

## AP Seminar and AP Research Summer Assignments

### Summer Assignment: Independent Reading

Because the AP Seminar and AP Research courses rely so heavily upon student discipline, self-direction, and pure curiosity you will spend the summer working to cultivate these habits by reading material that is interesting to you (or, if that fails, by reading material that is uninteresting until it *becomes* interesting). Each student will independently come up with a reading proposal which they must submit to Mr. Brown via email within the first two weeks of summer break.

#### **Requirements of the Proposal:**

- It must outline at least 20 hours' worth of reading (roughly 20 minutes per day of the summer) This is probably equivalent to 2 substantial books, 3 shorter books, or 40 articles or essays.
- Reading can include any genre but both fiction and non-fiction must feature prominently.
- List any books you intend to read. For articles or essays, it is sufficient to give topics that you will read about or periodicals that you will read consistently.
- Up to four hours may be accounted for by film, tv, or music, provided that it is properly logged and that you can make the case for its merit in connecting to your areas of interest.
- Include, with the outline of material you will read, a few paragraphs justifying your selections and discussing the ways in which they connect to your specific interests.

As you read, you must keep an informal log of what you have read. This log will be handed in on the first day of school.

#### **Requirements of the Reading Log:**

- Record all titles of works you have read and indicate the genre
- Write at least 6 pages of reflection on your reading
  - You may meet this requirement as you see most fit. Perhaps you will want to write a short summary and analysis to accompany each reading. Perhaps you will want to discuss several readings and the connections between them in a longer reflection. Perhaps you will want to write one long reflection on a book and several shorter reflections on some accompanying essays. Perhaps you will want to write one long six-page reflection in which you look back collectively on all the reading you have done. Any of these approaches is acceptable as long as you meet the length requirement.
  - Your reflection should be exactly that: it should reveal your careful thought about the reading and go far beyond providing a mere summary.

**Proposal Due:** Email to Mr. Brown at [cbrown@bguilfoyle.org](mailto:cbrown@bguilfoyle.org) by June 7

**Log Due:** Email to Mr. Brown at [cbrown@bguilfoyle.org](mailto:cbrown@bguilfoyle.org) by July 31