

A.P. English Language and Composition Course Syllabus

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True genius resides in the capacity for evaluation of uncertain, hazardous, and conflicting information. --Winston Churchill

Welcome to A.P. English Language!

This course is equivalent to a beginning composition course in college, and therefore we will do a great deal of writing. However, before you write, you will read many models that demonstrate the variety of skills and tools an author holds at his or her disposal. Authors use these tools for a variety of purposes, but each author has a purpose in mind before he or she sits down to write. As a critical reader, you will constantly look for the connection between the author's purpose and the skills and tools he or she has chosen. With this in mind, it becomes clear that the reading and writing in the class are inextricably linked. It is critical to your success that the readings are completed carefully and critically and the discussions are lively and thoughtful. This should lead to voice in your writing, in the classroom, and in society. We will write journals, timed writings, process papers, group papers, literary papers, and arguments. We will write with style, coherence and clarity. We will write with a mature voice and with academic integrity. We will do these things because these skills will follow you to college, to the workplace, and to your personal life. Furthermore, we will learn to assess the arguments and positions of others with precision and with an open mind.

Structure:

We have organized the course in a thematic format. Although there may be some variation, the units will be structured as follows:

Semester A

Unit 1: Rhetorical Analysis (12 weeks)

Unit 2: Argument (6 weeks)

Semester B

Unit 3: Synthesis (8 weeks)

Unit 4: Rhetorical Analysis (6 weeks)

Unit 5: Exam Prep. and Review (2 weeks)

AP English Language and Composition Exam: Wednesday, May 15, 2019

Recommended Supplies and Curriculum:

The curriculum for the class includes the close reading of essays, letters, speeches and prose pieces. You will need to come prepared with:

- ❖ spiral bound journal (college ruled)
- ❖ loose leaf paper (college ruled)
- ❖ highlighters (3-4 of varying colors)
- ❖ blue/black pens
- ❖ no. 2 pencils
- ❖ post-it notes

Texts:

The following texts will be provided by the school if used in class. Because you don't need every text on a daily basis, I will tell you the day before if one is needed for the following day. It is critical to bring the text on that day in order to participate with the class. Students are encouraged to purchase their own novels in order to annotate.

<i>The Language of Composition</i> (school supplies text)	A reader organized by theme and rhetorical mode
<i>An American Childhood</i>	Annie Dillard
<i>Animal Farm</i>	George Orwell
<i>The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks</i>	Rebecca Skloot
<i>Julius Caesar</i>	William Shakespeare
<i>The Road</i>	Cormac McCarthy
<i>The Time Machine</i>	H.G. Wells

Grading:

Your academic grade is broken into these areas (Infinite Campus is divided into these categories):

Reading: Literature & Info Materials	35%
Writing	35%
Language	15%
Listening and Speaking	15%

Classroom Expectations:

1. **No electronic devices may be used, or visible** in the classroom unless directed by the teacher. This includes, but is not limited to cell phones and mp3 players.

2. **No food or drink** may be consumed within the classroom. Bottled water is the only exception.
3. Students must be in their seats before the bell rings each day. The school-wide tardy policy will be strongly enforced.
4. Only ask to use the restroom during appropriate times, not during *instructional* time. Restroom passes will only be permitted for emergencies. Remember to use the restroom before class, during break, lunch and passing periods.
5. Always clean your desk and the area around it before leaving class each day.
6. **DO NOT PLAGIARIZE.** Plagiarism of any kind will earn you a zero on the assignment, a referral, and a conference with your parents/legal guardians.
7. Be prepared for class each day and bring expected materials. **No late work will be accepted.** All students who will be absent on the due dates of essays and major projects must either drop the assignment off in the teacher's box, be delivered via another student, or be emailed to the teacher at the time the assignment is due, and on the date the assignment is due.
8. **All formal writing assignments must be completed in order to pass AP English Language.** Failure to submit all such assignments will result in a semester grade listed as incomplete.
9. Be respectful to the teacher, classmates, and all visitors.
10. Work hard and have fun!

Let's all do our part to make this a GREAT OAK year. Again, I look forward to working with you. Please feel free to contact me any time at the school, or through e-mail.

Sincerely,
Ms. Woelke

Please sign below to confirm you have read this syllabus with your child. The additional information is appreciated and will be used to contact you more easily if necessary.

Student Name (print): _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent Name (print): _____

Parent Signature: _____

Phone Number: _____

Parent Email: _____