

2020-2021 AP Literature & Composition
Summer Reading Assignment | Google Classroom Code: smmnxuj
Total Points: 200
Mrs. Schmidt - LSchmidt@roxbury.org

Introduction and Disclaimer

Welcome to the 2020-2021 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 2020-2021 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* bestsellers 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 (pending any changes to the exam after this experience). 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.

PART 1: Required Reading & Assignment #1 (50 points)

Due: July 27 (Submit to Google Classroom)

1. Read [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. We will use this text all year.
2. Complete [this assignment](#). While reading, you will build a set of notes about how to be a more analytical reader and practice your new skills.

Part 2: Literary Fiction Choice Reading & Annotations (50 points)

Due: Should be completed BEFORE completing Part 3. Novel annotations will be collected once school resumes.

1. Select **ONE** of the following contemporary novels. All of these 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* bestsellers 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 (pending any changes to the exam after this experience). 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.
 - [The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay](#) - Michael Chabon
 - [The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao](#) - Junot Diaz
 - [There, There](#) - Tommy Orange
 - [Americannah](#) - Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
 - [White Teeth](#) - Zadie Smith
 - [And the Mountains Echoed](#) - Khaled Hosseini
2. While you read your choice novel, you will complete detailed, analytical [AP level annotations](#) throughout the entirety of the novel using your new skills from *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*.

Note: 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](#).

Novel Selections are due by: July 1, 2020

(I need this information to create your Virtual Writing Workshop in part 3)

Part 3: [Mini Essay and Feedback](#) (50 points)

Due: Mini Essay Posted by: August 24 Feedback Posted by: August 26

1. After reading your novel, you will use your annotations and your Foster notes from the previous assignment to **generate a thesis** about your novel. Your thesis should contain a **defensible claim** about the text and should explore an idea that you've observed and is supported by *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*. (Samples will be provided). You will then write a **2-3 paragraph Mini Essay** that explores how the author uses literary devices and techniques to help convey the idea you've presented. You should use the new ideas in Foster to help you shape your ideas. You may cite Foster to help support your ideas.
2. Your response will be posted to a Google DOC on Google Classroom and will be shared by classmates who read the same book as you. This will create a virtual writing workshop. You will be required to respond to and leave feedback for at least 2 of your classmates' posts and respond to the feedback left for you. One way to improve your writing and thinking is to listen to and consider the feedback from others.

Part 4: Free- Response Style Essay (50 points)

Due: TBD sometime in September

When you return to school in September you will be expected to complete **an in-class, timed essay**. This essay will **not** be written on 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.