

Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition: Summer Reading 2019

The War Story: A Journey of Imagination and Resilience

“You think your pain and your heartbreak are unprecedented in the history of the world but then you read. It was books that taught me that the things that tormented me the most were the very things that connected me with all the people who were alive, or who had ever been alive.” James Baldwin

You will be reading two short stories and two contemporary works of fiction exploring the subject of war and emerging themes of resilience, survival and imagination. Ernest Hemingway’s short stories will serve as an introduction to the subject of war. David Wood’s *What Have We Done: The Moral Injury of Our Longest Wars* was the 2017 Dayton Literary Peace Prize recipient for nonfiction. Kevin Powers’ *The Yellow Bird* was a 2013 DLP finalist for fiction. Your reading focus will include the defining characteristics of the writings and the various themes emerging from these works.

Short Stories

“A Soldier’s Home” Ernest Hemingway

“In Another Country” Ernest Hemingway

Selected Texts:

The Yellow Birds Kevin Powers ISBN: 978-0-316-21934-1

What Have We Done: The Moral Injury of Our Longest Wars David Woods

The Dayton Literary Peace Prize High School Series 2019 Book is *What Have We Done*. We will be listening to Wood speak September 12th at Fairmont High School. DLP is Providing 25 copies of the book to each participating school. I still do not know when these books will be available. I am hoping before school.

You will need these stories and books for the first quarter. I encourage you to purchase *The Yellow Birds* so you are able to annotate the book as you read. You may obtain the book from the library but I expect you to have it for the first week of class and you will use the stories and books for the first quarter major paper. You may want to write notes at the top of the pages making observations about the author’s style or also underline memorable passages.

The goal for reading this summer is to formulate our own and collective impressions of the works in order to critically engage with the books the first week of class. Annotating while you read will be helpful for the online discussion and the in-class analysis on the **second** day of class. Throughout the year, you will learn more strategies on how to annotate a text and most importantly recognize the benefits of annotating a work of literature.

On-Line Discussion

You will be required to post a **minimum** of two postings for each question/topic. Regardless of when you post, it is important you are aware of the full discussion so you can participate in class discussion the first day of school and be prepared for the first in-class essay. **The topic of the in class essay will connect to the discussion.** Questions for the discussion will be posted a day before the scheduled discussion. If you will not have access to a computer during the scheduled discussions, you may post your responses late but you **must** e-mail me in advance or indicate so on the rubric.

Please access the on-line discussion via C-J's webpage/Library Media Center Research Databases/Turnitin.com. Please register for the class no later than May 24 so I can make sure everyone successfully registered.

Guidelines for registering to Turnitin.com

- 1) The class ID is: **21290120** The class enrollment password is: sunflower
- 2) Click on "AP English 2019-20".
- 3) Click on the grey "discussion" tab.

Hemingway Short Stories: July 15-16

The Yellow Birds Powers: July 29-30

Preparation for Dayton Literary Peace Prize Author Series

What Have We Done Wood: August 7-9

Google Document-*What Have We Done*- Please check Google Classroom August 6 for the assignment.

AP Google Classroom: vjiqhti

Required Reading: Prologue, Chapters 1-6

The assignment will be posted in classroom August 7th and will be due August 9th.

We will read other chapters prior to the lecture at Fairmont on September 12.

In-Class Analysis:

On the second day of class, you will have your first in-class writing analysis of the year which will be inspired from the on-line discussions. This will be worth 40 points. You should be prepared for the analysis by frequently reading the postings and being aware of themes emerging during the postings and through the works themselves.

Listed below are some internet sites which provide biographical information on the authors and other supplement. The primary goal of our summer reading and discussions will be to explore the books together. The on-line resources for Martel and Hosseini also have discussion guides. I will not necessarily use these questions for the on-line discussion but you may want to explore them on your own to help you focus on key themes as well as plot and character developments.

Kevin Powers

<http://kevincpowers.com/work/the-yellow-birds/>

David Woods

<http://www.davidwoodjournalist.com/>

http://daytonliterarypeaceprize.org/2017-nonfiction_winner.

Ernest Hemingway

<https://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2006/spring/hemingway.html>