

## AP Seminar Summer Reading

You are going to read a book of your choice that focuses on making hard choices and doing the right thing, as well as watching a TED talk and reading a poem and an essay about that poem.

All assignments will be done on Google Classroom. Join code is **erwyq4b**

**You can get a Boston Public Library e-card [here](#). You can then use the app Libby to check out books electronically.**

### TED talk and poem:

Watch the TED talk here: [Ruth Chang on Making Hard Choices](#). Then, write about two ideas she presents about choosing and explain how they could apply to you.

Next, read Robert Frost's [The Road Not Taken](#) and this [essay on the poem](#). Then, explain how the essay may have changed your view of the poem and the view you have of making choices.

### Book of Choice:

For your individual choice of book, choose ten substantial quotations that do at least one of the following:

- Make you see the way our choices affect individuals or society in a new way
- Provide information that is wholly new to you and interesting
- Present an insightful or philosophical approach to making choices
- Provide a scientific perspective on making choices
- Provide an historical perspective on making choices
- Provide insight into the economic consequences of choices

Make every effort to have at least one of the above. This will not be possible for some of the books and that is fine.

Then, write a substantial response that explains why you chose that quotation, what interests you, what connections you can make, etc. Be sure to document page numbers. The document to work on is on Classroom; you can also find a copy [here](#).

Choose one of the following. Read a bit about the book before you choose it. If you find something that interests you that isn't on this list, send me an email at [jclapp@maldenps.org](mailto:jclapp@maldenps.org):

### Fiction:

[Upgrade](#) by Blake Crouch

[Purple Hibiscus](#) by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie\*

[Me and Earl and the Dying Girl](#) by Jesse Andrews

[Oryx and Crake](#) by Margaret Atwood\*

[The Kite Runner](#) by Khaled Hosseini\*  
[The Stand](#) by Stephen King\*  
[Warm Bodies](#) by Isaac Marion  
[The Bluest Eye](#) by Toni Morrison\*  
[My Sister's Keeper](#) by Jodi Picoult  
[All American Boys](#) by Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely  
[The Secret History](#) by Donna Tartt  
[The Book Thief](#) by Marcus Zusak  
[Project Hail Mary](#) by Andy Weir  
[Girl in Translation](#) by Jean Kwok  
[A Very Large Expanse of Sea](#) by Tahereh Mafi  
[Yellowface](#) by R.F. Kuang

\*Indicates mature content: depictions of abuse, some mature situations

**Non-fiction:**

[Between the World and Me](#) by Ta-Nehisi Coates  
[Being Mortal](#) by Atul Gawande  
[Unbroken](#) by Laura Hillenbrand  
[When Breath Becomes Air](#) by Paul Kalanithi  
[I am Malala](#) by Malala Yousafzai  
[A Long Way Gone](#) by Ishmael Beah  
[Crying in H Mart](#) by Michelle Zauner

While I am not formally making this a part of your summer work, I strongly encourage you to sign up for and complete the online class “The Science of Well-Being for Teens.” This class is based on Yale University’s most popular class; it is a six-week, self-paced asynchronous class on, literally, being happy. I think you will find it personally useful; I also think that the way it uses information, particularly peer-reviewed studies, will be very helpful to you in understanding how we use and cite information when we make arguments. Sign up [here](#) for the class; when it asks you if you want to pay to get a certificate, say no.