Welcome to AP English Literature and Composition! In this course, you will learn to read, analyze, and write about literature at the postsecondary level. Integral to gaining a more holistic understanding of world literature is the ability to recognize and interpret universal themes, symbols, and archetypes in fiction.

Thus, our core text for the summer reading assignment is Thomas Foster’s How to Read Literature Like a Professor. We will refer back to the concepts in this text regularly throughout the year. As you read, take notes on the patterns and concepts Foster identifies and analyzes in each chapter. These will not be collected but will be a quite valuable resource in our discussions and writing.

In addition to the core text, please read these three pieces of short fiction:

1. "The Kind of Light that Shines on Texas" by Reginald McKnight
3. "Cathedral" by Raymond Carver

Then, write an essay, limited to 1000 words, in which you analyze how the stories reflect the patterns Foster identifies in How to Read Literature Like a Professor. Use specific text details in your essay, and be prepared to discuss the stories in further depth in class. You will submit your essay during the first week of classes.