



OAK MOUNTAIN

A C A D E M Y

Oak Mountain Academy provides a challenging college-preparatory education in a safe family environment. The school nurtures the ethical, spiritual, and physical development of students as they become confident leaders inspired to serve.

2024-2025 Upper School Reading Lists

Rising 9th Grade:

English Literature and Composition Summer Reading

Welcome to the Upper School! As entering freshmen, you will find yourself immersed in the world of literature like never before! You will be reading texts over the course of the summer that we will discuss and reference throughout the entire year. These reading assignments are intended to prepare you for the kinds of literature that we will be reading during the coming school year.

Choose at least one of the following texts to read over the summer:

- *The Scarlet Letter*, Nathaniel Hawthorne
- *Of Mice and Men*, John Steinbeck
- *Animal Farm*, George Orwell
- *Wuthering Heights*, Emily Bronte
- *Fahrenheit 451*, Ray Bradbury
- *Our Town*, Thornton Wilder
- *Death of a Salesman*, Arthur Miller
- *Pride and Prejudice*, Jane Austen
- *The Outsiders*, S.E. Hinton
- *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, Zora Neale Hurston
- *The Glass Menagerie*, Tennessee Williams

Reading Assignment:

Compose a list of at least 5 deep thinking questions for the chosen text that you would like to discuss it in class.

You will be quizzed on your summer reading, so be sure you have read.

AP English Literature and Composition

- Ernest Hemingway, *For Whom the Bell Tolls* (which is 416 pages long, so this is your only summer reading assignment for EngLit).

Hi, Rising Seniors!

Please read the rest of this voluminous (but captivating) book, and come to AP Boot Camp with a list of SIX observations about six characters you encounter in the novel: make lists of profiles of at least THREE characters that you found interesting, THREE more that you disliked, note passages that you really enjoyed reading, ones that you didn't.

Finally, list THREE thesis statements (a statement which is general and true arising from your observations of the text...how is this text "true" and relevant to those of us who didn't fight in the Spanish Civil War?

Looking forward to seeing you guys next August!

Doc. S

AP English Language and Composition

- Jack London, *The Call of the Wild*
- Jon Krakauer, *Into the Wild*

Hello, Rising AP English Language Students!

I hope you enjoy these novels over the Summer break; please read them carefully, as we'll be discussing and writing about them in AP Bootcamp for your first grades of the 2024-25 school year.

Please come to AP Boot Camp with a list of six observations for each text: make lists of passages that you really enjoyed reading, ones that you didn't, profiles of at least THREE characters that you think are interesting enough to discuss...

Looking forward to seeing you in August,

Dr. Snaith

AP World Literature

Hi, World Literature Enthusiasts!

I hope you enjoy these novels over the Summer break; please read them carefully, as we'll be discussing and writing about them in AP Bootcamp for your first grades of the 2024-25 school year.

- Kurt Vonnegut, Jr.: *Slaughter House Five*
- J. R. R. Tolkien: *The Hobbit*

I hope you enjoy these novels over the Summer break; please read them carefully, as we'll be discussing and writing about them in AP Bootcamp for your first grades of the 2024-25 school year.

Please come to AP Boot Camp with a list of six observations for each text: make lists of passages that you really enjoyed reading, ones that you didn't, profiles of at least THREE characters that we can discuss.

Looking forward to seeing you in August,

Dr. Snaith

AP US History

Killing the Witches: The Horror of Salem, Massachusetts by O'Reilly and Dugard
(See AP packet for details)

AP Macroeconomics

Naked Economics: Undressing the Dismal Science by Charles Wheelan
(See AP packet for details)

AP European History

Students will be expected to read:

1. 3 website articles that are listed in the "Overview" PDF. These provide some helpful context.
2. 2 chapters from Stephen Greenblatt's *The Swerve*. This is a more focused look at a specific turning point in the Renaissance and will be used as a centerpiece for our bootcamp session.
3. One short article by Gabrielle

📄 AP Euro Summer Bootcamp Overview.pdf

📄 The Swerve_Ch1_Ch8.pdf

“There was no such thing as the Renaissance” Matthew Gabrielle

(See AP packet for details)

AP Government

Welcome to AP US Government! This will be a fascinating but whirlwind class on the underlying principles, documents, and developments that have shaped the formation of the government and political institutions of the United States. There is a lot to cover, so let's jump right in and get started! Here is an overview of the bootcamp session and the needed preparations to be made. All of the resources and assigned readings are included in this email (see attached PDF).

