

Welcome to Advanced Placement Language and Composition. Please understand that being in AP represents a substantial commitment of time and effort. Your willingness to put in that **time and effort both in and out of class** will be demonstrated during the first week of class: you are showing me you belong in this class and truly want to be here.

If your heart is not in it, the class exerts a demand on you that you cannot meet at this time, or your present abilities would benefit from a further year of practice and study, I may recommend that you switch into a course more appropriate for your current needs. **If you are not prepared for AP, you may need to reconsider this course and try again later.** My goal is for you to be successful. I want you challenged, but not miserable and overwhelmed.

Expectations: **Few absences**-Too many absences are detrimental to your success in any course, but are especially detrimental to you in an AP course.
No tardies- It is your responsibility to make it to class on time. Though there are some exceptions, you must arrive to class on time and ready to work.

Assessment

Knowledge and skills developed in this course will be assessed through numerous essays, speeches, class discussion, quizzes, and exams. All students will participate in the AP English Language and Composition Exam in May – either the “official” exam or a released exam proctored by the instructor during final exam days at the end of the school year. Completion of this exam satisfies the final exam requirement.

Timed Writings

You will complete **many** timed writings (essays) before the AP exam in May. You will be learning to analyze and deconstruct prompts quickly, as well as using proper syntax and diction while incorporating the proper terminology. Timed writings provide practice in exposition, rhetorical analysis, argumentation, and synthesis. As with all other writing assignments, timed writings involve self-scoring and evaluation, peer evaluation, revision, and instructor scoring.

AP Multiple-Choice Exams

Students practice reading selections initially during untimed periods, then in timed situations; students will also respond to corresponding multiple choice (MC) test items. This is done with both new and previously unseen readings. Class time is necessary to “unpack” these essays/excerpts and their related mc test items, and we discuss these in class. Many of these mc items also serve as “spot checks” for retention of rhetorical terminology. It is essential that students evolve from a previous pattern of “read and regurgitate” to “read and analyze.” We do not simply read for information or to memorize facts; rather, we study how writers use language and the effects thereof.

Supplies: ALWAYS have **2** pencils **AND 2** blue/black pens; ALWAYS have COLLEGE-RULED paper (plenty of it).

Attendance: Students **MUST** regularly attend class in order to be successful. I give 5 daily points that **CANNOT** be made up even if the absence is excused. If absent, you are not receiving standardized instruction or class collaboration. For each day absent in a regular week, you miss 20% of your education for that week. Simply making up work does not catch you up to the class. Being in school is a responsibility, and it is mandatory to attend unless you are **severely** ill or have a family emergency. If you are a good student and rarely miss class, then this will not affect your grade except to inflate it! Yes, this pads your grade if you come to class and do what you are supposed to do.

*** Being in class is very important, so it is **crucial not to miss**. If you must miss, it is **up to you to contact me** via email (this is the quickest way to get me) so you do not fall behind. I will get back to you as soon as possible. If you need to see me, before school and the beginning of lunch are your options. I am not available after school.

*** If you want to participate so that you earn your daily participation points and do not want to fall behind, I am happy to send you a ZOOM link, but you must email me that day ASAP so that I can get the link emailed to you. This is **not required**, but I find that many want to do this so they do not fall behind.

*** SCHOOL RELATED ABSENCES: Going on a field trip, taking part in an assembly, any **ASB related events**, ACP, award or information presentations, or **ANYTHING SCHOOL RELATED THAT KEEPS YOU OUT OF CLASS DOES NOT EXCUSE YOU FROM CLASSWORK or HOMEWORK FOR THAT DAY!** You **MUST** tell me before you are gone for an event. It is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to turn in whatever is due that day and get what you are missing. If we have something very important that day, then I will suggest that you not miss class.

Assignments: **Assignments will NOT be accepted late.** This means there is **NO** make-up work unless you have an **excused absence** (not a school event or issue). ***If you are participating in a school function [or issue], then you MUST GET YOUR WORK THAT DAY.*** If absent, it is up to you, the STUDENT, to find out what was missed immediately upon return (preferably getting assignments while out via email or contacting a classmate). Missed work is then due the next day or a zero will be given. **Essays/quizzes/exams** must be made up immediately upon return.

Participation/Preparation: Just showing up to class does not ensure you will receive your daily points. First, you must participate! Second, you must be prepared. This means you bring ALL supplies to class everyday. 2 blue or black pens every single day! You may not ask a classmate for supplies. You are a young adult, so be responsible. Also, an unexcused tardy means you lose all your points for the day (and you get a detention).

Detentions: I am not a big detention giver, but on the rare occasion I issue one, students only have 2 days to serve detentions (the day I issue it to you and the next day). If you cannot serve **for any reason**, a referral will be sent to an assistant principal, and you will receive a consequence from him/her.

Rules: Check agenda board upon entering the classroom {HW is always written in blue}
Be respectful and tolerant to everyone in class
All home assignments are expected to be complete and ready for class
STUDY.... I can help you succeed, but you must put forth the effort to do so....
NO TARDIES (**This is your warning**)
**Excessive tardies will result in a referral to assistant principal even if they are excused
Please NO cell phones or music unless I give you permission for use
No being disruptive
NO EAR BUDS!
Food/drink are allowed as long as you are not distracting from class and you clean up your own mess 😊

Restroom Passes: 2 restroom passes will be issued for each semester. You may use them at any time, but please note this: IF YOU DO NOT USE YOUR RESTROOM PASSES, THEN YOU WILL RECEIVE 25 POINTS EXTRA CREDIT FOR EACH PASS AT THE END OF THE SEMESTER; however, **if you are chronically absent and/or tardy, then you will not be able to redeem passes for extra credit**. Also, you **must be present the day of the final exam** to turn passes in. I will not accept passes early or late. If you are not here to turn them in or you forgot them or you can't find them, then you may not have the extra credit.

Grading Scale: **I DO NOT BUMP GRADES**. Homework is given on a regular basis so expect it. If you do not do homework, **YOU WILL NOT PASS THE CLASS**. You cannot make up any assignments so do not ask. Do not ask what you can do to help your grade (you already know what you need to do). As well, parent notes or phone calls DO NOT excuse you from assignments. If not turned in when it is due, then it is a zero.

A 90% --- 100%
B 80% --- 89.9%
C 70% --- 79.9%
D 60% --- 69.9%
F 59.999999999% or below

(Please note you must earn a solid 60% in order to pass this course)

Students AND Parents, again, I DO NOT BUMP GRADES! Do NOT ask me to do so even if it is only 1/2% below the next grade. It is UNETHICAL and IMMORAL to do so. There must be a cut-off, and students will have plenty of opportunities to be successful. Students, the choice is yours.

I promise to do my best to prepare you for the AP test, but you must put in the work and time. Remember, the purpose of this course is to create confident readers and writers who are prepared to pass a college level exam that can potentially earn college credit, so even if you are not taking the exam, the expectations for your success are the same. My goal is to reach every student and help all of you feel accomplished and successful. We are in this together! Welcome to AP Language and Composition.

****Please sign and return this portion**

Student _____ Parent/Guardian LAST name _____

HOME# _____

Mom cell _____

Dad cell _____

Student cell _____

Any other# _____

Any other# _____