

Welcome to Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition!

SUMMER Requirements:

I am happy that you have taken on the rigor of an AP English class and applaud the commitment you have made. Because my focus is on helping prepare students for the path you will be taking next year, whether it is the IB courses you will be taking the next two years, the AP English exam, the ELA Common Core exam, or college, as well as your future experiences with critical analysis and written work, I require that AP English Literature students begin their AP study during the summer to address the following objectives:

- To establish the expectation that reading texts for AP courses is a critical, meaningful process
- To establish a shared reading experience to begin the year's rigorous academic work
- To gain necessary background knowledge to make you a successful reader and writer in the AP classroom and beyond

Assignment #1:

Begin your summer reading with *How to Read Literature like a Professor* by Dr. Thomas Foster. In this humorous text, Dr. Foster asks you to explore and challenge a piece of literature on a deeper level than you may have before. There is usually something else going on in a text, and the text holds clues to a deeper meaning. Dr. Foster opens up a new world of literature, drawing from some of the world's greatest classics to explore what literature is, what it means to us, and how we can understand it. It's a fun and entertaining introduction for students (don't worry...it is NOT a textbook!). Foster's light-witty style makes for easy reading.

The entire text is available as PDF online by visiting:

<http://webcache.googleusercontent.com/search?q=cache:QKJpxmEhec0J:www.sparkascreeen.com/files/APFiles/HowToReadLiteratureLikeAProfessor.pdf+pdf+how+to+read+literature+like+a+professor&cd=1&hl=en&ct=clnk&gl=us>

Please utilize the school's website for easier access to this file, under ACADEMICS - SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS

If you would rather obtain a hard copy of this book, Amazon.com has many used copies for only a few dollars. This is HIGHLY RECOMMENDED!

As you read, create an outline of the book, chapter by chapter. Create notes for yourself that make sense to you. You may use bullet points, full paragraph summaries, etc. You will be using the ideas set forth in this book throughout the year, so be sure you are thorough. You will be completing various written assignments of your understanding of this text during the first two weeks of school.

Assignment #2:

This will consist of a series of stories and myths from the classical and Judeo-Christian traditions. The stories and myths can be read one or a few at a time, depending on their length. **Most are very short.**

To find the stories from Greek and Roman mythology, you may use any reliable online source on mythology. But you may want to buy a good mythology book for your personal library. Try Edith Hamilton's *Mythology*, which you can find in any bookstore or online used book site.

For the stories from the Judeo-Christian tradition, you may use your own Bible if you have one, or again, any online source. The Bible you use must contain both the Hebrew scriptures (the "Old" Testament); and the Christian gospels, acts, epistles, and Revelation (the "New" Testament). Any translation will do, but be aware that the "King James Version," while beautifully written, is more difficult to understand than more recent revisions.

You will keep a record of the Greek, Roman, Hebrew, and Christian stories, including for each:

- **The name of the story**
- **Its origin (Greek, Roman, Hebrew scriptures, Christian gospels)**
- **A brief summary of the action. A few sentences are all you need for each story, even the longer ones. The purpose of the summary is to *remind* you of the story, not to re-tell it! Don't go overboard.**

It would make the best sense to read the older Greek/Roman myths first, and the Bible stories in order.

Greco-Roman from classical mythology

1. Pandora
2. Odysseus (he's also called Ulysses)—a brief summary of his adventures will do
3. Pygmalion and Galatea
4. Echo and Narcissus
5. Jason and the Golden Fleece
6. Cupid and Psyche
7. Midas
8. Arachne and Athena
9. Daedalus and Icarus
10. Orpheus and Eurydice
11. Paris and the Golden Apple
12. The House of Atreus—again, a brief summary of this cursed family is enough
13. The Royal House of Thebes--ditto
14. Ceyx and Alcyone
15. Baucis and Philemon
16. Phaeton
17. Erysichthon

Judeo-Christian stories from the *Bible*:

(Note: The first name is the “book” of the Bible, and the number following is the “chapter” of that book. Most Biblical chapters are short. If there are numbers following a colon after the chapter number, they indicate the “verses” of the chapter: the story will be told within those verses only).

From the Hebrew scriptures

1. Adam and Eve, Genesis 2
2. Cain and Abel, Genesis 4
3. Noah and the Flood, Genesis 6-9
4. The Tower of Babel, Genesis 11
5. Abraham and Isaac, Genesis 21-22
6. Jacob and Esau, Genesis 27
7. Joseph and His Brothers, Genesis 37
8. Birth of Moses, Exodus 2
9. Samson (and Delilah) and the Philistines, Judges 13-16
10. David and Goliath, 1 Samuel 17
11. Job's first test, Job 1
12. Job's lament, Job 3
13. Daniel in the Lion's Den, Daniel 6
14. Jonah and the Great Fish, Jonah 1-2

From the Christian gospels:

1. The Nativity (Birth) of Jesus, Matthew 1 and/or Luke 2
2. The Magi (the “Three Wise Men”), Matthew 2:1-12
3. The Wedding Feast at Cana, John 2:1-12
4. The Good Samaritan, Luke 10:25-37
5. The Prodigal Son, Luke 15:11-32
6. The Miracle of the Loaves and Fishes, Matthew 15:30-39
7. The Rich Man and Lazarus, Luke 16:19-31
8. The Ten Talents, Matthew 25:14-30

Assessment

1. You will turn in your notes of How to Read Like a Professor the FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL. We will be completing a written assignment during the first two weeks of school applying these concepts to another text.
2. You will need to write **a summary sentence or two for each story/myth.** The best time to do that is directly after you’ve read it. I will collect these summaries the FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL and we will also conduct an allusion seminar based on these readings. You will also be taking a quiz on your understanding of these myths.

Have a wonderful summer! Stay safe and I will see you in September! ☺

If you have any questions, please feel free to email me...

Mrs. Carroll kcarroll@ktufsd.org