

### **Class of 2018 - Welcome to AP Literature and Composition!**

I look forward to working with each of you this fall in AP Literature & Composition. As this is a college level course which culminates in an AP exam at the end of the school year, summer work is required and the first assignments of the school year will be based on these summer readings. In addition, these summer assignments will be the springboards for class discussions and further analysis during the entire school year, so your preparation and completion of this work is vital.

A few things to prepare you for the class. The course materials you will need include:

- Binder with six dividers (Major Literary Works, AP Practice, Writing Skills, Terms & Vocab, Poetry, Short Stories)— or whatever organization system works for you. I offer you advice for the minimum. I will NOT be coaching you through keeping your binder organized, but these dividers have been helpful for other students in the past
- Pens/Pencils/Highlighters – always come prepared with a pen as on-demand/in-class writing will require use of a pen (not a pencil) and there are many opportunities in class to use your highlighters!
- Post-it Notes (for annotating school texts/novels)

The AP Literature and Composition summer reading assignment is designed to encourage you to read closely and analyze literature as well as begin preparing for your College Essay/UC Responses. As such, there are two aspects to your Summer Work; details and requirements for each are below:

- Read and respond to *Ethan Frome* by Edith Wharton by completing the assigned response detailed below
- Respond to the Personal Statement essay prompts provided – please respond to all three. These are NOT the UC Personal Insight Responses but will be very helpful for you in completing UC application essays, private and out of state university applications and scholarship essays. See below for details.

**College Essay/Personal Statement:** Though it is difficult to imagine, you will be applying to colleges/universities VERY SOON! Regardless of what your plans are after high school, you will be writing multiple drafts and answering questions about yourself. This assignment is to write two personal essays and provide a short-answer response to prompt #3 based on the prompts provided below. Keep in mind the importance of being specific – tell a story – and provide details about yourself to make yourself stand out! I have found over time that these prompts are helpful in so many capacities and though they are not the UC Personal Insight Questions, my hope is that you can cut and paste sections of each response to use on many of the UC questions. Additionally, I have seen these similar questions in so many other college essay prompts and on many of the scholarship applications. The important part of this assignment is to start the process of college essays and begin brainstorming stories and experiences that have added to you as a student and that help you stand out and/or paint a picture of the type of student you will be in the future.

**Prompt #1:** Describe the world you come from – for example your family, community or school – and tell us how your world has shaped your dreams and aspirations. (500-700 words)

**Prompt #2:** Tell about a personal quality, talent, accomplishment, contribution or experience that is important to you. What about this quality or accomplishment makes you proud and how does it relate to the person you are? (500-700 words)

**Prompt #3:** What are your career goals and objectives? What inspired you to choose this career/major? (150-250 words – short answer response)

**How to turn in?** You will post this to Google Classroom. The Classroom Code is: **663hlnk**. Your responses need to be between 500-700 words for EACH prompt, with exception to prompt #3. The title of each response needs to include the prompt itself and the prompt number. Responses need to be in MLA format. You must include a word count at the bottom of each separate prompt response. Please note that this will not be your final draft, as there will be multiple opportunities for revisions during the fall months, but now is an excellent time for you to forge through these statements, while sports and extra-curricular activities are at a minimum (for most!).

Your responses are due to me via Google Classroom by 8:00pm Sunday, July 30<sup>th</sup>. Please be aware that I will accept your Personal Statement after the deadline, but it will be your first missing assignment in the fall if I do not receive the assignment by the deadline. I am a stickler about deadlines. I will not make any exceptions for late work on this assignment. Plan ahead – if you know you will be gone for this deadline, post it to me early!

Additionally, do NOT use your “This I Believe” essay – it will not be counted! There are fantastic resources online to give you insights and tips. Additionally, I will save you the argument that you are not applying to a UC school or other university. These prompts and responses are excellent springboards for any scholarships, private schools or other post-high school opportunities either next year or at some point in your future.

The Google Classroom site is: <https://classroom.google.com/h> and the **class code is: 663hlnk**

**Ethan Frome and Reading Assignment:**

You will read *Ethan Frome* over the summer and complete quote analysis. **You must have the book read completely by the first day of school, so come prepared to discuss Frome at length on Day 1!** I highly recommend purchasing this book, as research supports that students that annotate and take notes as they read, better comprehend text. Additionally, this novel is available as a free download on various sites, including Google Books. Interpretation will be addressed with writing and discussion activities. If you read the book in June, **make sure you study it again in August so it is fresh in your mind.** Too many times students give the excuse that they “can't remember” the details of the book because they read it a while ago. That is not a justifiable reason because you cannot tell the reader of your AP exam, or a college professor, the same thing, therefore, take responsibility for your learning and READ it again if necessary. *Ethan Frome* is used to introduce and practice close literary analysis, both in discussion and in writing. We will work with *Ethan Frome* for the first unit of our class.

**Quote Analysis:** Identify 10 quotes from the novel and include a clear, thoughtful and analytical response to each quote and how the quote relates to the any one of the options: symbolism, characterization, tone, setting or theme. Not all quotes need to be about symbolism. You must incorporate each literary element at least once. This is NOT a summary of the quote – do not simply re-word it, but incorporate thoughtful analysis. Please address a brief overview of what is taking place in the novel at the time of the quote. I have included an overview/example below. Regarding your analysis response, some things to consider is how this is impactful to a character, to the theme overall, etc. Ultimately, your analysis must be thoughtful, insightful and must be your original analysis. Make sure to cite by page number (if you are using an online text, cite by chapter/section number). For example:

Quote (w/citation)	Topic (i.e. tone, symbolism)	What is taking place?	Analysis

Because we will be working with these quotes and responses when school commences, they should be typed, preferably in Google Docs and are due on the first Friday of school – Friday, August 18, 2017. If you are not in attendance the first day, you are still responsible for getting this assignment turned in. Details on how to turn in/submit will be provided the first week of school. I do not recommend waiting until the first week of school on the quote analysis. Keep track of quotes as you read (sticky notes are great for this). I will not accept final quote analysis emailed, so plan ahead versus printing the night before school starts in August (that is always when I am suddenly out of ink in the printer!). Reminder that responses and analysis must be in complete sentences.

One final note on this assignment, the quotes you choose should NOT be a list of quotes from Sparknotes, etc. This is a culmination of quotes that YOU identify as being important/impactful.

**Academic Honesty Policy**

Be sure that in your zeal to complete these assignments accurately with accomplishment that you do not “borrow” work from other authors or students. *Working together will not be excusable – by now you know the difference in working together and plagiarism, however unintentional it may be.* If you are unsure about any aspect of plagiarism or what constitutes academic dishonesty, please e-mail me.

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Have a great summer...enjoy the book! E-mail me if you have any questions ([uprepenglishlit@gmail.com](mailto:uprepenglishlit@gmail.com) is the best email – but put AP Literature in the subject line, please). I will see you in August for your **SENIOR YEAR!**

- Mrs. Armstrong