

Honors British Literature

MCC Summer Reading Assignment 2018-2019

Directions: Begin by reading this policy!

Summer Reading Policy

Muskegon Catholic Central English department provides a solid college preparation program for all its students, taking great measures to ensure that each student has multiple opportunities to spend time reading independently from the course they are registered for. As a department we are ever changing in order to better fit the needs of our students, and the more rigorous expectations they will have from year to year.

All students, grades 7 -12, will be required to complete an independent reading assignment(s). This assignment will be created specifically for the course that the student is registered for, no matter if first or second semester.

This year, each grade level will have the opportunity to read a book of their choice; this "choice" will vary depending on the level of the course (see instructions on grade appropriate extended reading assignment). As the goal of the English department is to encourage a love and an appreciation of reading; therefore, creating class libraries of contemporary material for students to access is a priority. **Therefore, the choice text must be purchased as each respective English teacher will be collecting the "choice" text from each student to add to class libraries. Students are encouraged to search for texts online that can be purchased at a reduced cost.**

★ **Honors British Literature students will be required to donate CHOICE BOOK (for Summer Reading Assignment #1).**

ALL ASSIGNMENTS will be distributed during the last week of school AND can be accessed on MOODLE under class headings (you must scroll past the list of when English courses are taught though!). Mrs. Dornbos will be available to answer questions via email all summer at kdornbos@muskegoncatholic.org.

I do not want you to go the entire summer without being academically productive, so you will be reading, analyzing, and writing. I will detail your assignments below. As always, any questions, just ask me (email works best).

Summer Reading Assignment #1

Text: Your Choice

(Note: This is the text you are required to “donate.”)

I am allowing you academic freedom in order to give you a say in what you read; reading is essential to your critical thinking skills – bottom line! So, find a book that you want to read, and then simply read it. The only stipulation – it must be a work of academic merit, at your reading level. You may select fiction or nonfiction. DO NOT SELECT a text you have read for any other course at MCC. If you want some suggestions, or if you need to run a title option by me, feel free to email me. You need to read the text you select by Friday, 7.20.

The Assignment (using MOODLE)

- You must log on to Moodle, search under your courses, find, HBL, and then choose Extended Reading Assignment #1 Quiz.
- I will post 3 general short questions for you on Moodle about this work. The questions will be available on **Friday, 7.20** at 7am.
- Make sure that you have up to one hour to spare when you logon. You should also have your choice book near you, so you can refer to specifics when answering the questions as passages will be required. You will have a maximum time of 60 minutes to answer the 3 questions. You may not submit more than one response per question, plus you may not access the quiz more than once.

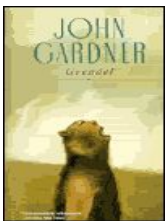
→ **The quiz open on Friday, 7.20 at 7:00am, and it will close by Wednesday, 7.27 by 11pm.**

Extended Reading Assignment #2

Text: *Grendel*

Grendel by John Gardner

This novel **retells** the first British epic, *Beowulf*, from Grendel’s point of view; he is “the monster.” This is a fictional “quasi-autobiographical” story of a monster trying to fit into a world where he is not wanted.



The Assignment

- You need to read this text – read it, process it, and be ready to start our year with it in JANUARY 2019. You may choose to read this text over the summer, or you may choose to read it in the fall. But, beware that you will need quite a few hours to read, analyze, and connect. You will need to bring this book to class with you for the first week as this text will be our focus. Please note that you will have an essay and an in-class assessment over text. Be ready for our first day together - it will revolve around Gardner’s classic.