Read not to contradict, nor to believe, but to weigh and consider. Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and some to be digested. That is, some books are to be read only in parts; others to be read but curiously, and some few to be read wholly, and with diligence and attention. Reading maketh a full man, conference a ready man, and writing an exact man.” -- Francis Bacon

The primary purpose of the AP English Literature and Composition course is to give students a college-level reading and writing course which prepares them to encounter sophisticated texts with confidence, independence, and creativity. The course employs close reading, careful analysis of the text, and precise use of the text to develop the written response. Crafting the response to make the best use of the written word is but one of the goals of our AP class. The students will get a healthy mix of new and established literature, enabling students to use the AP English classroom to encounter new and uncharted literary territory while learning to respect and understand our English literary traditions.

Titles to Purchase for 2012-2013 AP English Lit & Comp.

You will be required to purchase your own copies of texts used in class. There may be a limited number of some texts you may check out, but please purchase the titles before the school year begins. It is in your best interest to have your own copy to annotate as you read. If you have financial concerns please see me or your guidance counselor ASAP to make arrangements. All the titles have been sent to Barnes & Noble at the Waterworks mall for you to purchase. However, you can purchase the texts wherever you prefer. Used texts are fine and feel free to look on eBay or Amazon.com for the lowest prices.

- How to Read Literature Like a Professor by Thomas C. Foster
- The Sportswriter by Richard Ford
- The Things They Carried by Tim O’Brien
- In The Lake of the Woods by Tim O’Brien
- Catcher in the Rye by J.D. Salinger
- Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead by Tom Stoppard
- Siddhartha by Herman Hesse
- The House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros
- Heart of Darkness by Joseph Conrad
- The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison
- Hamlet by William Shakespeare - (in your anthology)
- Othello by William Shakespeare - (in your anthology)
- Hamlet by William Shakespeare - (in your anthology)
- Othello by William Shakespeare - (in your anthology)

I. Summer Discussion

Assignment for How To Read Literature Like A Professor by Thomas C. Foster

- You will be required to participate in an online discussion of HTRLAP chapter by chapter (think of it like journaling). After each chapter, you will be required to post a response to the class blog. Your response should be a comment on the chapter, its techniques, and/or any questions about things you didn’t understand. This is your chance to start practicing how to read and respond critically, so do your best to express your ideas. Respond however you see fit. That being said, I encourage you to relate these readings to other texts you’ve read, movies, art, etc. You will be asked to respond chapter by chapter as well as to reply to your peers’ ideas too.

- I sketched out a rough idea of when the chapters should be read by. Please try to keep up and avoid doing everything at the last minute. While we’ve all been guilty of pushing deadlines, but I expect you to start to balance your time now so you’ll be able to handle the workload of the class.

- Lastly, our class will require open and critical discussion of every essay you write and of every text you read. The summer assignment should help you develop or refine that skill. Please take advantage of it. You can hide in the summer, but once school starts there will be no hiding, you will be forced to discuss in class!

Response Dates: How to Read Literature Like A Professor by Thomas C. Foster

Chapters 1-13  -  July 13
Chapters 14-27  -  July 27

*Please keep in mind, if this book were assigned during the school year, you would have approximately 2 – 2 ½ weeks to finish it!
II. The Sportswriter by Richard Ford, 1986

Assignment for *The Sportswriter* by Richard Ford.

- This will be your first piece of literature for class. Your assignment is to critically read and annotate the novel. When I say annotate, I’m referring to a skill you will use when you read all your novels in AP Literature. Annotate means “To furnish (a literary work) with critical commentary or explanatory notes.” In other words, you should write marginal notes, comments, and/or questions in the novel as you read. This method will help you to interact with the novel and develop the critical reading skills we will use in the course. I will skim your books to make sure I see annotations. If you do not like to write in your book (or you borrow one from the library), you can use post-it notes as your annotations. **DUE: First Day of Class**
- You will take an essay exam on this novel the first day of class. This will be an AP Timed-Writing prompt. You will have 40 minutes to complete the essay. **DUE: First Day of Class**

III. Classroom Resources

- As I mentioned earlier, we will piloting a new site called SCHOOLOGY. This is the place where you will go to post your responses, questions, and comments on HTRLLAP. I’ll also try to put an open discussion spot for you to discuss general concerns or ideas. I’ll be new to the site the same as you so we’ll learn to navigate it together.
- In addition to SCHOOLOGY, I have a classroom website that I use to post assignments, articles, extra handouts, etc. Please visit the site and register for a username/password. This will allow you to download documents.

IV. Links:

- SCHOOLOGY website - [www.schoology.com](http://www.schoology.com)  
  o enter our classroom code - JC9XW-N4PSP
- Classroom webpage – [www.classroom.wilpula.com](http://www.classroom.wilpula.com)
  o Be sure to register by creating a username and password
- Turnitin webpage – [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com)

V. Grading

- *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* = Each entry 4pts for a total of 108 pts
- *The Sportswriter* annotations = 20 pts.
- In-class essay on *The Sportswriter* (first day of school) = 100 pts

VI. Contact Information

- If you need to contact me at anytime over the summer, you can call the school at 724-226-1000 and leave a message with the secretary and I’ll get back to you as soon as I can.
- Or you can email me at rwilpula@goldenrams.com and I’ll email you back as soon as possible.

VII. Final Checklist

1. Read AND blog - *How To Read Literature Like A Professor*
2. Read and annotate *The Sportswriter*.
3. Timed writing on *The Sportswriter* the first day of class.
Class Rules and Regulations.

AP English is a rigorous college level course and as a result you will be expected to participate accordingly. Please be aware of the following requirements concerning your grading and assessment.

1. No late assignments will be accepted.
   a. If you absent from school the entire day, your assignment is due the very next day.
   b. If you leave for some reason for school functions, family reasons, come to school late, or leave early, you are expected to find me to turn in your paper. This applies to field trips as well!
   c. Assignments are due at the start of the period. If you do not have it at the beginning of the period is will not be accepted. Prepare for this by printing things early!

2. Any paper caught plagiarism will receive a zero with NO chance of regaining the grade. You will adhere to the District Policy outlined in the handbook.

3. Assignments both reading and writing are expected to be done, no excuses. You will read many texts (some at the same time). These will be spaced out for you to pace yourself. If you choose to wait until the last minute, it is your fault. DO NOT COME TO CLASS WITHOUT READING ASSIGNED MATERIALS!

4. You will be expected to discuss literature in class. Discussions and your participation in discussions will be graded.

5. You are expected to keep up with any missed work. It is not my responsibility to track you down to give you missed work. “I didn’t know” is not a valid excuse.

6. If you DO NOT COMPLETE the summer assignment, you will be dropped from the course day 1. Moreover, the summer assignments will count toward your 1st nine weeks grade.
Your class ID number to join is: JC9XW-N4PSP

This is what your landing page will look like. Our AP Class will be under the “Courses” tab at the top.

Under “MATERIALS” tab you will see Summer Assignment Folder.

You will see the folder “HTRLLAP Discussion/Blog”

Click on “LOGIN”

Click on AP Lit & Comp Course

Click on “SUMMER READING MATERIALS” folder to find the blog

Here are the chapter by chapter blogs