

Summer Assignments 2025- 2026

Freshmen

- **Advanced English I & English I** - ([Click here to access the Summer Reading Guide](#))
Welcome to STA! As an incoming freshman at St. Teresa's Academy, you must complete a Summer Reading Assignment by the first day of school. Your assignment is detailed in the attached document.
 - **Algebra 1 & Support Algebra 1** - This assignment is not mandatory and will not be counted for a grade. This is to assist you in preparing for your upcoming semester in Algebra 1. You should not need to create a Nearpod account to complete this assignment: [Nearpod - Summer Algebra 1 Prep @ STA!](#)
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Sophomores

- **Honors World Literature and World Literature** - Incoming sophomores must complete a series of summer reading texts and tasks designed to prepare you for the study of World Literature. Students will: 1) Read Greg Johnson's and Thomas Arp's linked chapter "[Symbol, Allegory, Fantasy](#)" from *Perrine's Literature: Structure, Sound, and Sense (13th Edition)*; and 2) Read and annotate [The Alchemist](#) by Paulo Coelho (ISBN 13: 978-0062315007), with a reading test expected upon return. All tasks should be completed according to the directions outlined in the [HWL & WL Summer Reading Guide](#).
- **AP World History** - Students in AP World History will complete the [attached worksheets](#) in preparation for the fall semester. These activities will be due the first day of school, printed out and ready to discuss. This will form the foundation for the beginning of our course, providing historical context for AP curriculum.
- **College Precalculus:** [See attachment](#)

Juniors

- **All Juniors - College Counseling - [Explore Maia Learning](#) -**
 - Check out the University tab. It contains a variety of features useful to your college search and selection process. Note: When using these tools, you will usually be directed to a specific college or a list of colleges. Each college will be linked to its own “Fact Sheet” within the program, which is a kind of homepage for the school. That page will have a lot of great information on the school, including the campus community, majors offered, costs, and financial aid, etc. University Search – If you know of a college you are already interested in, look it up here to find more on admissions, majors, student life, etc. This tool will also allow you to search for a college match and find appropriate colleges by criteria, including size, location, major, and a variety of other characteristics. You must use the formal name of the college in the search tool, for example - University of Missouri Columbia and not Mizzou.
 - Considering List – When you find a college that you are interested in, click on the next to the college name to save it to this section. This will allow you to keep track of colleges you wish to explore more/apply to later.
 - Complete Interest Profiler on Maia Learning (approximately 30 minutes) under Assessments ***
 - Maia Drive provides documents that are unique to STA on *college visits, interviews, scholarship searching*, and more. Check them out.
 - Shadow and/or volunteer in a possible career interest area.
 - Take a virtual college tour (on college website under Admissions or Prospective Student page) of at least three colleges of interest (also check out the Academics and Student Life sections of college websites) Check out [The College Tour](#).
 - Follow College Counseling on Instagram [sta_college_counseling](#)
- **All Juniors - Service Projects** - You must complete and record a total of 10 volunteer hours in the Helper Helper app by junior orientation day. *Hours may be completed with an agency of your choice. You may also choose to complete your service hours at St. Teresa's Academy. However, they must be unpaid service hours with a nonprofit organization.*

- **AP English Literature & American Literature** - ([Click to access the Summer Reading Guide](#)) All juniors must read and annotate *Educated* by Tara Westover (ISBN-13: 978-1982149482). Students in AP Literature must also read *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald (ISBN-13: 978-0399590528). Please see the linked Summer Reading Guide to help you be successful in your reading.
- **AP US American History** - [See attachment](#)
- **AP Psychology** - [See attachment](#)
- **AP Environmental Science** - [See attachment](#)
- **AP Biology** - [See attachment](#)
- **AP Chemistry**- no assignments listed
- **College Precalculus** - [See attachment](#)
- **AP Calculus AB** - [See attachment](#)

Seniors

- **All Seniors - College Counseling** - [Maia Learning](#)
 - Complete the **Class of 2025 Self-Inventory** located under Assessments>Surveys>2026 Self-Inventory. **This is mandatory for all seniors.** The Class of 2025 Self-Inventory is available from May 1 to **August 25**. As you answer each question, click "Next" to move to the next question, or click "Finish Later" to save your work so that you can continue responding later. Clicking "Finish Later" will save everything before the question you are currently on. You must answer each question before you can click "Next". After the first question, you can also click "Previous" to return to earlier questions. Clicking "Finalize and Close" submits your answers. This must be complete by **August 26**.
 - **Parent brag sheets** are also due by August 25 (available in Maia and emailed to parents). Please remind your parents.
 - Continue to work on your **college portfolio**: resume, possible college essay topics/drafts, college major exploration, and your college list. Check out the Essay Brainstorming sheet in your MaiaDrive. Brainstorm on essay topics and read a few sample college admissions essays.

