

ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH INFORMATION
2017-2018

Dear AP Literature Applicant and Parents:

Advanced Placement Literature is a college-level, literature-based course for which students can receive both high school and college credit. Due to the advanced nature of the course, some selections will contain mature subject matter. Students must maintain a serious work ethic and attendance standards throughout the year.

This course focuses primarily on English and American literature from the Renaissance to the contemporary period. Students are expected to have done well in other honors or AP courses or have been recommended by their current English teacher. They should also have advanced writing skills and the ability to think critically. Objective exams, as well as home and in-class essay exams, will be required. Most of all, students will need to have time and space to read deeply; this material usually requires multiple readings.

A systematic study of advanced vocabulary is in order; I recommend using Word Smart Genius Edition.

The following is the list of **required** summer readings:

How to Read Literature Like a Professor by Thomas C. Foster
(You can get this work online or in local bookstores.)

The following is the list of **recommended** summer readings:

Brave New World by Aldous Huxley

Great Expectations by Charles Dickens

Hamlet by William Shakespeare

Bible and Mythology Resources:

Oxford Classical Mythology Online

www.classicalmythology.org

The online companion guide to *Classical Mythology, 7th edition*, by Mark P. O. Morford and Robert J. Lenardon is an excellent glossary that students and teachers can use directly from the Web. It can also be printed and photocopied.

Mythweb

www.mythweb.com/index.html

This searchable encyclopedia of Greek mythology is a thorough source of information for teachers and students.

www.fact-index.com/li/list_of_biblical_figures.html

For biblical sources, I prefer this encyclopedic resource, which provides detailed and multi-perspective entries on important biblical terms.