English IV AP Literature and Composition
Recommended Summer Reading

This Advanced Placement Literature and Writing course is designed to teach writing through the fundamentals of rhetorical theory and will engage students in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. This course follows the curricular requirements described in the AP English Course Description. Through the close reading of selected texts, students will deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. An AP student will consider a work’s structure, style, and themes as well as such smaller-scale—though important to the study of literature—elements of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. While keeping this description in mind, we recommend that you complete the following task prior to the commencement of school in August.

1. Acquire and read Thomas Foster’s How to Read Literature Like a Professor, ISBN: 9780062301673. While reading this book, annotate each chapter with an emphasis on the strategies Foster discusses within the chapter.

When you begin the year in August, you will receive a complete list of the books we will be reading this year. We are excited to begin the year with you in August and look forward to a productive year in AP English Literature!

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