Welcome to AP LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION! These required summer reading and writing assignments will provide opportunities for you to read deliberately, closely, and thoroughly, taking time to understand a work’s complexity, absorb its meaning, and analyze how that meaning is expressed in literary form. It is essential for students to complete the summer reading and writing assignments as these assignments will be an important part of our focus during the first weeks of Quarter 1.

Each student will read 2 books.

Reading Assignment One:

Read 7 selected chapters in *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* by Thomas Foster. You may purchase a copy of this book or use the online PDF. Please see the note below referencing the cover.

Read the following 7 Chapters:
1. Chapter 1 - Every Trip Is a Quest (Except When It's Not)
2. Chapter 5 (Or 6 in older editions) - When in Doubt, It's from Shakespeare...
3. Chapter 9 (Or 10 in older editions) - It's More Than Just Rain or Snow
4. Chapter 12 - Is That a Symbol?
5. Chapter 18 - If She Comes Up, It's Baptism
6. Chapter 20 - ...So Does Season
7. Chapter 26 - Is He Serious? And Other Ironies

There are several editions to this book, so you will have to locate the correct chapter to read by looking for the title of the chapter, not the chapter number.
**Reading Assignment Two:**

Read one of the following novels (fiction). Please select a novel that you have not previously read or studied. Read the novel like a professor.

- *The Picture of Dorian Gray* - Oscar Wilde
- *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* - Robert Louis Stevenson
- *The Kite Runner* - Khaled Hosseini
- *The Awakening* - Kate Chopin
- *The Secret Life of Bees* - Sue Monk Kidd
- *The Water is Wide* - Pat Conroy

**Writing Assignment One:** This assessment will be one of your first grades in AP LIT. This assignment is due when you come to class on the FIRST day of school! This assignment is a minor grade (40% weight) first quarter grade.

- Choose five of the following short writing assignments.

1. **Chapter 1 - Every Trip Is a Quest (Except When It's Not)**
   List and explain the five aspects of the QUEST and then apply them to your novel in the form used on pages 3-5. Explain the five aspects of a quest as seen in the novel that you read. Give textual support in your answers. Use MLA format.

2. **Chapter 5 (Or 6 in older editions) - When in Doubt, It's from Shakespeare...**
   Discuss how your novel alludes to or reflects Shakespeare. Show how the author of your novel uses this connection thematically. Read pages 44-46 carefully. In these pages, Foster shows how Fugard reflects Shakespeare through both plot and theme. In your discussion, focus on theme. Give textual support in your answers. Use MLA format.

3. **Chapter 9 (Or 10 in older editions) - It's More Than Just Rain or Snow**
   Discuss the importance of weather in your novel. How does the weather impact the novel as a whole? Explain. Give examples. Give textual support in your answers. Use MLA format.

4. **Chapter 12 - Is That a Symbol?**
   Discuss one major symbol in your novel. How does this symbol impact the novel as a whole? Explain. Give textual support in your answers. Use MLA format.

5. **Chapter 18 - If She Comes Up, It's Baptism**
   Think of a "baptism scene" from your novel. How was the character different after the experience? Discuss. Give textual support in your answers. There must be water or some form of liquid for a “baptism”. Use MLA format.
6. Chapter 20 - ...So Does Season
Find a scene from your novel that mentions a specific season. Discuss how the author uses the season in a meaningful, traditional, or unusual way. Give textual support in your answers. Use MLA format.

7. Chapter 26 --Is He Serious? And Other Ironies
Explain the multi-vocal nature of the irony in your novel. Give specific examples. Give textual support in your answers. Use MLA format.

Format for Writing Assignment One: Due on FIRST Day of School!

READ AND FOLLOW ALL INSTRUCTIONS!

- Please note your responses should be plump paragraphs – not pages! As you compose each written response, rephrase the prompt as part of your answer. Be certain to use specific examples and details in your responses.

- Also, include textual evidence (direct passages) from How to Read Literature Like a Professor to support your general statements. Be sure you are properly introducing all quoted material – remember that a quote is NOT a standalone sentence! Use parenthetical citations for ALL text evidence cited, in proper MLA format!

- Again, use MLA FORMAT for parenthetical citations with page numbers. Be sure you DOUBLE-SPACE your writing. You must use Times New Roman 12-point font.

- Use textual support and specific details from your novel to support your general statements.

- Only typed papers will be accepted!

- One more reminder … use MLA format with proper heading, headers, page numbers, date, 12 point Times New Roman font, double spacing, etc.

- Check out https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/24/ if you need formatting help!

- Submit typed responses on the first day of school to your AP LIT teacher. Late points apply for work not turned in on the first day of school! It is your responsibility to print your work and bring it to class. Please do not ask your AP Lit teacher to print your work for you.

- Late submissions will receive an 11-point deduction per day.

Caution: After reading these 7 chapters and reading your novel, you might say to yourself, “My novel does not have a quest, does not allude to Shakespeare, does not have weather, contains no symbols, does not include a baptism, does not describe any seasons, and contains no examples of irony.”
• If you think that your novel contains none of these literary suggestions, do some research to help you with the assignment. These novels were hand-selected to go with these chapters from How to Read Literature Like a Professor.

• You may find that not all 7 of these chapters relate to your novel, but 5 out of the 7 will relate to your novel so that you can complete the assignment fully.

• Ultimately, if your novel does not connect to 5 out of the 7 assigned chapters, select other chapters from How to Read Literature Like a Professor to read. Your task is to write about 5 chapters and how they relate to the novel you selected to read and analyze.

• Be careful with Internet resources and research. Make wise choices.

• AP LIT teachers want to read your analysis.

• AP LIT teachers want you to do the thinking.

• AP LIT teachers do not want to read a plagiarized or paraphrased copy of Spark Notes, Cliff Notes, Shmoop, etc.

Writing Assignment Two: “In-Class Essay”

During the first week of school, students will write a timed “In-Class Essay.” Students will be given a past prompt from the AP Literature Exam to evaluate their literary analysis and composition skills. This assessment counts as a minor (40%) weight grade for first quarter AP LIT.