- **College App Work Day - Wednesday, August 6, 3:00-6:00 p.m. in Windmoor Center.** If you would like to work on the [Common Application](#) or institutional applications before the school year begins and receive assistance from College Counseling, bring your device and charger. We will be available from 3-6 p.m. to assist you; come whenever you please (this is only for STA students). The Common App is typically used by more than 70% of the class and will roll over for your class on August 1.
- **Research scholarships!** Check out www.fastweb.com, www.scholarshipamerica.org, and www.growyourgiving.org (a local KS/MO search engine).
- **Class of 2026 College Application Kick-Off Night (seniors & parents) –** Monday, August 18, at 7:00 p.m. in the STA Auditorium. **MANDATORY!**
- **All Seniors - Service Projects** - You must complete and record a total of 30 volunteer hours in the Helper Helper app by senior orientation day to be eligible for Senior Privileges. *Ten hours were to be completed during junior year with your service agency through your CST course and 20 are to be completed this summer. Of the 20 summer service hours, up to 10 can be completed with St. Teresa's Academy.*
- **Contemporary Literature** - As a Contemporary Literature student at St. Teresa's Academy, this summer you must read *The Wall*, by John Lanchester. Read this work closely, annotating themes related to the natural environment and climate change, cultural privilege, the concept of “othering,” socio-economic power and how the fictional society shows this power, and relationships (especially parent/offspring dynamics). Be prepared to take a test, short answer, with character and quotation identification related to theme. [The Wall: A Novel: Lanchester, John: 9780393357776: Amazon.com: Books](#)

Students must also purchase and read the poetry collection *Bright Dead Things* by Ada Limón. [Bright Dead Things: Poems: Limón, Ada: 9781571314710: Amazon.com: Books](#)
Annotate poems, selecting poetic images, for class discussions. Select 10 poems from the collection that you connected with on a thematic level and be ready to lead a discussion over your selections. We will use this collection throughout the semester.
- **AP English Language AND College Composition** - This summer, AP Language and Composition students and College Composition students at St. Teresa's Academy are required to read *The Wall*, by John Lanchester. Read this work closely, annotating themes related to the natural environment and climate change, cultural privilege, the concept of “othering,” socio-economic power and how the fictional society shows this power, and relationships (especially parent/offspring dynamics). Be prepared to take a test, short answer, with character and quotation identification related to theme. [The Wall: A Novel: Lanchester, John: 9780393357776: Amazon.com: Books](#)

In addition, students must read two chapters from Henry David Thoreau's *Walden*: "Where I Lived, and What I Lived For" and "Solitude" (please use this FREE ONLINE edition) [The Project Gutenberg eBook of Walden. by Henry David Thoreau.](#)

Finally, purchase and read the poetry collection *Bright Dead Things* by Ada Limon. [Bright Dead Things: Poems: Limón, Ada: 9781571314710: Amazon.com: Books](#) Annotate poems, selecting poetic images, for class discussions. Select 10 poems from the collection that you connected with on a thematic level and be ready to lead a discussion over your selections. We will use this collection throughout the semester.

- **Studio Art** - Summer assignments help alleviate the pressure during the school year of producing the many quality pieces needed for a successful portfolio. There are two categories: 20 art journal assignments, 4 projects. Completing more of these pieces than required will only put you that much further ahead when school starts. Here are the [assignments](#). Assignments are due: Second class meeting of the 2025-2026 school year.
- **AP Psychology** - [See attachment](#)
- **AP Environmental Science** - [See attachment](#)
- **AP Biology** - [See Attachment](#)
- **AP Chemistry** - no assignments listed
- **AP U.S. Government & Politics** - See [attachment in Google Drive](#) (accessible with STA account, not personal Gmail account).
- **College Precalculus** - [See attachment](#)
- **AP Calculus AB** - [See attachment](#)