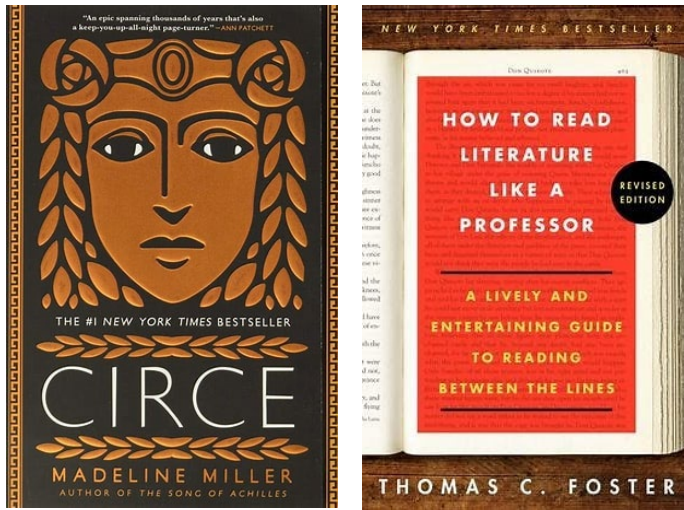


AP English Literature Summer Reading Assignment

You will read TWO books this summer.



1. Read Thomas C. Foster's *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*. As you read, write a **one sentence summary** of each chapter, illustrating Foster's main point for the chapter. **Reading this book before you read *Circe* is a best practice. You will need to apply concepts in Foster's book to the novel *Circe*.**

2. Read *Circe* by Madeline Miller (ISBN: 978-0316556323).

“In the house of Helios, god of the sun and mightiest of the Titans, a daughter is born. But Circe is a strange child -- not powerful, like her father, nor viciously alluring like her mother. Turning to the world of mortals for companionship, she discovers that she does possess power -- the power of witchcraft, which can transform rivals into monsters and menace the gods themselves.

Threatened, Zeus banishes her to a deserted island, where she hones her occult craft, tames wild beasts and crosses paths with many of the most famous figures in all of mythology, including the Minotaur, Daedalus and his doomed son Icarus, the murderous Medea, and, of course, wily Odysseus.

But there is danger, too, for a woman who stands alone, and Circe unwittingly draws the wrath of both men and gods, ultimately finding herself pitted against one of the most terrifying and vengeful of the Olympians. To protect what she loves most, Circe must summon all her strength and choose, once and for all, whether she belongs with the gods she is born from, or the mortals she has come to love.

With unforgettably vivid characters, mesmerizing language, and page-turning suspense, Circe is a triumph of storytelling, an intoxicating epic of family rivalry, palace intrigue, love and loss, as well as a celebration of indomitable female strength in a man's world.” (Amazon description)

Note about content: This novel is based on Greek mythology, which does contain violence, bloodshed, and unfairness; however, the book as a whole is written in good taste and is not overly descriptive.

3. Writing Assignment for *Circe* – **do not consult any outside sources.**

a. Choose **at least five chapters** from Thomas C. Foster’s book and apply them to the novel *Circe*.

b. Choose a passage from the novel you read that exemplifies the point in Foster’s chapter (cite appropriately using MLA format – look it up if you need to). Note that a passage should be at least one paragraph long, probably longer. **You must include the actual passage in front of your analysis.**

c. Write a brief analysis (8-10 sentences) about how the passage you selected You

These well-written analyses should clearly demonstrate an understanding of the topic using an appropriate element(s): character, theme, tone, plot device, etc.) within that work. The analysis should address the topic convincingly with apt references (textural). Superior writing will be specific in references, cogent (clear, logical, and convincing) in the explications, and **free of plot summary that is not relevant to the topic.** Remember, I have read these works many times.

You will submit this assignment, written in MLA format to Turnitin.com on the first day of school. Please be aware that Turnitin.com identifies AI content as well as other matches. Your work should be your own.

You can also expect an assessment on *Circe* and *How to Read Lit Like a Professor* the first week of school, so read both books in their entirety (annotations are helpful but not required). We will refer to *How to Read Lit Like a Professor* all year.