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AMCHS English III Honors  
Summer Reading Assignment 2016-17

## READING

All students must read Ray Bradbury's classic work of dystopian fiction, *Fahrenheit 451*\*. In the book, the main character, Montag, memorizes the book of Ecclesiastes from *The Bible*, thus preserving it for posterity in a world in which nearly all books have been burned or otherwise destroyed.

After reading F451, students must read and annotate a book of their choice from the [American Library Association's list of Banned & Challenged Classics](#). If you were Montag, which of these books would you "save" from the flames of censorship and anti-intellectualism?

## ASSIGNMENT

After reading F451 and a banned book of your choice, consider the arguments for and against **censorship**, including the specific objections to the book you chose. See the [Banned and/or Challenged Books from the Radcliffe Publishing Course Top 100 Novels of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century](#) webpage for more details.

Then, **write an argumentative essay** arguing for or against your chosen book being banned. Be sure to provide evidence from the text to support your argument.

- Essay Requirements
  - MLA page format (see template posted on summer reading website)
  - Length – 1500 words minimum (about 3 pages, typed and double-spaced)
  - **No less than 5 relevant pieces of textual evidence** (i.e. direct quote, paraphrase, or specific plot synopsis) from *throughout* your chosen banned book to support your argument with correct **in-text or parenthetical citations**.
  - **No less than 2 relevant pieces of textual evidence** from an outside source (e.g. the ALA's website) about why your book has been challenged with correct **in-text or parenthetical citations**.
  - MLA style Works Cited page with all sources used in essay
- Deadlines and other requirements
  - Printed copy due the first day of school
  - Be prepared to submit your essay to Turnitin.com the first week of school

## ASSESSMENT & GRADING

Your essay will be scored holistically based on the quality of your argument, the evidence you chose to support your argument, and the quality of your writing (focus, organization, development, and adherence to standard conventions of written English). It is worth 1 Academic Achievement grade, to be recorded on the 1<sup>st</sup> six weeks Marking Period. See rubric copied on the back of this assignment sheet.

After discussion and instruction the first week or so of school, students will take a rigorous written assessment (ID test) over *Fahrenheit 451*, which will assess their comprehension and literary analysis skills. This test will also be worth 1 Academic Achievement grade, to be recorded on the 1<sup>st</sup> six weeks MP.

\* Copies of *Fahrenheit 451* are available upon request for students to borrow from the English Department.

NOTE: Your essay must reflect your own individual, original words and ideas, except where indicated by internal documentation and Works Cited page. You may NOT work with a partner or group. We want to see what YOU know. If we suspect that you have received unauthorized assistance on this assignment, you will receive a ZERO, according to the department's zero-tolerance plagiarism policy.