

# LITERATURE SUMMER ASSIGNMENT

## 2020

Dear Students:

Listed below are tasks that you need to complete over the summer in order to get off to a great start next August. Please e-mail Mr. Feldhaus at ([cfeldhaus@rivercityscience.org](mailto:cfeldhaus@rivercityscience.org)) if you have any questions.

### **Reading:**

You are to obtain a copy of *How to Read Literature like a Professor* by Thomas C. Foster. You can purchase it online or through a bookstore, such as *Barnes and Noble* or *Amazon*. Next, choose one of the texts below:

- Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison
- Kindred by Octavia Butler
- Homegoing by Yaa Gyasi
- Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe
- If Beale Street Could Talk by James Baldwin

You will be using both of these books quite extensively, annotating and marking them up, so you might want to get a used copy of your text and *How to Read Literature*.

As mentioned before, you will be **REQUIRED** to annotate the text, marking significant passages and writing abundant marginal notes. You will need to bring both books to class the first day of school so your annotations can be checked. **If you are unsure how to mark a book, I have attached an outline that describes this process in detail.** **Annotations are a portion of the overall grade.**

### **Writing:**

**First**, read *How to Read Literature* and then read the text you chose. Apply the novel to a chapter of your choice in Foster. There is a sample essay in the back of Foster to guide you, as well as multiple examples within each chapter. Your chapter response will be a five-paragraph essay between 750 - 1,000 words in length. For example, if you are reading the chapter "He's Blind for a Reason, You Know" in *How to Read Literature*, you will write an essay on the significance of the blind man in your text. **This essay will be due THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL.**

Essays that are submitted after the due date will not be eligible for full credit.

### **Terminology:**

On the first day of school, we will have a Terms Test over literary and poetic terminology. You will study the list of terms given to you below. Be prepared: **If you fail this test, you will be switched out of AP Literature.**

# Required Reading Permission Slips Due May 24th, 2020

**By signing the below, parents are stating they have read and understand the requirements of summer reading. I understand if my child does not complete these assignments, I will receive a zero for 15% of their first quarter grade.**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Parent or guardian signature)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# River City Science Academy AP Literature and Composition Contract

Please Print

Name			
Home Phone		Cell Phone	
e-mail Address			

Course Name: AP Literature and Composition  
Room #: 204  
Course Instructor: Mr. Feldhaus  
Supporting Web: RCSA Connect  
Instructor Email: [cfeldhaus@rivercityscience.org](mailto:cfeldhaus@rivercityscience.org)

## **Summer Reading**

Required Selection: *How to Read Literature like a Professor* by Thomas C. Foster.

Additional Selections: Choose **ONE** of the following choices to read:

- Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison
- Kindred by Octavia Butler
- Homegoing by Yaa Gyasi
- Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe
- If Beale Street Could Talk by James Baldwin

## **Class Novels**

- *Sing, Unburied, Sing* by Jesmyn Ward
- *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald
- *Slaughterhouse Five* by Kurt Vonnegut
- *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare
- *The Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka
- *As I Lay Dying* by William Faulkner
- *M. Butterfly* by David Henry Hwang

**\*\*No digital copies allowed! You must buy a hard copy of each book as you will be expected to bring the book to class every day while we are reading it!\*\***

## **Required Materials**

- 1 3-ring binder, at least 1" required to keep all papers and notes for the semester for midterms and finals
- Spiral notebook with COLLEGE RULE paper only!

- 1 box of blue or black ink pens – BLUE OR BLACK INK WILL BE THE ONLY COLORS I WILL GRADE

1 box of highlighters – any color

### **Course Description**

AP English Literature and Composition is a two semester course offered to advanced level juniors. It is intended to be the equivalent of a college freshman composition course which will engage students in becoming skilled readers and writers. All students enrolled in AP Literature must remain in the course for the full academic year. Emphasis will be on expository, analytical, and argumentative writing as a basis for academic and professional communication.

In the spring, students will take the AP Literature and Composition test for possible college credit. However, the score on the AP test does not impact the final grade for the course. Students are required to produce original essays and analyze professional texts both in and out of class. Due to the **depth** and **rigor** of the course, students must be prepared for the extra time and effort required to succeed academically.

Additionally, students are expected to complete a summer assignment, which will be collected one week after the start of the fall semester. **If students do not complete this summer assignment, they will not be allowed to stay enrolled in the course.**

Students who do not complete the following requirements during the first or subsequent quarters can and will be asked to be removed from AP Literature and Composition:

1. Failure to maintain a **B**
2. More than **three** unexcused absences in one quarter
3. Accumulating more than **two** missing assignments

By the end of the course, “students should become aware of the interactions among a writer’s purposes, audience expectations, and subjects as well as the way generic conventions and the resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing” (The College Board).

### **Course Expectations**

According to The College Board, upon completing the AP English Literature and Composition course, **students should be able to:**

1. analyze and interpret samples of good writing, identifying and explaining an author’s use of rhetorical strategies
2. apply effective strategies and techniques in their own writing
3. create and sustain arguments based on readings, research, and/or personal experience
4. write for a variety of purposes
5. produce expository, analytical, and argumentative compositions that introduce and develop a complex central idea
6. demonstrate understanding and mastery of standard written English as well as stylistic maturity
7. demonstrate understanding of the conventions of citing primary and secondary sources
8. move effectively through the stages of the writing process
9. write thoughtfully about their own process of composition
10. revise a work to make it suitable for a different audience
11. analyze image as text
12. evaluate and incorporate reference documents into research papers

### **Mr. Feldhaus’s AP Academic Integrity**

The following actions will be deemed violations of Academic Integrity:

- When a student takes credit for work that is not their own or allows someone else to copy their work, this will be deemed a violation of our Academic Integrity Standards.

- If a student looks at another student’s paper or sends or receives test data during or before a quiz or test or uses materials on a test or quiz that have not been approved, this is a breach of Academic Integrity.
- If a student plagiarizes someone’s work, whether it is another student’s or reference material, this will be a violation of Academic Integrity.
- Students must maintain at least a B average in the course in order to stay in the class. Decisions about student removal will be made at the quarterly marking periods.
- Students must complete at least 80% of their classroom and homework assignments in order to remain in the class.

The following consequences will be enacted if a violation occurs:

- The parents of the student who has been academically dishonest will be notified of the event
- The student will receive an automatic zero (failing grade) on the assignment or test; no make-up work will be offered to compensate for the zero.

The following consequences may be enacted if a violation occurs:

- The student may be removed from the class for one day at the teacher’s discretion
- The student may face suspension from extra-curricular activities, including sports programs

**Information for Parents:**

Although AP English Literature and Composition is a rigorous class, students who complete it, regardless of their final course grades, are far more prepared to succeed in college. For more information about the class, please visit the College Board website at <http://apcentral.collegeboard.com> and follow the links to the AP English Literature and Composition course description page.

**Contact Information:**

Mr. Feldhaus  
 cfeldhaus@rivercityscience.org  
 (904) 855-8010

---

-----

***AP English Literature and Composition***  
**Parent/Student Contract**

I have read all of the accompanying information regarding AP English Literature and Composition, I am familiar with the expectations and consequences related to the successful completion of this course, and I pledge to uphold my responsibilities associated with this difficult academic endeavor.

---

Student’s Signature  
 Date

---

Date

---

Parent’s Signature