

# AP English Language and Composition (AP Lang)

Mrs. Koser

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## About This Course

The AP Language and Composition course focuses on the development and revision of evidence-based analytic and argumentative writing, the rhetorical analysis of nonfiction texts, and decisions writers make as they compose and revise. Students evaluate, synthesize, and cite research to support their arguments. Additionally, they read and analyze rhetorical elements and effects in nonfiction texts—including images as forms of text—from a range of disciplines and historical periods.

## Big Ideas and Enduring Understandings

### *Rhetorical Situation*

Individuals write within a particular situation and make strategic writing choices based on that situation.

### *Claims and Evidence*

Writers make claims about subjects, rely on evidence that supports the reasoning that justifies the claim, and often acknowledge or respond to other, possibly opposing arguments.

### *Reasoning and Organization*

Writers guide understanding of a text's line of reasoning and claims through that text's organization and integration of evidence

### *Enduring Understanding*

The rhetorical situation informs the strategic and stylistic choices that writers make.

## Who Should Take AP?

While AP is specifically meant to prepare students for college, ALL students are welcome in this course, regardless of their plans after high school. Many former AP students went straight into careers, but took this course because they wanted a challenging experience.

Please do not take this course unless you can commit to the workload! While anyone can take this class, only those who put in the work can expect success.

Students who take this course MUST be able to read independently, both in and out of class.

Which one is right for you?

AP Language	Advanced English 11 or 12
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• College level instruction</li><li>• Focused on non-fiction</li><li>• Intense focus on argumentation</li><li>• Few, if any, full-length books</li><li>• Heavy workload</li><li>• Potential for college credit</li><li>• Must take AP Exam</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• College/career preparation</li><li>• Includes fiction and non-fiction</li><li>• Variety of writing assignments</li><li>• Full-length books</li><li>• Moderate workload</li><li>• No college credit</li><li>• No AP Exam</li></ul>

## Tutoring:

Tutoring is available Monday-Thursday after school in my classroom from 2:30-3:30.

**Grading Plan:**

Grades are weighted to ensure that students who do not perform well on tests are able to bring their grade up through diligent work in class and at home. I do not offer extra credit.

50% Tests and Writing Assignments

50% Class Assignments and Homework

**Homework and Late Work:**

Students should expect 20-30 minutes of homework from this class, 4-5 times per week. Homework is due the day after it is assigned unless otherwise indicated.

Late assignments can be turned in for partial credit (generally 70% credit for assignments turned in the next day). Assignments will not be accepted, even for a late grade, 1 week after they are due.

**Absences:**

If you are absent for any reason, the following guidelines apply to missed assignments:

- Absent on assignment due date: Turn in immediately upon return
- Absent for assignment: Make up within period equal to number of days missed
- Absent for test: Make up within two weeks
- Absent for quiz: Make up within one week

If you do not believe you will have enough time to complete a task, email or speak to me so that we can set up a plan for your success.

Please help me out by asking me for your work immediately following an absence. The best time to ask about missed work is before class, but I'd rather have you ask in the middle of a lesson than completely forget. **It is YOUR responsibility to arrange for and complete the necessary work THE DAY you return.**

**Cheating:**

Cheating takes many forms. It may be as simple as telling someone the answers to a worksheet item or as serious as copying and pasting a writing assignment from the internet.

Examples of cheating:

- letting your friend copy any part of your worksheet
- looking up the answers to items that are supposed to reflect your own comprehension
- using another author's ideas without attempted citation
- using an electronic device during a test
- telling a friend who was absent what will be on a test

The consequence assigned will be in proportion to the offense. Copying a worksheet, for example, will result in a zero on the assignment for both parties if it is a first offense. Copying someone else's test, however, will result in zero credit but also include an office referral.

Any incident of academic dishonesty may result in a phone call home and a notification to coaches and club advisors **including National Honor Society.**

## Electronic Devices

If you have permission, you may listen to music, text a parent, or use a phone for academic purposes. If you don't have permission and use these devices anyways, you will have to go to the office to turn in your electronic device. Permission is on a daily basis.

Any device that can send or receive text messages, including a watch, must be put away during tests or quizzes. You may put the device in a pocket or leave it face down underneath your desk.

## AP Online Classroom

I will regularly assign tasks on students' AP Classroom accounts. These tasks may be to watch an instructional video, write a response to a prompt, or take a multiple-choice progress check. I am not able to print these tasks, so students must plan to access their AP Classroom accounts for these assignments.

If students do not have internet at home, they can complete the task in U-Time, in a study hall, or before or after school. I am willing to provide extra time to accommodate the student's internet situation.

## Classroom Expectations:

1. **Show respect.** When someone else is speaking to the class or to your group, look at the person and do not talk. Don't laugh rudely at what someone else says or does. If you have to work with someone you don't know (or don't like), participate in the activity without rolling your eyes or grumbling.
2. **Participate.** All this means is follow directions for class activities. If you don't understand directions, ask a classmate or raise your hand for help. Not all activities will be for a grade. I will expect you to participate whether you are earning points or just practicing. All students will be asked to read out loud on a regular basis.
3. **IPads only.** Use only the school-provided technology unless you have express permission.

## Classroom Procedures:

1. **Take care of yourself.** Unless we are in the middle of a lecture, you can get up to sharpen your pencil, turn in a paper, or get supplies. Refill the staplers or empty the pencil sharpeners if you see that it's necessary. All supplies on my side table are for student use. Take what you need.
2. **Come ready to learn.** When the bell rings, I start class. You should already have necessary supplies (book, iPad, paper, and writing utensil). If you need supplies, see above.
3. **Ask before you take.** Don't touch other people or other people's things unless you have permission. If you need a pencil, paper, or other supplies, ask a classmate or visit my supply center.
4. **Ask before you leave.** Try to use the restroom and visit the water fountain between classes. However, if you need the restroom or the water fountain, you may raise your hand and ask. You should not be anywhere other than the place you asked permission to go. Detours count as skipping class and will receive consequences. You may NOT go to the vending machines or cafeteria during class time.