

Dear Gaston Day School Community,

We invite students, parents, and faculty members to participate in the Gaston Day Upper School Summer Reading Program. The summer reading program is optional for upper school students.

This summer, we have selected the novel *A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest J. Gaines. Set in the 1940s in Gaines's native Louisiana, *A Lesson Before Dying* explores racial and criminal injustice as well as the importance of human dignity.

Please note that the book contains mature content and themes. Readers will meet in small groups early next fall to discuss the book. There will not be an assessment for non-AP students, but there will be snacks!

Advanced Placement students will still have required reading, and they will lead our small-group discussions. Here are the summer reading assignments for AP students:

AP Language and Composition (Eleventh Grade): [📖 2024 AP Lang Summer Reading](#)

AP Literature and Composition (Twelfth Grade): [📖 2024 AP Literature Summer Reading](#)

If you have any questions, please contact English Department Chair Erin Lekavich, elekavich@gastonday.org.

Happy reading!

Sincerely,

Erin S. Lekavich
English Department Chair
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