

Dear incoming 201 students,

Welcome to English 201! The goals of the English Department are threefold:

- to develop critical thinking through reading, oral, and written skills,
- to teach students to recognize the value and use of appropriate language and style
- to provide an appreciation of and sensitivity to literature and the human values it illustrates.

To this end, you will continue to learn how to research, construct and analyze an argument. We hope that you will also continue to read and think clearly and be challenged to write with greater confidence and fluidity. During this process you will become versed in the analysis of language and style through regular oral and written assignments. Creative, narrative and analytical expression, as well as structured formal essay skills are central to meeting these goals. A variety of works and approaches will be used to expose you to the finest in classical and contemporary literature. You are encouraged to reflect on the moral and human continuum portrayed in these texts. Choice and perspective are equally important in digesting the lessons offered by the writers we will sample. It promises to be an exciting year of growth and development and we ask that you prepare yourselves for the experience by **reading and annotating two essays** from the female essayists who will be your stepping stone into the class and enjoying a wonderfully told story about guilt, betrayal and redemption--***The Kite Runner*** by **Khaled Hosseini**. The directives for your Summer Reading assignment are detailed below.

Reading and Annotations for “Profession for Women” by Virginia Woolf and “Living like Weasels” by Annie Dillard. As you read these essays do highlight and annotate for:

“Profession for Women”

- Metaphorical figures
- Gender limitations
- The writer’s message

“Living like Weasels”

- Comparisons between the life of a wild weasel and the life of humans
- Freedom
- The writer’s message

You do not need to furnish annotations for *The Kite Runner*.

Have a great summer,
Mrs. Antoine and Ms. Colina