

2022 Summer Assignments for English 101 Dual Credit

You will have two books to read. They are widely available in bookshops and public libraries. Half Price Books should also have them but call first. Last year I used the same books so last years DC students have them. Both are easy and enjoyable reads. All you must do is read the books carefully, take notes or annotate, and think about them. When you return you will be quizzed and/or will write about them. (No quizzes on the first day back.) The quizzes and writing will add up to approximately the first 200 points for the quarter.

Outliers by Malcolm Gladwell

This nonfiction work considers the reasons why people like Bill Gates become so phenomenally successful and concludes that it is actually not simply a case of their exceptional gifts or brains. All in all, *Outliers* refers to statistical outliers, the people and events that fall well outside of the normal range on a bell curve. The book will get you thinking.

We will spend three days considering the various arguments Gladwell makes and analyzing them. You will be expected to be able to present after some time to prepare and write responses to post reading questions.

The Hail Mary Project by Andy Weir

Andy Weir wrote the Martian which was made into the very movie with Matt Damon. This is his most recent book about a existential challenge facing Earth. The sun's light diminishing rapidly which will bring on a new ice age in a matter of 50 years or so. The book is a very entertaining adventure into solving this challenge.

We will discuss the writer's style, and the book's character development, plot, and themes.

If you have difficulties, please contact me at moconnor@covcath.org

I check my e-mail about once a day during the summer, so don't expect an instant reply. I will be traveling a lot this summer and that might limit my ability to check email at times. Don't freak out!