

AP SEMINAR

PRE-COURSE READING: 2023-2024

Why Pre-Course Reading? The North Cobb High School English Department knows that pre-course reading helps you expand your vocabulary, spelling, and writing skills, as well as gain new perspectives on life situations. Research is clear: The more reading you do, the more information you gain, and the better your reading skills will become. Reading is also an effective means of preparing for standardized tests such as the SAT, ACT, and AP exams.

What do I read?

How to Become a Straight-A Student by Cal Newport: Most college students believe that straight As can be achieved only through cramming and painful all-nighters. But Cal Newport knows that straight-A students don't study harder—they study smarter. A breakthrough approach to acing academic assignments, from quizzes and exams to essays and papers, this book reveals the study secrets of straight-A students across the country.

What do I do? Read attentively and enjoy your book! Annotating is **recommended** but will **not** be required as a grade. However, after the first week of the semester, you will have an assessment requiring your knowledge of this book.

Tips for Annotation: If you own the book, write in it. If you borrow the book, use sticky notes (make sure you keep track of page numbers). As you read, use annotations to explore the following:

- Study Skills
- Strategies that can help improve your academic performance
- Strategies that can help improve your time management