

2020 English III AP Summer Reading Assignment

The curriculum of English III AP revolves around the study of rhetoric and argument. Over the course of the year, students will examine arguments of all types found in both fiction and non-fiction, determining their efficacy in relation to their content and how they are constructed. By doing so, students will apply these lessons to their own writing to produce not only thoughtful, well-constructed arguments of their own, but exit the class as stronger questioners and thinkers, well prepared to navigate an information age that all too often expects us to neither question nor think.

Students taking AP classes often have higher expectations set upon them by their teachers, their parents and themselves. You will probably find English III AP to be one of the most challenging courses you take during your high school career, but ideally also one of the most rewarding. We look forward to teaching you next year, and with that here's your first assignment:

1) Acquire and read Thomas C. Foster's *How to Read Non-Fiction Like A Professor*

This book will inform how we read and think about non-fiction texts throughout the year. Read it and consider the broad suggestions Foster makes throughout the text. AMCHS will have copies of this book to check out, as needed.

2) Acquire and read one of the following works listed below.

You will then write a 750-850 word typed, double-spaced, MLA-formatted essay which demonstrates how your reading of Foster's book has informed the reading of your choice of non-fiction work. In this paper, we want to know how you reacted to the book, but we also want you to show that you were thinking about Foster's book as you read. References to both works are expected to be integrated into your essay. MLA format (8th edition) is required: you should make use of the [PURDUE OWL website](#) to ensure your formatting/Works Cited page is immaculate. **This paper will be due on the third day of class and will be required to be submitted to turnitin.com.**

THE BOOK CHOICES:

Thompson, Clive. *Smarter Than You Think: How Technology Is Changing Our Lives for the Better*. Penguin, 2013.

Carr, Nicholas. *The Shallows: What the Internet Is Doing to Our Brains*. WW Norton, 2011.

Lukianoff, Greg and Jonathan Haidt. *The Coddling of the American Mind: How Good Intentions and Bad Ideas are Setting Up a Generation for Failure*. Penguin, 2018.

DiAngelo, Robin and Michael Eric Dyson. *White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism*. Beacon Press, 2018.

Postman, Neil. *Amusing Ourselves to Death: Public Discourse in the Age of Show Business*. Penguin, 2004.

THE PAPER:

- 1) MLA format (8th edition) is required: this means correct first page formatting, correct in-text documentation, and a properly formatted Works Cited page. It is incumbent upon you to get these things correct: use the [Purdue Online Writing Lab](#) website for guidelines.
- 2) No more than 3 pages, plus a Works Cited page (this means 4 pages total, at most).
- 3) Times New Roman or a similar font, no larger than 12 point font
- 4) Due on the third day of class.
- 5) Must be submitted to turnitin.com