

This course emphasizes the development and use of critical thinking skills through in-depth analysis of various forms of literature. You will be introduced to some of the greatest pieces of literature on the planet and be invited to sit in the critics' seat. I will be your guide on this literary journey, helping you sharpen your skills, speak your mind, and find your voice.

Directions for success:

1) READ THE MATERIAL!

Not just Sparknotes, Cliffnotes, Enotes, Pink Monkey, etc! This will make a difference between an A and a B, or C, or D, for that matter. All assigned materials must be read prior to class. When you are told that a particular book or section is "due you are expected to show up having read the material and **be ready to be prepared test on it**, and to participate in in-depth, often student-led, active classroom discussion. You will also write an essay on each major work after discussion. **NOTE:** This means that you must always be prepared, **even if you miss a day. It is your responsibility to see me about missed work.**

2) FIND YOUR VOICE

Participate in class. As I stated above, many discussions will be student-led, but daily participation is a requirement and will be part of your grade. So find your voice! It doesn't matter if your point is totally wild or woolly, just that you're making a point, anchoring it on textual evidence, fueling discussion and stretching beyond your comfort zone. This is the one area that former AP students comment upon the most – it prepared them for the college classroom discussion forum.

3) COME TO CLASS PREPARED

Not only do you need to have read the material but you must also show up with the appropriate materials to class or will be **docked 5 points on your next test.** Not surprisingly this adds up to quite a bit in a very short period of time (although the simple math of it does seem to surprise a student or two each year). Just bring your stuff.

4) COME TO CLASS REGULARLY AND ON TIME

Too much happens on a day-to-day basis for a student to constantly play catch-up. Many days you will be in charge of a presentation. Attendance on these days is a must – a missed presentation is an immediate zero - so plan ahead, and notify me of any problems well in advance. Do everything in your power to be present on the day of a test; make-up tests are much more difficult than the original tests.

5) Oh, and NEVER, EVER, EVER, EVER, EVER hand in work that is not original to you! If you use an outside source for ANYTHING, poetry or book presentation prep, annotation, analysis, etc., that citation **MUST** be included. Cite ANY and all sources used! **All plagiarized work will receive a grade of 0, 5 days of detention with me, and depending on the nature of the offense, I reserve the right to request that it be placed on the student's permanent record.**

Materials:

Literature & Composition: Reading, Writing, Thinking by Bedford St. Martin (Textbook)

The Lord of the Flies by William Golding *(summer reading)

How to Read Literature Like a Professor by Thomas Foster *(summer reading)

Hamlet by William Shakespeare

Life of Pi by Yann Martell

Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead by Tom Stoppard

There will be additional short stories, essays and poetry throughout the semester.

*****Optional Student Resource** (recommended but optional): Allan Casson, *English Literature and Composition (Cliffs*

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students in AP12 English can expect: daily bellwork activities, daily reading, timed writing on a consistent basis, essay and research writing, novel and literary unit tests, regular vocabulary quizzes, multiple research based activities, projects and a major independent reading research paper (the research paper is a major grade and a state curriculum requirement for 12th grade), as well as unit projects both group and individual. All requests from students or parents for accommodations for this course, or any school, event will be considered.

MY CLASSROOM RULE

Respect - for me, for yourselves and your classmates

GRADING POLICY

Test grades: 70%

Quizzes, Homework, participation etc.: 30%

The final exam accounts for 1/5 of the final grade.

essays, tests, projects, etc.

vocabulary, reading quizzes, quick writes, etc.

Progress reports will be sent home every three weeks. Note: IF ANY GRADE IS GIVEN DURING A STUDENT'S ABSENCE, A "0" WILL BE PLACED IN THE GRADEBOOK UNTIL IT IS MADE UP. IF AN ACTIVITY OR ASSIGNMENT DOES NOT HAVE TO BE MADE UP, AN "ABS" WILL BE PLACED IN THE GRADEBOOK. THIS WILL NOT HURT THE STUDENT'S GRADE. THIS IS SCHOOL POLICY.

