



# CENTER FOR THE HUMANITIES

A Chesterfield County Public Schools Specialty Center at Monacan High School

Dear Humanities 12th Graders,

You will find within the next few pages your summer assignments for your 12th Grade Humanities classes. We hope that your completion of these assignments will enliven your hearts and minds and kindle excitement for our upcoming school year. We are eager to welcome you to Monacan, to see your smiling faces, and to begin working together in class. As you begin working on these assignments, feel free to reach out to your instructors, or to me, with any questions.

As a part of the Humanities Center's program of study, students are required to complete 20 hours of community service each year. There are additional details regarding this on the last page, and we will address this more completely during the first week of school. But, for your planning purposes, students will be able to use both summer 2023 and the 2023-2024 academic school year to accumulate hours for their 12th grade year (completed hours will be due on May 1<sup>st</sup>). There is no expectation that students start this summer. But, we know many students are already active in service, and so students are welcome to begin immediately should they feel inclined.

Wishing you a happy and safe spring and summer!

-Mark Davis, Humanities Coordinator

## **9<sup>th</sup> Grade Humanities Team**

Course	Instructor	Email Address	Summer Assignment
AP Literature	Mr. Matthew Ehret	Matthew_Ehret@ccpsnet.net	Page 2
AP Government	Mr. Sean Hollingshead	Sean_Hollingshead@ccpsnet.net	No Assignment
Perspectives IV	Mr. Mark Davis	Mark_Davis@ccpsnet.net	No Assignment
Humanities Coordinator	Mr. Mark Davis	Mark_Davis@ccpsnet.net	Service Learning Pages 3-4

## SUMMER READING: AP ENGLISH LITERATURE 12

Hello and welcome to AP English Literature. I am excited that you have accepted this challenge. Here are a few things for you to consider as you begin. First, start early. Neither of your summer reading books should be too difficult. However, both should make you think about someone potentially very different from yourself. You will struggle in the fall if you fail to read both novels well. Second, avoid Sparknotes and similar sites. Neither will they help you learn what you need to, nor will I hesitate to give you zeroes for plagiarized work, accompanied by disciplinary action. Third, you are going to be asked to read in a different, deeper way than you may have before. Know what you are looking for as you read by frequently referring to assignments below. Take more notes than you think you might need, not less.

Good luck. I look forward to meeting you in the fall.

Sincerely,  
Mr. Ehret ([matthew\\_ehret@ccpsnet.net](mailto:matthew_ehret@ccpsnet.net))

**NOVEL 1:** *Ethan Frome* by Edith Wharton [We will talk and write about this one first.]

**NOVEL 2:** Choose one from the following list that you have not read (or ask me about an AP approved substitute). We will talk and test on this by the end of October:

**Brave New World** by Aldous Huxley

**Life of Pi** by Yann Martel

**Their Eyes Were Watching God** by Zora Neale Hurston

**PLAY 1:** Everyone must read one of the following plays by December 1st:

**Fences** by August Wilson

**Death of a Salesman** by Arthur Miller

WE WILL COMPLETE AN IN CLASS ESSAY IN AUGUST FOR BOOK ONE AND SEPTEMBER FOR BOOK TWO

You should consider reading one more major book this summer if you can. Do some research. What book interests you that is considered literary? Are you into flirtatious classics? Read Jane Austen. Want to explore a classic of African American literature? Read Beloved by Toni Morrison. Are you modern and edgy and into rock and roll and rebellion? Read A Visit from the Goon Squad. Do you wish you had read your grandpa's rebellious book? Read the Catcher in the Rye. Did you pretend to read the Scarlet Letter and regret not figuring out what the fuss is all about due to inattentiveness? Give it a second shot. Whatever you do, make the choice meaningful to you and not just something to check off a box.

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### **Item 3—The Letter**

You are to type a letter, which you will proofread and edit **scrupulously**, and then mail back to me, care of Monacan High School.

Specifically, address the envelope:

Matthew Ehret  
Monacan High School  
11501 Smoketree Drive  
North Chesterfield, VA 23236

**Part One** – Say hello. Introduce yourself (along with anything you think I should know about you).

**Part Two** – Tell me about your experiences reading and writing in and out of school. What are your favorite books/authors/genres? Explain what you like when you read.

**Part Three** - Briefly address your progress with the summer reading and the summer assignment.

**Part Four** – Tell me about a formative event or influence in your life. How has it shaped you?

**Part Five** – What are your goals for this school year? What do you hope for academically?

Edit it. Mail it. This should be in the mail by August 2<sup>nd</sup>. I am excited to begin learning about you prior to the start of school.

**Link to**

“Survival Guide: AP LIT”: <https://docs.google.com/a/ccpsnet.net/document/d/1eHX2W4ozvAnkFh06MNra-ICgNvMVih4OP-hrFx-Ybfg/edit?usp=sharing>

## SERVICE LEARNING FOR THE HUMANITIES

This course will require students to perform community service throughout their four years in the Center for Humanities, allowing them to receive a credit in Service Learning at the end of their Senior year. During this time students will be exposed to contemporary social problems facing our society and understand the role volunteers can play in finding possible solutions. Students will be expected to complete a minimum of 20 hours of volunteer work each academic year outside of school.

### Course Requirements:

#### Hours

- Students will perform 20 hours of volunteer service each year\* (minimum)  
\* year runs from the first day of summer through the last day of school, **except senior year** when all hours due in **May**
- **Suggested** breakdown of hours:  
Summer = 10 hours  
1<sup>st</sup> semester = 5 hours minimum  
2<sup>nd</sup> semester = 5 hours minimum

#### Guidelines for Volunteering

- Students will be presented with a choice of possible volunteer locations and activities—students are welcome to find other alternatives.
  - Some examples are elementary schools, hospitals, animal shelters, museums, parks, special events volunteer—please check the **service board in the Humanities library** or **Humanities website** for suggestions
- Service Advisors may be able to assist students in this endeavor
- Please register at Hands On Richmond (<http://www.handsonrva.org/>)

#### Service Journals

- Students will complete **two service journals** each 9 week period (8 per year)
- Students will receive their journal topics at the beginning of each school year (ex., personal reflection, response to short essay on volunteering, etc.). These are **also posted on the Humanities website**.

#### Student Service Days

- Students will participate in class service days each year (9-11)
- Hours from these required days will total approximately 48 by the end of their senior year
- Each year students will collectively volunteer at organizations identified by themes chosen by Service Advisors  
(For Example: Theme = food→volunteer at Central Virginia Food Bank, Homeless Shelter)

#### Senior/Graduation Requirements

- 80 minimum hours (total of all four years)
- 48 Class/Grade Level Service day hours (total of all four years)
- 32 total journals (total of all four year)
- Service project completed (organized and completed during senior year)

#### Service Advisor (Teacher)

- The role of the Service Advisor is to keep track of student volunteer hours, respond to, grade and keep journals and advise students of any volunteer issues that may arise.

# Humanities Volunteer Time Sheet

2023-2024

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Date	Activity	# of Hours	Signature

Total Number of Hours: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_