



Dear Students and Guardians,

Welcome to Advanced Placement Language at Tocoi Creek High School. My name is David Harvey, and I will be teaching the AP Language course this year. I look forward to meeting you and your child in August. As part of the preparation for the course, students are required to read [A Primer for Forgetting: Getting Past the Past](#) by Lewis Hyde. The St. Johns School District policy regarding required texts for college-level texts is as follows:

"This course is an AICE, AP, IB, or DE course designed to earn college credit as well as meet high school graduation requirements. As such, materials and discussions for this course may reflect topics not typically included in SJCSD courses. Due to the dual credit nature of this course, content and materials used in this course are not able to be modified to accommodate variations in student age and/or maturity."

The text is a scholarly examination of culture, history, memory and philosophy, and it addresses several of the learning objectives of the AP coursework. All students are required to purchase the book for the purpose of annotation. The ISBN# is 978-0374237219, and it can be ordered new or used through the vendor of your choice. In addition to reading the book, students will need to keep a journal as they read. In the journal they will record the following for each "Notebook" (I: Myth; II: Self; III: Nation; and IV: Creation):

- Write down three questions that surface during the reading of the chapter.
- Write down three quotes from each chapter and explain briefly why you chose the quote. Explanations should be between 3-5 sentences in length and engage with specific aspects of the quote (language features, theme, style).

We will use these journal entries as a springboard for discussion, so they will need to be detailed and developed. They will also count as the first formative assessment of the quarter. If you or your child have any questions about the reading or the assignment, please email me at David.Harvey@stjohns.k12.fl.us.

Kind regards,
David Harvey
English Department Chair