

E419 Advanced Placement Literature and Composition

Summer Reading Assignment/Instructions

Mrs. Gilkey mguerra-gilkey@d211.org
Mr. Micheletto rmicheletto@d211.org

If you would like to have digital access to this information, please join our AP Lit Summer Reading Schoology Group. Access Code: NS76-3QKB-SMCQW

***The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini**

Book Summary:

Amir is the son of a wealthy Kabul merchant, a member of the ruling caste of Pashtuns. Hassan, his servant and constant companion, is a Hazara, a despised and impoverished caste. Their uncommon bond is torn by Amir's choice to abandon his friend amidst the increasing ethnic, religious, and political tensions of the dying years of the Afghan monarchy, wrenching them far apart. But so strong is the bond between the two boys that Amir journeys back to a distant world, to try to right past wrongs against the only true friend he ever had.

Elements from *The Kite Runner* will infuse many of the other works in the 419 curriculum. Be advised that you must have the novel completed before returning to school. When reading, think in terms of motifs, allusions, archetypes, symbols, and social issues, as well as the rhetorical strategies learned in English 319. In addition, consider the following points as you read and mark the text. We will be using the points below to drive our discussions and analysis:

- Trace the psychological progress of the main characters in the story. How are their private lives shaped by the larger forces of history or culture?
- Consider Hosseini's narrative style in the novel and the importance of connecting past and present.
- Explore the political and religious themes in the novel.
- Analyze the novel as a Bildungsroman (coming-of-age) story.
- Consider the ideas of trauma, guilt, and redemption.
- How does Hosseini use literary elements/devices, especially symbolism, to reflect important themes or ideas in the novel?

Fall 2020 *Kite Runner* Assignments: When we return to school, you will engage in the following assignments/assessments:

1. Multiple Choice Reading Comprehension Test
2. 2 Practice AP Open Ended Essays
3. Socratic Class Discussions