depends on the long series of complex influences which has produced the race in which he appears, and the social state into which that race has slowly grown…Before he can remake his society, his society must make him."
Herbert Spencer

REQUIREMENTS:
*type in Times New Roman, 12 font.
*MLA format (heading, spacing, works cited page)
*In-text citations (parenthetical referencing)
*5-7 pages in length
*utilize both texts in your essay (*Odyssey* and *The Things They Carried*.)

MOST IMPORTANTLY:

Purchase the three summer reading books (one book of your choice from assignment one, and then *The Odyssey* and *The Things They Carried* for this assignment.) You **WILL be taking notes in these books, etc. so I want you to buy them. They should only cost about $15 total if you get them used on-line. You don't **NEED** a new text. Buy a used one? If you can't purchase your own, we have them available in the library or some may be available in e-text.

All of these assignments are due **THE MOMENT you enter the class on the first day of school (with hero essay due on **Friday, August 14th**).

This material is essential for first quarter and beyond; you must do these assignments and do them on time-don't risk it and be sure to print them at home!

You must clear your re-read book with me before you depart for the summer on **June 14th. You must also get the two summer reading texts for your analytical essay on your own promptly.

**You will not be required to purchase an AP textbook, but you will have to check one out during the first week of school, much like any other textbook. (To be determined.)

As AP students, I expect you to handle these assignments on your own over the summer. I will **NOT accept drafts of work or even outlines; students of AP caliber should be able to "run" with these items.