



AP ENGLISH IV

LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

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REQUIRED MATERIALS

- Charged iPad
- Independent reading book
- Notebook
- Current class texts

ABSENCES

- It is your responsibility to check the calendar on my teacher website to find a summary of daily class work. Email me if you need further clarification.
- Use the online calendar or consult with me to keep up with your work around planned absences.
- Except in extenuating circumstances, long-term deadlines remain the same regardless of absences.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This English IV AP course provides a stimulating college-level class that encourages students to develop lifelong reading, writing, and thinking habits while also preparing them to take the AP Literature and Composition Exam in May.

PHILOSOPHY

The study of literature and the writing about literature are essential because through the reading of literature we gain self-knowledge and insight into the human condition, we discover our commonality with people of other cultures and other times, and we learn to appreciate the beauty of our own language and expression. Through writing and oral discussion, we force ourselves to know what we think and to structure and support those thoughts so that we can communicate with others. What could be more important?

LOGISTICS AND EXPECTATIONS

- Google Classroom is the place to find assignment directions, notes, announcements, etc.
- Assignments will be submitted to turnitin.com, which checks for originality and allows me to provide feedback on your writing electronically.
- Use the calendar on my teacher website to find a summary of daily class work and upcoming deadlines.
- We believe our job is to help students become better writers, readers and, ultimately, thinkers. Therefore, we strive to provide intellectually stimulating and engaging coursework that is relevant and challenging. The expectation is, then, that students will complete all assignments to the best of their abilities. Everyone should be working on English assignments during class at all times, free of distraction from phones, other homework, etc.

GRADE PERCENTAGES

- 80%--Major writing assignments (typically two per 9-week grade period).
 - 15%--Daily work. This includes shorter assignments, steps of process writing, participation in discussions, and focusing on English work during class time.
 - 5%--Timeliness of assignments.
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REWRITE POLICY

The purpose of feedback in this course is to improve students' reading and writing skills. To that end, students should schedule a conference with me if they would like to rewrite a major assignment that does not reflect mastery.

Rewritten assignments may receive up to a 90. If you have not turned in an assignment within two weeks of the original deadline, you will not be eligible to rewrite.

COMMUNICATION

Please always ask (in person or via email) if you have questions or need additional support. I am available for tutorials most mornings at 8:15 (email ahead of time) and by appointment.

COURSE OF STUDY

Writing, discussion and student choice are at the heart of this English IV AP course. Students will choose titles of literary merit for independent, partner, and small group study. Student choices must reflect diversity of authorial styles, literary period, nationality, and gender. To facilitate understanding and discussion, students will utilize old and new methods of discovery – from the Socratic Seminar to appropriate and useful integration of technology. In these contexts, students will:

- Analyze style in works of fiction, drama, and poetry
- Explore literary theory and apply those concepts to fiction, drama and poetry
- Learn and apply high-level academic vocabulary to works of fiction, drama, and poetry
- Compose and revise college essays
- Integrate research into many modes of writing with appropriate documentation
- Engage in sustained academic discussion
- Practice and analyze Advanced Placement multiple choice questions
- Write AP timed essays
- Compare and contrast works of fiction, drama, and poetry
- Learn and apply Modern Language Association guidelines regarding documentation, citation, and format
- Consider the human condition and how the development of literature over time reflects our struggles, celebrations, and understanding of existence

LATE WORK POLICY

- We believe that grades in the gradebook should represent the quality of student work. Sometimes students need more time to do high quality thinking, critical reading, and thoughtful writing, which are the key components of this course. Therefore, points will not be deducted from a major assignment that is turned in late. However, since managing workload and deadlines is important, there will be a separate “timeliness” grade for each major assignment. This grade will be entered as a 100 if the assignment is on time and as a zero if the assignment is late.
 - Sometimes circumstances arise in which a student may need to ask for an extension. In this event, email me ahead of the deadline and request a new deadline within one week of the original deadline. Submissions that meet the granted extension deadline will result in a “no-count” timeliness grade rather than a zero.
 - Daily assignments are usually preparation for class activities, and are often not eligible for late submission. In cases where daily work may be submitted late, it will be accepted for one week only.
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