

English 12: A.P. Literature and Composition Summer Readings 2018

Please read the following three books:

Thomas C. Foster, *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*

William Shakespeare, *Hamlet* (Folger Edition)

Khaled Hosseini, *The Kite Runner*

Assignments:

1. First read Thomas Foster's *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*. This is a very readable, humorous, and entertaining guide to the study of literature. As you read, take notes on what you believe to be the most important points in each chapter. You will need these notes for the rest of the summer reading assignments.
2. After you have read *Hamlet* and *The Kite Runner*, I'd like you to write an essay in which you apply the ideas of *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* to your reading of these important works of literature. Select two chapters, and show how the concepts in those chapters helped you to understand *Hamlet*. Then select two different chapters, and apply the concepts in those chapters to your reading of *The Kite Runner*. How did the information in *How to Read....* help you to understand the deeper layers of meaning in your reading? (You must write about *at least four chapters* in *How to Read*, two for each work of literature.) Use quotations from all three works to support your discussion, and document all quotations using internal citations in MLA format. **This essay must be typed, double-spaced, 1500-1750 words.**
3. Essay is due **on the first day of school.**
4. English Department Late Policy: Loss of one full letter grade per day late.
5. Please feel free to contact me by email during the summer if you have questions about the reading or the assignment: mahoneyp@glenrocknj.org. **Please Do Not** email me or contact me in any other way as the summer comes to a close to tell me why you could not complete the summer assignments. The summer assignments are **requirements** of the course. If you cannot complete the summer work, then you cannot take the course in the fall.
6. Start early; don't wait until the middle of August to get started on this assignment. These are wonderful works; enjoy them!