US Summer Reading 2024-2025

| 9 th Grade | 10 th Grade |
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| CP & Honors Ancient Literature <u>Required Reading</u> Genesis 37-50 A Walk Across America - Peter Jenkins "The Hero's Journey" adapted from Joseph Campbell "Rhetoric" (* Honors Only) "The Rhetorical Triangle" (* Honors Only) The "Hero's Journey" and "Rhetoric / Rhetorical Triangle" readings are all on a Word document that is available on the ACA website and through an e-mail from Mrs. Zaccaro and Mr. Green. See Notes below for further information. | CP & Honors World Literature <u>Required Reading</u> Things Fall Apart - Chinua Achebe <u>Honors* Additional Reading (Choose 1)</u> The Stranger - Albert Camus Crime and Punishment - Fyodor Dostoyevski The Alchemist - Paulo Coelho A Doll's House - Henrik Ibsen Siddhartha - Hermann Hesse * Brave New World - Aldous Huxley (see note below) Students are strongly encouraged to annotate texts if possible. See synopses of novels below to assist in your choices of Readings. |
| 11 th Grade | 12 th Grade |
| CP & Honors American Literature <u>Required (Honors: Choose 2 / CP: Choose 1)</u> Billy Budd - Herman Melville Fahrenheit 451 - Ray Bradbury Up From Slavery - Booker T. Washington The Awakening - Kate Chopin A Separate Peace (CP only) - John Knowles AP Language and Composition <u>Required</u> The Scarlet Letter - Nathaniel Hawthorne The Great Gatsby - F. Scott Fitzgerald Letter from Birmingham Jail - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Additional AP Lang & Comp Reading (Choose 1) Up from Slavery - Booker T. Washington The Awakening - Kate Chopin Our Town - Thornton Wilder A Raisin in the Sun - Lorraine Hansberry See Notes below for important further information and a link to and guidance on the reading entitled Letter from Birmingham Jail. | CP British Literature Short Stories "The Adventure of Silver Blaze" - Sir Arthur Conan Doyle "Rikki-Tikki-Tavi" - Rudyard Kipling "Shooting an Elephant" - George Orwell Novel The Screwtape Letters - C. S. Lewis Honors British Literature Short Stories "The Adventure of Silver Blaze" - Sir Arthur Conan Doyle "Rikki-Tikki-Tavi" - Rudyard Kipling "Shooting an Elephant" - George Orwell Novel Pride and Prejudice - Jane Austen OR Frankenstein - Mary Shelley AP English Literature and Composition Short Stories "The Adventure of Silver Blaze" - Sir Arthur Conan Doyle "Rikki-Tikki-Tavi" - Rudyard Kipling "Shooting an Elephant" - George Orwell AP Students: You must read TWO Novels: Required: Pride and Prejudice - Jane Austen Choose 1 (though you are welcome to read both!): Jane Eyre - Charlotte Brontë OR Great Expectations - Charles Dickens > See Notes below for further information. |

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9th Grade Reading

- <u>Genesis 37-50</u>: Many teachers at ACA use the English Standard Version (ESV) of the Bible, but you may read whichever translation you prefer.
- <u>A Walk Across America</u>: Peter Jenkins' account of his hike from New York state through the Appalachians (along the A. T.) and, ultimately, to New Orleans allows students to see a man's unexpected faith journey and a parallel to Campbell's idea of the Hero's Journey. Jenkins' book, entitled A Walk Across America, was written in 1979 and so can be found on many sites that sell used books. Further, it is often in stock at Mr. K's (though not in remotely sufficient numbers to cover every incoming ACA 9th Grader). You will need to buy your own copy of this non-fiction book. We will refer to this work fairly extensively, so read it carefully and keep your copy nearby. You will need to know the book well but will NOT be given a detailed, point-by-point quiz early in the school year, and you will be able to use the text itself when we discuss it in class and you answer questions about it.

Email to receive the readings below Mrs. Zaccaro – CP - (<u>deana.zaccaro@ashevillechristian.org</u>) Mr. Green – Honors - (<u>cliff.green@ashevillechristian.org</u>)

- <u>"The Hero's Journey"</u>: This reading is on pages 10-14 of the document. "The Hero's Journey" is a concept that grew out of Joseph Campbell's 1949 book of comparative mythology entitled *The Hero with a Thousand Faces* and posits that every hero travels the same path of adventure: departure from a known place to an unknown, a gathering of allies and friends, guidance from a mentor, battles against enemies and evil, a descent into hell or death, loss, redemption, victory ... and more. We will apply this template to many stories we read this year, ranging from tales from *Gilgamesh* to Perseus to *The Odyssey* to a recent account of a man's physical and spiritual journey across America in Peter Jenkins' non-fiction A *Walk Across America*, which is a Summer Reading assignment. The Hero's Journey reading follows "Rhetoric" below and is on pages 10-14 (please view the circular representation of the 'Journey' on page 14). ** Print the Rhetoric & Hero's Journey documents, read them with care, and take notes as you see fit.
- <u>(Honors Only) "Rhetoric"</u>: Go to the "RHETORIC" heading and open and read the first document attached there it is called 2022-English 9-SUMMER READING-Rhetoric and HJ Text. Ninth Grade English begins with an examination of Rhetoric and the three most influential Classical philosophers (Socrates, Plato & Aristotle) whose work helped form rhetorical structure and strategies in Western writing. ** Print the Rhetoric & Hero's Journey documents, read them with care, and take notes as you see fit.
- <u>(Honors Only) "The Rhetorical Triangle"</u>: This reading is on pages 7-8 of the Rhetoric Document and offers a visual depiction of the three primary elements of Rhetoric and is a tool which we will use heavily in writing and discussion this coming academic year.

