

Hello Honors Juniors,

Welcome to 2022-2023 Honors English III! We have a great year lined up with an in-depth look at American classics and modern US literature. We will also focus on becoming better readers, writers, thinkers, and people.

That said, our course will be a great time to build a little community inside of our larger school. I require your best each day, and you can expect the same from me. Hopefully, by the end of the year, you will have had a great time, read and analyzed great literature, grown as a writer, and feel prepared for senior year literature and beyond. More than that, I hope that you take the ideas and skills of our course and utilize them to serve the Lord in your chosen paths.

This document has the summer reading and assignments listed. You will be reading and completing a book review of Bryan Stevenson, and you will be choosing an American literature classic to read and completing a dialectical journal for this summer. Prepare for a *Just Mercy* novel MC test and an essay on your choice novel when you return to school over the first few weeks. All summer materials are due by the first day of class, and please contact Mrs. Cooper if you have any questions in the meantime! Have a great summer and take some time to enjoy these works.

Onward and Upward,
Mrs. Cooper
rcooper@hpcacougars.org
Cell: 9197600737 (can text or call)

[Just Mercy by Bryan Stevenson](#) (READING AND BOOK REVIEW)

1. Read, annotate as needed, and prepare for a test during the first week back of class.
 - a. Use the regular (not YA/abridged version) of this book.
 - i. It is also available as an ebook, an audiobook, and free to borrow at the Library (note: the Libby app is a great, free option if you'd prefer the digital or audio).
 - b. The movie is great, but it's definitely not a substitute for the book! Just a heads up :)
 - c. Prepare for a quiz/test during the first day of classes

Assignment:

Write a review of *Just Mercy* for *The New York Times* Book Review. What strengths and potential weaknesses did you find in this book? Would you recommend it to others? What suggestions would you make for inclusion/ deletion in the second edition?

- 500-1000 words
- MLA Format: TNR, size 12, double spaced, 1 inch margins on all sides

2022-2023: Honors English III
American Literature---[Dialectical Journal Assignment](#)

For this assignment, you will do these things:

- Choose an [American Literature classic](#) to read and study
 - We will read The Great Gatsby, Fahrenheit 451, The Crucible, and To Kill a Mockingbird as whole class reads this year, so choose any but those four :)*
 - If you have a different 'classic' book by an American author that is not on this list, then email me!*
 - Please make sure you READ the book if it has a movie version, too. It's fine to watch a film version after you finish the novel!*
- Sign up with your choice on [this Google Sheet](#)
- Complete a reader response (dialectical journal) of 15 entries---instructions on next page (keep reading!)
- Submit your journal on Canvas or physically turn in on the first day of class

Dialectical Journal Instructions

A dialectical journal is just a fancy name for a reader’s response journal. It shows your thinking as you read, and it helps you make stronger connections with the text.

This can be done in a digital Google Doc or you can handwrite on notebook/printer paper.

On the LEFT side, you type/write an important quote from the assigned chapter. On the right side, you include a detailed response of your reaction to what was happening in the book and why this quote is important. Your response can include things like memes, songs, movies, other books, etc. in addition to your written explanation (not in place of it :).

You should have 15 entries for your reading and reflection of your book. Please note that your teacher will NOT award full credit for quotes/analysis taken from study websites like SparkNotes, Shmoop, etc. Do your own thinking---you’re an Honors student! :)

[Rubric criteria \(thank you Bishop Walsh HS\)](#)

Quote (Page #)	Response
<p>Sample: “Whenever you feel like criticizing any one,” he told me, “just remember that all the people in this world haven’t had the advantages that you’ve had” (1)</p> <p>Example from <i>The Great Gatsby</i></p>	 <p>Nick begins the book with advice from good old dad. Unlike poor internet Karen, who complains about everything and everyone, Nick’s dad advised him to look for the good and not find fault in others. It makes me think that Nick might be an okay guy...or at least from an okay family. Though they are wealthy (“advantages that you’ve had”), the Carraways recognize that not everyone else has that same wealth. Basically, his dad is telling him to give other people a chance (unlike Karen)</p>
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