

## 2019-2020 AP Literature & Composition

### Summer Reading Assignment

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#### Introduction and Disclaimer

Welcome to the 2019-2020 Advanced Placement Summer Reading experience! I am excited to be teaching this course and look forward to working with you this summer and throughout the school year. The 2019-2020 AP Summer Reading Assignment offers students the opportunity to read some of contemporary fiction's most engaging and prestigious novels. The novels have earned various awards including Pulitzer Prizes, National Book Critics Circle Award, a PEN/Faulkner Award, and have been featured on *The New York Times* best sellers lists and in *Time* magazine's list "ALL-TIME 100 Novels." The selections ensure AP rigor and can be used for the Free Response question on the AP Exam. As with most contemporary fiction the novels may contain adult situations, sexual content, and violence. Please take time to research each novel before making your selection.

#### Required Reading

[\*How to Read Literature Like a Professor\*](#) - Thomas C. Foster

Focusing on theme, symbolism, allusion, intertextuality, and other literary devices, Foster gives you tips on how to be a more analytical reader, an important skill in AP Literature and Composition. This text is also necessary to complete various components of the summer reading assignment.

#### Literary Fiction Choice Reading (Choose One!)

[\*The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay\*](#) - Michael Chabon

[\*The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao\*](#) - Junot Diaz

[\*Underground Railroad\*](#) - Colson Whitehead

[\*There, There\*](#) - Tommy Orange

[\*Sing, Unburied, Sing\*](#) - Jesmyn Ward

You are not required to purchase these titles; however, there is an annotation component to the Choice Reading novel, so having your own copy will be convenient. If you're borrowing these books from a library you may use post-it notes for your annotations. (You will have to submit these at the start of the school year). Ebook annotations will be problematic and are discouraged.

Once you've decided on a summer reading novel, complete the Google form [here](#).

Survey submissions are due **TUESDAY, June 18th**. After completing this survey you are bound to this decision! You cannot decide to read another book or change groups. (However, I will contact you if there are not enough people choosing that book to make a group. Check your email for confirmation!)

## Assignment Instructions and Due Dates

1. By now, you should have joined our AP Literature Summer Reading Google Classroom. **CODE: gwbrft**
2. Complete the Google form by **Tuesday, June 18th**.
3. **Read** *How To Read Literature Like a Professor* and complete the corresponding **analysis handout** by **Thursday, July 11th**. This file can be accessed via our Summer Reading Google Classroom page (class code =**gwbrft**).
4. After completing *How to Read Literature* and its analysis handout, you will begin to **read and annotate your choice novel**. Annotations will be submitted the first week of school. Use [this rubric](#) to guide your annotations.
5. Once you complete your Google form you will also be placed in a small Google Group (think Lit Circle) in which you will be **discussing your Choice Novel**. This group acts as a forum for periodic postings/discussion. [Click here](#) for directions on how to access and modify your Google Group and its settings (*especially emails - otherwise you will get MILLIONS!*). [Click here](#) for the Google Group discussion rubric. The due dates for these postings are as follows:

### Google Group Online Discussion Dates:

Initial Post Due Dates	Response Due Dates
First Discussion Post = Thursday, July 25	First Response = Sunday, July 28
Second Discussion Post = Thursday, August 8	Second Response = Sunday, August 11
Third Discussion Post = Thursday, August 22	Third Response = Sunday, August 25

Posts can obviously be completed before the assigned due date, but see tips below about reading ahead. *If you have any issues completing the assignments on time PLEASE email me ASAP.* I highly encourage students to seek **solutions rather than use excuses**.

### Assignment Tips:

- Don't read ahead of your scheduled posting! Students who do this often have difficulty retaining details and discussing what they've already read. It's also difficult to ask questions or make comments without providing spoilers.
- Use your annotations and the *How to Read Like a Professor* handout as a basis for discussion.

6. When you return to school in September you will be expected to complete **an in-class, AP Question 3 style essay**. This essay will **not** be written the first day back. I will give you guidelines and a rubric when the time comes; however, you should be prepared to provide a well written **scholarly interpretation** of your choice novel. Use your annotations, insights from Foster, and discussions to help prepare to do this.

**AP Summer Reading Assignment Breakdown:**

*How to Read Literature Like a Professor* Handout = 50 pts

Choice Novel Google Group Online Discussion = 50 pts

Choice Novel Annotations = 50 pts

Choice Novel September Essay = 50 pts

**Total Summer Reading Experience = 200 pts**