

# Classic Literature Summer Reading 2022

Welcome to Classic Literature. Through this course, we will go on a journey through time starting with one of the earliest written stories, Gilgamesh, working our way up to roughly the 16<sup>th</sup> century. We will spend our time studying the mythologies of the world, looking for connections amongst the stories we read. Many of the stories you are familiar with, *Harry Potter*, *Star Wars*, and Disney all follow the same Hero's Journey format that was created by Joseph Campbell.

Please contact me via email over the summer with any questions you might have about the assignment or the class. I look forward to going on a new adventure with you. Ms. Parthenakis [eparthenakis@eriesd.org](mailto:eparthenakis@eriesd.org)

*"We have not even to risk the adventure alone, for the heroes of all time have gone before us. The labyrinth is thoroughly known. We have only to follow the thread of the hero path, and where we had thought to find an abomination, we shall find a god. And where we had thought to slay another, we shall slay ourselves. Where we had thought to travel outward, we will come to the center of our own existence. And where we had thought to be alone, we will be with all the world."* –Joseph Campbell

**THE READINGS: You will be reading two books over the summer to prepare you for Classic Literature.**

**A. Everyone Reads:**

*The Hero with a Thousand Faces* by Joseph Campbell [ISBN-13: 978-1577315933]. (The PDF version is also available for non-commercial use on the school summer reading website.)

**B. Everyone picks ONE of the novels listed below:**

- *American Gods* by Neil Gaiman [ISBN-13: 978-0062572233]
- *Circe* by Madeline Miller [ISBN-13: 978-0316556323]

***PLEASE do NOT substitute watching the movie version of your book in place of reading the novel. There are noticeable differences. Do not start the year this way.***

**Annotation Assignment for *The Hero with a Thousand Faces*: READ THIS BOOK FIRST!**

- Create a Word document with a table that has the following (example is at the end of this document):
  - You must have at **least 20 completed notes** on your book.
  - You must have at least one note for each of the steps listed below including the chapter title. This gives you the minimum of 20.
- As you read, you should respond to the text in the table.
  - Label each note clearly with what step/chapter you are defining. Use one column for the definition and another for the example given by Campbell. For chapters 1, 2, and 3 I would like you to summarize the overall key points of each.
  - Make sure you are responding with depth. If your response is minimal or copied from the internet, you will not receive credit for the annotation.
- Format of Notes:
  - Label each note with the stage of the Monomyth (ex: Supernatural Aid).

- b. Include the page number you are responding to, in one column. This is to help you when you are citing text.
  - c. Include the number of the note in the first column. This will help you keep count of how many notes you have completed.
- D. Turn in your document on the first day of school.

### Chapter 1 "Departure"

- "The Call to Adventure"
- "The Refusal of the Call"
- "Supernatural Aid"
- "The Crossing of the First Threshold"
- "The Belly of the Whale"

### Chapter 2 "Initiation"

- "The Road of Trials"
- "The Meeting with the Goddess"
- "Woman as the Temptress"
- "Atonement with the Father"
- "Apotheosis"
- "The Ultimate Boon"

### Chapter 3 "Return"

- Refusal of the Return
- "The Magic Flight"
- "Rescue from Without" • "The Crossing of the Return Threshold"
- "Master of Two Worlds"
- "Freedom to Live"

### Annotation Assignment for your choice novel:

- A. Create a word document that has the following (example is at the end of this document):
  - a. You must have at *least 30 completed notes* on your book.
  - b. You should take the notes evenly throughout the entire book. You should have as many in the beginning as you do at the end. One note every few pages is a good way to make sure that you cover the whole book.
- B. As you read, you should respond to the text in your notes.
  - a. Each note should be 2-3 sentences long, and it should be detailed.
  - b. Annotate the novel according to what stage of the Hero's Journey your main character is in (see above assignment for *The Hero with a Thousand Faces*) along with the evidence [quote(s)] that demonstrate this.
  - c. **I am looking to see that you have read the book and can make thoughtful and original responses to it.** Make sure you are writing with depth. If the notes are superficial or copied from the internet, you will not receive credit for the annotation.
    - a. Label each note with the stage of the Monomyth.
    - b. Include the page number you are responding to. This is to help you when you are citing text.
- D. Turn in your document on the first day of school.

### NOTE ON THE SUMMER READING

The summer reading assignments are essential to Classic Literature as they are the foundation for the entire rest of the year. Be prepared to compose an essay on the first day of school. You may NOT choose to skip annotating the texts. This is the summer reading assignment and therefore it must be completed. If you choose to come to class the first day without the completed readings and annotations, it will severely impact your grade in addition to placing you in the unfortunate position of still having to complete the summer assignments as well as the rest of the readings and projects. You cannot receive higher than a 70% on the essay without direct quotations from the book and you will not be able to use either book when you

write the essay. As stated above, all annotations must be handwritten on standard size Post-It Notes (3x3). They may not be typed. They may not be written or printed on sheets of paper.

**NOTE ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Academic integrity is honesty and responsibility in scholarship. Every assignment you do in school is meant to measure your knowledge of something or your ability to do something. The grade you receive on the assignment should reflect that knowledge or ability, but an assignment cannot truly measure your knowledge or ability if you have not done your own work. The summer reading assignment should be the product solely of your thoughts, effort, and ideas. Do not use websites. Sites like Wikipedia, Shmoop, and SparkNotes serve a purpose, but using them for an assignment like this one is dishonest. Furthermore, your teachers are not interested in what SparkNotes says. We are interested in your ideas, interpretations, and arguments. We want to know what you think. Your ideas are far more interesting than the ones regurgitated again and again on the internet, and looking at those websites will color your thinking and prevent you from developing your own ideas. Although there will doubtless be collaborative assignments throughout the school year, this is not one of them. Do your own work. You may not in any way work with someone else on this assignment. If your annotations show any evidence of your having copied from a website, a classmate, or any other source, you will receive a zero on the essay.

**SUPPLY LIST**

Please come to class with the following supplies:

- Chromebook
- # 2 pencils, Blue or black ink pens
- Package of highlighters with at least 5 colors
- Summer Reading Novel

**Hero with a Thousand Faces Annotations (40 Points)**

#	Page #	Step/ Chapter/ Monomyth	Definition	Example
1				
2				
3				
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Chosen Novel Annotations (60 Points)

#	Page #	Stage of Hero's Journey	Evidence (Quote or Paraphrase)	Analysis (Context and application to overall theme or character development)
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