

## Summer Reading 2011-2012

### ENGLISH 12 Advanced Placement

AP Literature and Composition is a 1.5 credit course designed to provide the senior student with the workload and challenges consistent with a typical undergraduate college/university course in English literature. Through close reading, extensive writing, and logical and creative thinking, this course focuses on a variety of genres and literary periods from the sixteenth to the twenty-first century.

Prerequisites for this course are three previous credits in the honor level classes offered in our school (Genres, American Literature, and British Literature) with an average of 84% or better. Also, it is highly recommended that the student have a passion for reading and a strong foundation in writing; therefore, summer reading is extremely important. Since reading good novels/plays broadens a person's perspective, stimulates the imagination, increases one's vocabulary, and provides a means of entertainment, students in the AP English Literature and Composition course are required to read over the summer in preparation for the course before the start of the school year. The novels assigned for summer reading are those that will be used extensively during the first marking period. You will be responsible to demonstrate an understanding of the novels through discussion, writing, and testing.

#### Students enrolled in English 12AP MUST read:

- ***Their Eyes Were Watching God* \***—Zora Neale Hurston --This novel is an “enduring Southern love story sparkling with wit, beauty, and heartfelt wisdom.”
  - Reading Record Card required- see directions below.
  - **An Open Essay Style Prompt will be given within the first week of school pertaining to the above selection – tentative date 9/9.**

**Also, students in 12AP must revisit and make up three Reading Record Cards from the choices listed below:**

- *Great Expectations*
- *The Crucible*
- *The Scarlet Letter*
- *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*
- *To Kill a Mocking Bird*
- *Pride and Prejudice*
- *Wuthering Heights*
- *Macbeth*

**All cards will be collected the first day of class for credit—no exceptions. An Open Essay Style Prompt will be given between**

#### READING RECORD CARDS

Although I am not requiring you to take extensive notes on your reading, I would suggest that in order for you to keep track and remember what you have read, you record the following information on 5X8 index cards (They can also be computer generated). These will provide a valuable tool for review during the course and for the AP test at the end of the year. These should be in your words, not those of *Cliff* or *Spark Notes*, etc. That is called plagiarism!

1. Title/author- give a brief biographical background.
2. Date of publication/Literary time period
3. Setting of novel
4. Characters- main one with a few key words to denote personality
5. Plot Summary- no more than 100 words
6. Theme(s)- one sentence each –try for three themes
7. Significant quotes(s)/passages that relate to theme(s)
8. At least 3 unique literary devices (style, symbolism, allusions, irony, diction, syntax, etc). Give examples of each.

## TENTATIVE SYLLABUS: MARKING PERIOD 1

All novels mentioned below will be assigned as outside reading during the 1<sup>st</sup> marking period. Although not mandatory, if time permits, it would be wise to get a jump start on the school year by reading some of these novels during the summer months when you might have more time. They will be addressed during the first marking period in a unit entitled “The American Dream.” See the attached tentative schedule.

- 9/7 - Review of Class Criteria  
Collect pre-course book cards.  
Ongoing assignment concerning book cards explained.
- 9/8 - Administer AP Objective Test- Don’t worry. This is just a sample test to let you know what to expect. It also gives me an idea about what you do know.
- 9/9 - Open Essay Style Prompt on *Their Eyes Were Watching God*\*
- 9/12 - Review and discuss test and open essay
- 9/13 - “American Dream” Unit Introduced
- 9/14-9/23 - AP Workshop-- Attention is given to reading comprehension, literary analysis, writing, vocabulary, and grammar as necessary.  
A 2<sup>nd</sup> open essay style prompt on your past reading will be given in this time period.
- 9/26-9/30 **Outside reading- The Great Gatsby\* Due**—Class activities will include discussion, oral presentation, and written and objective testing.
- 10/3-10/14 - In class reading- *The Death of a Salesman* – Arthur Miller-- Class activities will include discussion, dramatic reading and written and objective testing.
- 10/17-10/28 - **Outside Reading- All the King’s Men\* Due--** Class activities will include discussion, oral presentation, and written and objective testing.  
Also, major reading assignments for Marking Period 2 will be assigned.

*\* I recommend that you purchase some of your own books if you like to mark them up or make your notations and comments right in the text; however, these novels are available from the Wallenpaupack Area High School and can be picked up from me (Mrs. Finney- Room 221) before the end of the school year.*