Rigorous AP English courses are designed for students who seek the ultimate academic challenge and want to attempt college-level work. Enrollment in the fall Pre-AP satisfies the state requirement for American Literature and Composition and prepares students for AP English Literature and Composition and the College Board AP exam given in May 2009. Both courses enable students

- to learn at a rate commensurate with ability
- to deal with material that intellectually mature students find engaging
- to refine reading and writing skills necessary to success in college and in the world of work
- to cultivate habits of reading, writing, and thinking that characterize life-long enjoyment of learning
- to earn college credit upon passing the AP exam

Suggested Summer Reading, Writing & Viewing for American Literature & Composition /Advanced Placement English Language

- Bird by Bird: Some Instructions on Writing and Life Anne Lamott
- On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft Stephen King
- The Last Lecture Randy Pausch
- Barron’s AP English Language and Composition 2008 2nd Edition George Ehrenhaft
- Cracking the AP English Language & Composition Exam, 2008 Edition (College Test Prep) Princeton Review
- Watch the national news (major networks) as often as possible.
- Listen to NPR – “All Things Considered” among other shows. Check the schedules at NPR.org.

Write in your journal – notes, ideas, thoughts, poems, & essays. Connect your reading to your life and the world at large. Make a jot list of new vocabulary – or “Ah ha!” words that you like. Select memorable passages from your reading that speak to you and create a "scrapbook" of quotations; you may also opt to personalize the book with commentary, original compositions, drawings, etc. You will add to the book all year, so begin well. I want you to bring it the first day of school to show me.

*****

For more reading suggestions, see the comprehensive list of poets, playwrights, short fiction writers, and novelists at [http://www.apcentral.collegeboard.com/](http://www.apcentral.collegeboard.com/). Search "AP English Literature" for a course description, reading list, sample questions, student answers and much, much more. Remember that everything you read will improve academic performance in Pre-AP and in college.
*****

- Come prepared to write about what you have read.
- A+ students only – take a copy of *Atlas Shrugged* by Ayn Rand and read it.
  Go to www.aynrandeducation.com/atlas_contest for the details for the essay contest and write it!!!! Show me you are a reader, a thinker, and a writer. Feel free to email with questions or commentary about books. There are many more I can recommend to avid readers!

Mrs. N. Drossos
deossos@gocats.org