

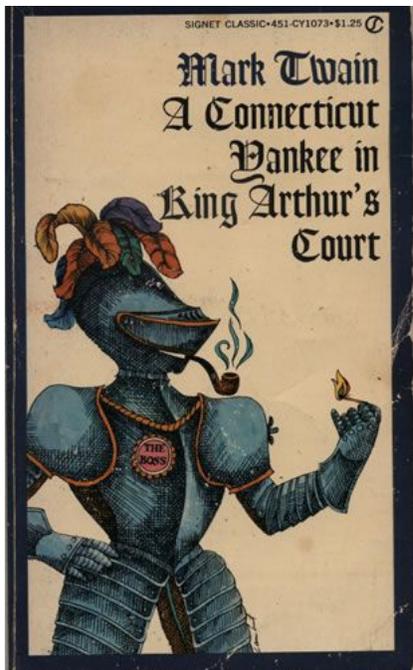
Summer Reading for students entering English 9H

Ms. Bucco
2017-2018

Course Description:

To prepare students to embrace to and appreciate the beauty of language and understand that literature provides the social history of civilization, students will be introduced to canonical works that have shaped society for centuries. We will work in conjunction with Global History I H. The major emphasis of the course will be to examine how literature reflects the progress in civilizations around the world. As connections and common assignments with the Global History I H will be at the heart of this course, students taking English 9H must also enroll in Global History I H, for which a distinct summer reading assignment also exists. This course meets the graduation requirement for English 9.

About the Assigned Summer Reading:



A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court

Published in 1889, *Connecticut Yankee* is one of the world's first stories about time travel. The seed for this novel was probably planted during Twain's 1884-1885 reading tour for *Huck Finn*, when George Washington Cable bought him a copy of Malory's *Morte D'Arthur* in an upstate New York bookstore. But Twain's interest in travel to "old worlds" was a longstanding one, as his first book shows. And his interest in the British past was also a lifelong preoccupation, as can be seen in texts like *The Prince and the Pauper*. As Twain's fantastic attempt to locate his time and place in terms of its imagined pasts and its possible futures, *Connecticut Yankee* is perhaps his most complex book.

- THE SECRET OF GETTING AHEAD IS GETTING STARTED.
 - A PERSON WHO WON'T READ HAS NO ADVANTAGE OVER ONE WHO CAN'T READ.
 - IDEALLY A BOOK WOULD HAVE NO ORDER TO IT, AND THE READER WOULD HAVE TO DISCOVER HIS OWN.
- MARK TWAIN

I am so glad you have decided to enroll in this course; I am looking forward to an exciting year full of learning.

Sincerely,

Ms. Bucco

Summer Reading Assignment:

Please read, enjoy, and annotate the novel which can be found online, at bookstores, or in libraries before the start of the school year. Annotations (notes, questions, observations) can be made by highlighting and writing in purchased books, made on post-it notes and attached to pages of borrowed books, or typed or handwritten in a kind of log which includes page numbers.

Before you return to school in August, you will:

1. ***annotate*** the novel either in the book, on post-it notes, or in a log;
2. ***be ready to discuss*** the story and the questions it raises with the class.

For the first week of school you will need to:

1. ***bring*** a copy of the novel with your annotations or notes;
2. ***discuss*** the story and the questions it raises with the class.

By the second week of school you will need to:

1. ***compose a thesis*** (*we will work on this in class*) which clarifies Twain's purpose and message in writing this novel;
3. ***develop an outline*** for an essay which defends the thesis you have crafted;
3. ***write an essay*** which includes evidence from the novel that supports your thesis.

Themes to look for while reading:

- ✓ Foolishness and Folly
- ✓ Technology and Modernization
- ✓ Wisdom and Knowledge
- ✓ Society and Class
- ✓ Supernatural and Time Travel