

Congratulations! You have made the wise decision in registering for Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition, and we would like to welcome you to the class!

First, we are requesting that you purchase and read *one* of the following titles below. This list includes excellent background reading for the AP course as well as for college. And a second reading will only heighten your ability to acknowledge the power of style, syntax, and diction. Of course, reading more than one title will give you options for your first essay.

Margaret Atwood	<i>The Handmaid's Tale</i> (1985; Governor General's Award, Canada)
Anthony Doerr	<i>All the Light We Cannot See</i> (2014; 2015 Pulitzer)
Ralph Ellison	<i>Invisible Man</i> (1952; National Book Award 1953)
Khaled Hosseini	<i>The Kite Runner</i> (2003) <i>A Thousand Splendid Suns</i> (2007)
Kazuo Ishiguro	<i>Never Let Me Go</i> (2005; 2017 Nobel Prize for Literature)
Gabriel Garcia Marquez	<i>One Hundred Years of Solitude</i> (1967)
Cormac McCarthy	<i>The Road</i> (2006; 2007 Pulitzer)
Toni Morrison	<i>Beloved</i> (1987; 1988 Pulitzer)
Celeste Ng	<i>Little Fires Everywhere</i> (2017)
Delia Owens	<i>Where the Crawdads Sing</i> (2018)
Colson Whitehead	<i>Underground Railroad</i> (2016; 2017 Pulitzer) <i>The Nickel Boys</i> (2019; 2020 Pulitzer)

The work that you select should be work you have not previously studied. The summer reading will be an important part of the first nine weeks' study. You should anticipate being evaluated on the summer reading during the first week of class. We will assume that you will have read one novel by the first day of class in August and are prepared to write a Q3 essay about it.

As you read your choice novel, you should be conducting a careful, textual analysis. This requires marking up the text, so please formulate a method of thoughtful exploration. We have also included some helpful analytical, annotative strategies for your choice novel. [AP Literature and Composition: Summer Reading Annotation Guide](#) and [Novel Review Sheet.docx](#).

Lastly, we are also asking you to purchase a copy of *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* by Thomas C. Foster for personal use throughout the year. You will need this text for the second week of school. [How to Read Literature Like a Professor](#):

Have a wonderful summer! We are looking forward to seeing you in the fall:)

Sincerely,

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