GRADES:

100-90 A	65-69 D
80-89 B	below 65 F
70-79 C	

TESTS: Major tests will be announced well in advance. Quizzes can occur any day. **Extra credit opportunities** will be offered at various times throughout the semester, but the only way to ensure success in my class is to keep up on the readings and assignments.

Late work policy

Any late work will receive a 25% deduction per day, after 2 days late, a grade of 0 will be given. There will be some assignments during the semester that will NOT be accepted late. If, and when, that happens I will make it clear why this is the case. For example, if that homework is a critical component of something we are working on during that day.

BOB JONES MAKE-UP POLICY

Make-up tests will be given to a student who has an **excused absence**. The student must make arrangements with the teacher to make-up a test.

Unit Note:

The following chart is subject to change.

WEEK	OVERVIEW	UNIT
1-4	Civility vs Savagery	SUMMER READING <i>Lord of the Flies</i> & <i>How to Read Literature Like a Professor</i>
5-6	Identity, Society and Culture	SHORT STORIES 1
7-8		POETRY 1
9-12	Story truth	FICTION <i>Life of Pi</i>
13-15	The role of the tragic hero	DRAMA
16-17		ADDITIONAL SHORT STORIES AND POETRY AND REVIEW

Note:

AP Literature Exam is scheduled for Wednesday May 5th, 2021 at 8 am.

Plagiarism Contract: Your Responsibility as a Student

All too often students are submitting work that is not truly theirs, but are submitting it as such. It is important that you cite all sources used for anything you write, whether that is a research paper, a poetry response or an essay. If you are submitting a paper as your own creation and research, then you have a responsibility to present your **own** findings. Too often, student writers essentially piece together the ideas of others, documented or not, and call it done. This is when plagiarism becomes a real dilemma because without proper citations you are basically committing theft of someone else's work/ideas, which is potentially theft of intellectual property, copyright infringement and cheating.

How to Avoid Plagiarism: DOCUMENTING YOUR SOURCES

You owe it to your sources, your readers, and yourself to give credit for the ideas you borrow in your research, unless the ideas are common knowledge or widely accepted. Failure to do so will result in **plagiarism**, the act of presenting someone else's ideas as your own. In essence, plagiarism is a form of intellectual thievery carried out, intentionally or unintentionally, by researchers who fail to do their own mind work.

Three different acts are considered plagiarism:

1. Failing to cite quotations and borrowed ideas.
2. Failing to enclose borrowed language in quotation marks (even if you have parenthetical documentation).
3. Failing to put summaries and paraphrases in your own words.

STUDENTS AND PLAGIARISM

As a student you are learning to write a quality paper. You are researching, gathering facts, evaluating and selecting from many ideas, developing and defending a thesis, and honing your writing skills. But one of the most important things you are learning is the most basic element in the history of ideas—the protection of intellectual property.

PENALTIES FOR PLAGIARISM

Most institutions have very strict penalties for plagiarism that may have far reaching effects on a student's future. Aside from the personal embarrassment, **penalties are as follows:**

1. **Disciplinary referral for cheating**
2. **Teacher detention**
3. **Failing grade for the paper/assignment**
4. **Placed in student's permanent record**
5. **Loss of honor society membership**

Consequences may also include:

6. Failure of the course.
7. Loss of academic credit.
8. Less than favorable recommendation from teacher and/or school counselor to a university or scholarship committee

What statement has the student made about his or her character? Are these penalties worth the failure to meet rigorous academic and publishing standards?

TYPES OF PLAGIARISM

Purchase of Papers
Cut and Pasting from Internet sources without proper citation
Paraphrasing without proper citation

Failure to Document Sources
Sharing homework – written or digital

I have read and understood this material on plagiarism. I am aware that intentional or unintentional plagiarism will result in a zero for the entirety of the assignment. I will honor the intellectual property of others by citing all material, whether summarized, paraphrased, or quoted, that I use from any outside source.

Student signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____