

Summer Reading 2026-2027

Honors/Dual Enrollment English

4206/4207

Our summer reading program encourages students to read throughout the summer and is meant to reinforce the literature program during the school year. We strongly recommend that you become an active reader while reading these summer selections—take notes and highlight key passages as you read the assigned stories. This behavior will help you become a more capable reader and your notations will serve as a valuable tool when studying for tests.

Before next fall, students are responsible for having read the book or books assigned to their class and completing the web search. Testing and writing about this book and the terms will be done during the first week of school and will not be prefaced by a review. The test over the text and web searches will test the students' comprehension of the main ideas relating to each assignment. It is important that each student complete the reading of the book(s) over the summer, as the test for a MAJOR GRADE will be administered the first week of school. Moreover, throughout the year, the terms will be used as discussion pieces as they relate to various assignments and contexts of the class.

English 4206/4207

1) *Out of the Silent Planet* by C. S. Lewis

WEB SEARCH

Answers MUST BE HANDWRITTEN!!

Theoretical Approaches to Literature

Students should search the web (remember to find valid sources and do not use Wikipedia) and understand the general concepts of the following theoretical approaches. **You will turn in your definitions and notes—which must be handwritten—for a grade.** As assessment, students will be asked to write a summary of each approach. The summary should include a brief definition (at least, three sentences) and the names of some key theorists (one or two). (At the bottom of this

page is a list of websites where the student can get started).

Post-Colonial Theory
Structuralism
Reader Response Criticism
Post-Structuralism/Deconstruction
New Criticism
Post-Modernism

Students should also be familiar with the list of terms below. **Along with submitting a handwritten list of definitions,** students will be tested over these terms in a multiple-choice/matching format.

Alterity / The “OTHER”
Diaspora
Eurocentrism
Imperialism
Sign vs. Symbol
Logocentrism
Discourse
Horizons of expectations
Interpretive communities
Ethos/Pathos/Logos: Aristotelian Triangle

Helpful Link:

<http://www.kristisiegel.com/theory.htm>

**SEE NEXT PAGE FOR IMPORTANT
REMINDERS/WARNING!!**

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

For Honors Students

It is the student's responsibility to read the material about literary theory and the theorists *in preparation for this course*. **A simple, last-minute perusal of a wiki-type website will not suffice as a substitute for careful and close reading of the theoretical information.** Moreover, the sites provided on the previous page are intended to be explored and notes are to be taken (in addition to the actual "for a grade" assignment). **Simply copying the first definition the student finds is insufficient effort for this course.**

It is most important that students practice their note-taking skills as they read and research the summer material.

At later dates the class will frequently need to recall material read in the summer; no one can remember important details several months later. **Only *coherent notes* will protect the student from displaying lack of knowledge.**

YOU are expected to perform on an honors level suitable for seniors at a college preparatory institution. As the terms and techniques associated with literary theory will be used throughout the year, it is important that you take the summer assignment seriously.

AN IMPORTANT WARNING

CONCERNING READING

It is impossible to remember even significant details of works which were studied (however thoroughly) even only a few weeks before a writing assignment or test. College-bound students **MUST** learn to take notes and to depend on their notes, not their memories. Honors English 12 students **MUST** take notes on summer reading, independent reading, and homework assignments; without this type of "reference material," college-bound students will not find academic success.