

Freshman Summer Reading 2015

Welcome to LaGrange Academy Ancient Literature. The class will be a study in epic literature, both classic and modern. Thus, the summer reading assignment is directly connected with these concepts. I hope you will take the task seriously and choose books that truly interest you so that we can get off to a great start. If you have any questions at all regarding the assignment, please feel free to contact me at teresakrizay@lagrangeacademy.org.

Choosing the right books for you

Not all books are appropriate for all readers. Please note that some books may contain explicit language, sexual references, or mature subject matter. Thus, it is suggested that parents help their students make appropriate summer reading selections. To read descriptions and reviews of all the books, go to www.goodreads.com/book/explore. If you are unhappy with your choice, feel free to make another selection from the list provided.

Requirement #1 – Read one (1) or more books

You are required to read **1 or more** books from the attached list by the first day of class. The number of pages read must exceed 300 pages. You may read one book that exceeds 300 pages or you may read multiple books that add cumulatively to 300 or more pages. You may not read books that were a part of any previous year's curriculum. Suggestion: Read one book in June and one in July. Use a calendar to determine the number of pages you'll read each day or week, and then stick to your plan.

Do not assume that this requirement can be met by only watching a movie based on a book. Movies often vary from the actual book and you will not be able to complete your assignment using this method.

Requirement #2 – Complete note-taking sheets for all books

On the first day of school, submit a note-taking sheet for each book. The note-taking sheets differ by grade, so be sure to use the correct sheet. Follow the directions on the note-taking sheet. These note-taking sheets will not be accepted after Friday of the first full week. **If for some reason, you cannot fully meet this requirement, hand in the best work of which you are capable. Do not start the year with a zero or forfeit credit on a book which you have, in fact, read.**

Requirement #3 – Write an in-class essay the first week of school

Within the first few days of school, you will be asked to write an in-class essay about the book from the grade-level list. This writing test will be given the first week of school Since you may use notes for this assignment, you should use the note-taking sheet you completed as part of the second requirement. Without details and specific quotes from the novel, it will be difficult to properly do this assignment.

Freshman Summer Reading List

*****You must select a book or books from this list – no exceptions*****

Life of Pi by Yann Martel

Lonesome Dove by Larry McMurtry

Little Women by Louisa May Alcott

The Fellowship of the Ring by J.R.R. Tolkien

North and South by John Jakes

Gone with the Wind by Margaret Mitchell

The Once and Future King by T.H. White

Harry Potter: The Sorcerer's Stone by J.K. Rowling

Cold Mountain by Charles Frazier

Name: _____ Book/Author: _____

Freshman Summer Reading Note-taking chart

Directions: Read your chosen text carefully. Pay close attention to character development, theme, symbolism, the significance of the title, and the writer's style. As you read, use the form below to take notes. (If you should need additional space, feel free to use additional forms)

What are your thoughts and questions about this story? You might reflect on the characters, their problems, the author's use of symbolism, the titles, or other ideas in the story. *Support your thinking with QUOTES and specific details from the story.*

What does this book say about people or life in general (theme)? In what ways does it remind you of people you may have known or experiences you have had? You may also think about connections to stories or books you have read, or movies, works of art, or TV programs you have seen. *Support your thinking with QUOTES and specific details from the story.*

Describe how the main character has changed through the story. *Support your thinking with QUOTES and specific details from the story*

How successful was the author in creating a good piece of literature? *Support your thinking with QUOTES and specific details from the story.*