

**Holy Cross High School**  
**September 2017 AP Literature and Composition**  
**Summer Reading Assignment**

There are four *new* book that you will be required to read. These books will form the core of the class work and conversation for the first semester.

Summer Reading required books:

- *1984* by George Orwell
- *A Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley
- *A Day in The Life of Ivan Denisovich* by Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn
- *Anthem* by Ayn Rand

There are also books that you've read in past English classes that that you should re-read to familiarize yourself with with specific themes. The themes explored in the works will come up in class discussions as well as (possibly) the AP exam itself.

- *A Raisin in The Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry
- *King Lear* by William Shakespeare
- *The Lord of The Flies* by William Golding
- The Advanced Placement test is a challenging exam. Naturally, reading is an important part of the test. The most significant purpose for reading to prepare for the AP Lit test is for the student choice free-response question. For this question in the exam, you'll be asked to examine how a specific theme works in one novel or play that you closely read both in class and independently.
- You must read the books to increase your familiarity with literature from different eras and genres and to improve your critical close-reading skills; the more books you have time to read, the better. You'll want to critically read them for comprehension and analysis, but you don't necessarily need to focus equally on every book you read.
- Students will find during the course of the year that the above texts will be valuable as response material for work incorporating the Advanced Placement Standards. The assigned books will be used to create the class discussions for the entire year, as well as being pertinent to the test itself.