**Syllabus: Advanced Placement English Language and Composition with Mr. Bah**

Students, share this with your parent or guardian.

**Long Non-fiction, Novels and Plays we will read this year:**

* ***Black Boy*** by Richard Wright
* ***The Crucible***  by Arthur Miller
* ***The Fire Next Time*** by James Baldwin
* ***A Room of One’s Own*** by Virginia Woolf
* ***The Great Gatsby*** by F. Scott Fitzgerald

Most of the reading we do this year will be non-fiction short works—essays. We will be using the anthology, ***The Writer’s Presence, 6th Edition***, McQuade and Atwan, editors.

A complete list of individual essays and reading schedule/order will be posted on my website, **MrBah.com**, and will be presented to students. Some of the essays that will be assigned this year are (a sample in the order they appear in the anthology):

* Sherman Alexis, “The Joy of Reading and Writing: Superman and Me”
* Maya Angelou, “What’s Your Name, Girl?”
* James Baldwin, “Notes of a Native Son”
* Judith Ortiz Cofer, “Silent Dancing”
* Bernard Cooper, “A Clack of Tiny Sparks: Remembrances of a Gay Boyhood”
* Frederick Douglas, “Learning to Read and Write”
* Edward Hoagland, “On Stuttering”
* Langston Hughes, “Salvation”
* Nancy Mairs, “On Being Cripple”
* And 36 other essays from the anthology, as well as essays I will present as handouts.

The readings of the books and essays will usually be integrated for theme or technique. I will modify or adjust the reading “schedule” as needed. This is a lot of reading for some students, so students should anticipate and block out reading time in their schedules. Students will be reading 1-3 essays per week when they are not reading one of the longer works.

Students will be asked to read during holidays. Students can read ahead, but should see me to discuss this.

I give frequent multiple choice or short essay reading quizzes to give students a strong incentive to keep up with the reading. Students should also annotate their reading—sometimes I check homework reading by simply examining the annotations.

**Writing:**

Most of the writing for this course is rhetorical analysis of technique, tone and the extent to which authors achieve their purposes. Most essays will be done in-class, or prepared electronically to be turned in on Turnitin.com.

Students will write an essay 2 to 4 times per month.

**Note: Please see the letter to students regarding my expectations for student behavior and work in this course. Students should have brought this letter home, and it is available on my website, MrBah.com**

**Best wishes for the coming school year.**