



## URSULINE ACADEMY *New Orleans*

### **English IV Honors: AP Literature and Composition**

The English Department at Ursuline Academy is pleased to announce the Summer Reading List for the 2011-2012 academic year. Some of the chosen books are new additions to list, and we're genuinely excited about the prospects and possibilities of this Summer Reading project.

According to the College Board Advanced Placement program: "The AP English course in Literature and Composition should engage students in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. . . . Reading in an AP course should be both wide and deep." Accordingly, the Advanced Placement reading lists below include texts that, since 1970, have been consistently recommended as works of "recognized literary merit" for the "Open-Ended" essay question on the AP English Literature Exam. The following list of authors and works has been compiled using a variety of sources with a strong emphasis on the authors suggested by the College Board.

For your convenience, every book on the list is available in paperback. I've also sent our entire Summer Reading List to the following bookstores in/around New Orleans.

Barnes & Noble – 3721 Veterans Boulevard / Metairie, LA 70002 / 504-455-4929  
Barnes & Noble – 1601B West Bank Expressway / Harvey, LA 70058 / 504-263-1146  
Border's – 3338 St. Charles Avenue / New Orleans, LA 70115 / 504-899-1501  
Border's – 3131 Veterans Memorial Boulevard / Metairie, LA 70002 / 504-835-1363  
Octavia Books – 513 Octavia Street / New Orleans, LA 70118 / 504-899-7323

All are also available on-line at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com), [barnesandnoble.com](http://barnesandnoble.com), [booksamillion.com](http://booksamillion.com), and [half.com](http://half.com). The only caveat I would offer when shopping online is this: Many online booksellers (**especially those who offer used books**) are slow to ship, so order early!

I hope the summer is a kind one, and that the reading is rewarding!

Joel Causey  
English Department Chair

**Choose one (1) from the list below:**

*The Hunchback of Notre Dame* – Victor Hugo  
*Jane Eyre* – Charlotte Brontë  
*Sister Carrie* – Theodore Dreiser\*  
*Wuthering Heights* – Emily Brontë  
*The Picture of Dorian Gray* – Oscar Wilde

**Choose one (1) from the list below:**

*House of the Seven Gables* – Nathaniel Hawthorne\*  
*The Red Badge of Courage* – Stephen Crane\*  
*Invisible Man* – Ralph Ellison\*  
*Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man* – J. W. Johnson\*  
*All the King's Men* – Robert Penn Warren\*

\* Suggested reading for those students who will be also enrolled in AP United States History

# English IV Honors: Advanced Placement Literature

## *Summer Reading Tests*

- \* Students will take an essay exam based on a prompt from a recent AP Test (**no multiple choice questions**).
- \* This test will be administered during the first week of classes.
- \* A score for the test will be calculated by the teacher and will represent **15%** the student's first quarter grade

## *Summer Reading Journal*

- \* Every student is required to compose four (4) mini-essays for *each* required book. Essay guidelines are listed below.
- \* Summer Reading Journals will be turned-in on the first day of classes: **Monday, August 15**.
- \* Summer Reading Journals will be graded by the AP teacher, who will use a department-approved rubric.
- \* The earned score for these Journal entries will represent **10%** of the student's first quarter grade in English.
- \* Students should proof-read all entries. Spelling and grammar will be considered during the grading process!
- \* **Journal entries should be typed (Times New Roman, size 12 font) and double-spaced.**\*
- \* Answers must be written in paragraph form. Each paragraph should be *at least* seventeen (17) sentences long.
- \* Each paragraph should follow the established guidelines for all writing assignments in the Upper School.

Thesis Sentence  
Concrete Detail (proper MLA citation)  
Sentence of Commentary  
Sentence of Commentary  
Concrete Detail (proper MLA citation)  
Sentence of Commentary  
Sentence of Commentary  
Concrete Detail (proper MLA citation)  
Sentence of Commentary  
Sentence of Commentary  
Concrete Detail (proper MLA citation)  
Sentence of Commentary  
Sentence of Commentary  
Concrete Detail (proper MLA citation)  
Sentence of Commentary  
Sentence of Commentary  
Concluding Sentence

- \* Thoughtful essays will earn more points than incomplete ones.
- \* These journal entries will serve as a foundation for the first formal writing assignment in English this year.
- \* These journal entries can/should serve as study-guides for students in the days before they take their tests!

## **Mini-Essay Prompts**

1. Explain the significance of the first chapter, or opening scene, of the novel.  
*Example Thesis:* The opening scene in *Hamlet* introduces the ghost of Hamlet's father; this is a significant scene in William Shakespeare's play because \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Identify the significance of a particular "place" in the novel  
*Example Thesis:* Claude Frollo's secret "closet," amongst the upper tiers of the Cathedral of Notre Dame, is a significant place in Victor Hugo's novel because \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Identify the most important conflict in the novel.  
*Example Thesis:* In William Shakespeare's play *Macbeth*, a simmering battle for control exists in practically every scene between Macbeth and Lady Macbeth; this is a significant conflict because \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Identify the character who undergoes the most significant change in the novel. Why is this transformation significant?  
*Example Thesis:* In E. M. Forster's novel *A Passage to India*, Mrs. Moore is a character who undergoes a significant conversion; that transformation is significant because \_\_\_\_\_.

\* **Please avoid PLOT SUMMARY in all entries. You are writing a mini-essay, not a book report.** \*