

2019-2020

Dear Incoming AP Literature Student:

Welcome to the Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition Program for the 2019-20 school year! I am delighted that you have selected AP as your choice for senior English. This program will enhance your reading and writing abilities, prepare you for the AP English Literature and Composition exam, and provide the possibility of earning college credit.

Through this course, you will become versed in the historical and cultural significance of a wide range of authors. In order to prepare for this challenge, you must complete an AP summer assignment consisting of **reading three books and writing an essay**. While the essay will allow me to evaluate your writing, the assignment will also help you to prepare for the rigorous amount of reading assigned in this course.

The Summer Assignment – In addition to the required book you all have to read, select two works of literature from the attached list. Write a 2-3 page essay (12 pt. Times New Roman font, double spaced) comparing and contrasting characters from the two selections. Incorporate your knowledge of specific plot details into the essay and include short quotations to back up major claims. You will receive a 0% if you submit an essay that merely summarizes without including specific quotations from the text.

Since everyone is required to read ***How to Read Literature Like a Professor: a Lively and Entertaining Guide to Reading Between the Lines*** by Thomas C. Foster, attempt to use some of the pointers in this book as a guide for your analysis. ***In addition to writing your essay, you should be ready to take a test on Foster's book during the first week of school.*** Remember, internet summaries and other study aides alone will not provide the material needed to write a quality essay. Your summer reading essay is due on the first day of class. As is the case for the entire year, **I will not accept electronic submissions or late work.**

If you have any questions concerning the assignment, please email me at smith.kathleen@pburgsd.net or see our school librarian. Be advised that I will be out of town for much of the summer and will not always be available for questions. I look forward to reading your analysis and working with you on all future assignments. Enjoy your summer!

Sincerely,

Mrs. K. Smith
AP English Literature Teacher