10th Grade Reading

- Students are strongly encouraged to annotate their reading.
- Things Fall Apart: The wealthy and respected protagonist Okonkwo is a member of the Igbo tribe who is determined to fight against the changes influencing his culture through colonialism. The book is a tragedy of an individual defeated by his tragic flaw, but is about wider issues of justice, social norms, and individual conscience.
- The Stranger: A troubling tale of a disaffected, apparently amoral young man. Meursault is dispassionate, clinical, and disengaged from his own emotions. He is afflicted with a sort of aimless inertia, becomes embroiled in the petty intrigues of a local and, somewhat inexplicably, ends up killing a man.
- Crime and Punishment: A novel that focuses on the mental anguish and moral dilemmas of Rodion Raskolnikov, an impoverished ex-student who formulates a plan to kill a pawnbroker for her money. However, once it is done, he finds himself racked with confusion, paranoia, and disgust for what he has done.
- The Alchemist: A classic novel in which a boy named Santiago embarks on a journey seeking treasure in the Egyptian pyramids after having a recurring dream about it. On his journey to find the treasure, he meets mentors, falls in love, and most importantly, learns who he is and how to improve himself.

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- A *Doll's House*: The play is significant for its critical attitude toward 19th century marriage norms. It aroused great controversy at the time, as it concludes with the protagonist, Nora, leaving her husband and children because she wants to discover herself.
- *Siddhartha*: The novel by Herman Hesse, a German-Swiss writer, follows a transformative journey of a young man named Siddhartha in ancient India. Seeking enlightenment, he explores diverse paths, love, and self-discovery, offering insights into the quest for meaning and understanding life's connectedness.
- * Brave New World: Aldous Huxley's tour de force, Brave New World, is a darkly satiric vision of a "utopian" future—
 in which humans are genetically bred and pharmaceutically anesthetized to passively serve a ruling order. * Parents
 may wish to review this novel for content.

11th Grade Reading

- <u>AP Language</u>: Because the AP Language and Composition course coincides with the survey in American Literature, students will tackle a summer reading list that comprises classic American novels and a few landmark plays (or dramas). A student entering AP Language and Composition needs to have completed the following reading before the first day of school. The estimated length of these works is indicated.
- <u>The Scarlet Letter (AP Only)</u>: ** Please purchase a Dover Thrift Edition of *The Scarlet Letter*. That will be your book to read, highlight, take notes in and have in class next autumn. DO NOT READ the 30-page preface to *The Scarlet Letter* entitled "The Custom-House." *The Scarlet Letter* begins with Chapter One ("The Prison-Door") on page 33 of the Dover Thrift Edition.
- AP Lang Only: link to Letter From Birmingham Jail: Letter from Birmingham Jail (csuchico.edu)

Bring an annotated copy of this PDF. Annotations include highlighted/labelled examples of ethos, pathos, logos and any excerpts you find effective/persuasive in his argument. I recommend different colors for each (i.e. red-ethos, blue - pathos, green- logos) but this is not required.

** AP Students: See Mrs. Holmes or email a request for a "Guide to Summer Reading" prior to summer

- <u>Honors American Literature</u>: You must choose two of the available options.
- <u>CP American Literature</u>: You must choose one of the available options.

12th Grade Reading

- <u>CP British Literature</u>: Read short stories first and then The Screwtape Letters.
- <u>Honors British Literature</u>: Read short stories first and then either *Pride and Prejudice* or *Frankenstein*. Your reading of the novel of your choice will be tested in the opening weeks of class; you need not know every detail, but you will be asked to display knowledge of characters, plot, themes and arguments.
- <u>AP Literature</u>: Read short stories first and then *Pride and Prejudice* and either *Jane Eyre* or *Great Expectations*. Your reading of the novel of your choice will be tested in the opening weeks of class; you need not know every detail, but you need to retain knowledge of characters, plot, themes and arguments.

** **REMEMBER**, **AP Students**, you received a lengthy document in Spring 2024 (you signed and returned the contract portion in February) which introduced you to the AP Literature / British Literature class and which presented guidelines to writing assignments. You need to write your Summer Essay (while following the parameters outlined in the Contract) and return it to Mr. Green by Friday, August 2 (to Room 108 in the Upper School or to his mailbox in the Upper School office). Further, you must write out responses to a series of reading prompts and Ten Questions for both of the two novels you read for class.