

## Honors American Literature - Summer Reading List

Incoming Juniors will be expected to read 2 novels over the course of the summer. **Each student will be expected to write an essay in response to the prompt written below.** This essay will be due upon the commencement of the 18/19 school year in August, 2018. A copy of the essay guidelines is attached to this handout.

Students accustomed to having the entire summer free of intellectual pursuits and then inclined to moan and groan at a summer reading list are reminded that the brain is a muscle as well, and like any muscle if not exercised, it turns into flab. Just like the football players exercising their bodies over the summer so they can dominate on the field in the fall, so you too get to exercise your brain over the summer so you can dominate in the classroom this fall.

**INCOMING JUNIOR READING LIST** (**BOLD** titles are required reading. The student must then choose one of the remaining 8 titles for their third review).

***The Jungle*** – Upton Sinclair

***The Road*** – Cormac McCarthy

**Essay** – Identity and Belonging in American Literature (**Rough Draft Due on second Monday of school**)

Prompt: Write an essay that discusses how *The Jungle* and *The Road* deal with the concepts of “identity” and “belonging”. How do people form value systems, not only of themselves, but of humanity in these novels? Do the books propose solutions to these issues?

**Project** – (Due 1 week from the completion of the essay **Final Draft**)

Prompt: This will be a visual representation of your essay. Run wild with format and let your imagination go.

**A WORD TO THE WISE:** While it certainly is true that Internet sites such as SparkNotes can easily provide quick summations to popular stories such as these, the astute, moral, Christian –and self-preserving- student will note that such sites, while easily accessed by students, are also easily accessed *by staff members*, thereby making it a snap to check and see if blocks of text have been lifted from the Internet. A student found to be lifting text is engaged in *plagiarism*, and will be greeted with a “0” for the assignment and a report made to the Academic Dean. Not the best way to start off an academic year. So, the wise student will in fact read the books in their entirety, and compose their reviews from their own fertile imaginations, with no outside assistance from the Internet.

Glenn Ford

Mr. Martin

1 June, 2011

Title

Every paper written for this class will be done in **MLA format**. Papers will also be **typed**, using either **Times New Roman**, or **Garamond**, size 12. **All papers**, like this one, will be **double-spaced** throughout.