

Cristo Rey Jesuit High School
Rising Sophomores Summer Reading Asst. – Two Books:

Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck
One book from the Recommended Reading List (on Reverse)

This book is easily found at any bookstore, library, or on line often at a very reduced price. If you check it out from a library, please be prepared to check it out again in September, as we will use it at the start of school for your first essay. You will also be given a reading check test on the third full day of classes and you will need to review for that test.

This classic novel is relatively short and a good read. Most students really like this story and can connect with the struggles of the characters. The best time to read this book is in August so that you will remember the story in September. If you read earlier, you will want to review the book in late August to prepare for class.

Your Assignment: Come to school with the following assignment completed. Typed is preferred but not required. Use your Google.docs account if possible.

The American Dream is an idea that many people in this country seek to obtain; many have often succeeded in reaching that dream. It is the dream that brings many people to this country also. In general, The American Dreams stands for the hope of prosperity and happiness, symbolized particularly by having a house and property of your own. The Dream suggests a confident hope that your children's economic and social condition will be better than your own (i.e. your children will be better off than you are, as will their children).

Write two-three paragraphs about the American Dream as it appears in **Of Mice and Men**. Use *details from the book* to support your statements. Answer these questions in your paragraphs:

- What is the dream according to the main character(s) in the book?
- Is that dream achieved or not achieved?
- Who helps or hinders the attainment of that dream along the way?

Also write two-three paragraphs about your own American Dream applying the same questions to yourself and/or to your family.

Have your book and your four-six paragraphs with you on the first day of school.

Additionally, I suggest that you read at least one book from the Recommended Reading List (on reverse) in July. This list has a wide variety of choices to meet the tastes of all readers. Remember, the more you read, the higher your grades. You will have a chance to do a brief book talk at the beginning of the year.