



Harlan High School

SUMMER READING

English IV AP and AP/Dual Credit
2025-2026

Welcome to English 4 AP/AP-Dual Credit! These classes focus largely on the analysis of both British and American Literature, along with college level composition skills. This course will also focus on reading and writing skills that are necessary for being successful on the AP exam.

Thus, with an eye toward eventual literary analysis and composition, we are asking students to read the following text, *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* by Thomas C. Foster. Our course consists of reading various types of genres including mostly fiction, with poetry, prose, and plays. We will occasionally include nonfiction pieces that connect to the text that we will analyze in and out of class. This book will serve as the foundational textbook for the course. Students are expected to connect various ideas and concepts from the book to the texts we will read in class, and outside of class.

Please know that you are strongly encouraged to obtain your own copy of the book to more easily annotate and interact with it as you read. However, if you prefer, you may check it out physically from a public library, or you may check it out digitally from your school library through Sora, Libby, and Overdrive.

Annotation can be especially helpful when studying a piece. Please notate in a way that helps you best find key points in the text, as will refer to it often.

Here are some notation tips:

- ★ Summarize key points
- ★ Underline stand out quotes
- ★ Circle words that you don't know and define them
- ★ Highlighting areas you find familiar from movies, or other books.

Recognizing that English 4 AP/AP-Dual Credit are college-level classes and our reading features mature content, please be aware that the textbook will address mature content and how those concepts may or may not be represented in literature, and how to critically analyze them.

How to Read Literature Like a Professor by Thomas C. Foster

For further information:

Please contact Mrs. Aburumuh at sarah.aburumuh@nisd.net if you have any questions.