Bootcamp session: August 1, 8:00am

Goal: Provide students with bookends for the course by beginning their analysis and understanding of 4 key founding documents of the United States and by surveying the current issues facing the American government and political process. The twin goals of understanding where we started and where we are currently going will aid in contextualizing the short timeframe of this AP course.

Assignments (to be completed before the bootcamp session on August 1, 8:00am)

1: Follow the reading questions and guide to three of the key founding documents and completing the attached reading and summarizing activities:

- a. Excerpts from Locke's *Second Treatise on civil government and the state of nature*
- b. The Declaration of Independence
- c. The Articles of Confederation
- d. The US Constitution

2: Keep a Current Events Journal for 5 of the 9 weeks between the end of the school year and the AP bootcamp of roughly 300 words per week that should include:

- a. Summary of a major political issue/event that the student read, listened to, or watched.
- b. Analysis of what it means, questions they have about politics, issues, or people involved.

The main objective of this isn't to become an expert on current events but to become engaged in current political challenges, issues, or concerns, and begin to understand how we got to that point. Identifying gaps in knowledge should be a main concern.

Bootcamp Session:

Seminar: This will begin with a quiz (MCQ and SAQ), that will be part of the seminar grade, followed by structured discussion where students are expected to be able to answer basic questions about the foundational documents during the summer reading. In the final 30 minutes of the bootcamp we will have a discussion of main current event issues addressed by the Current Events Journals. Students should bring an electronic or printed out version of the question sections of the attached PDF (no need to bring the whole document!)

Assessment: To reward students for their summer efforts (and to make sure the class gets off to a strong start), students will get their first grades for class based on two assignments according to the attached rubric:

Seminar (participation) questions/discussion based on the 4 documents assigned in the reading and the written and discussion answers given during the session.

Current Events Journal (entries 1-5) will be credited to the first of the ongoing weekly writing assignments (**IMPORTANT:** students should keep an eye out for a shared google doc to complete their weekly questions. These will be individually shared with your oakmountain.us email accounts)

Just about all the other information students need to prepare is included in the attached PDF. If you have any additional questions before the end of term, please let me know! After that, Mr. Sidwell will be taking the wheel of this course.

 [AP Gov Summer Assignment Packet 2024.pdf](#)

AP WORLD HISTORY

- Jack Weatherford, *Genghis Khan and The Making of the Modern World*

AP French Language and Culture

Le Petit Prince: Read chapters 1-4 and complete the [corresponding handouts](#). The [online book](#) is posted in Google Classroom. I have also posted links to listen to the book as you read to improve listening comprehension and speaking proficiency. Listen to them as you read along. You will be tested over these first 4 chapters during our AP French Summer Boot Camp.

[AP French Summer Assignments Packet](#)

AP Psychology

Read Unit 1 in Myers' For The AP Course by David G. Myers and C. Nathan DeWall

AP Physics

Assignment:

- Complete the Algebra 2 course challenge in Khan Academy, as assigned in Google Classroom, to ensure you have retained the math skills needed to complete the calculations necessary for this Physics course.
- Read Part 1 of The Cartoon Guide to Physics (you will need to purchase). There are 11 sections covered in 100 pages. For each section, describe one real-world example or home test that would demonstrate the concept, test an algorithm used, or test your hypothesis. Complete this assignment in Google Docs or Google Slides and submit it before AP boot camp. This counts as your first exam.
- Practice using your calculator. If you have a programmable calculator, you may want to add the formulas you read about and practice retrieving the formula. Also, practicing the statistics functions of mean and standard deviation will make lab completion more efficient.
- Attend AP Bootcamp and complete your first quiz.