

## **Course: Advanced Placement Literature and Composition**

**2022-2023**

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### ***A Course Overview and Syllabus with Performance Guidelines***

It is such a pleasure to have you in this AP Literature and Composition course. When you come to this college level course, I hope you and your parents understand the rigor of the class and the commitment each student must devote to. So, this syllabus serves as an agreement between you/your parent(s) and me. You will have to meet the requirement of the course (to do assignments on time, to participate in outside class tutorials/discussions, to take one mock exam on **3/25** and to take AP exam on **5/3/2023**).

A student who does not fulfill his commitment to the requirements of this agreement or who has any problems with the workload or who cannot sit in for essay/multiple choice practices after school may be advised by the dean, his/her counselor, or myself to transfer to an on-level class during the schedule change period now or the following semester.

By signing this syllabus, you and your parent(s) acknowledge the binding of this agreement.

### **Course Description**

Prerequisite - AP Language and Composition for the senior level AP class; or English III Magnet or English IV Magnet as determined by counselors and Dean of Curriculum.

In this course students refine the writing, research, and reading skills introduced in the 11th grade AP course, or the English III Magnet course. The course requires that you read a minimum of 300 pages per week, either on assigned in-class or outside readings from selected works of fiction and non-fiction literature. A related goal is the development of critical thinking skills. Writing assignments emphasize argumentation and persuasion. Students will also write a research paper and a literary analysis.

### **Philosophy and Major Goals**

Read Closely

Question Intensely

Think Critically

Write Argumentatively and Persuasively

### **Major Concepts/Content**

AP Literature and Composition is designed to be a college/university level course, thus the AP designation on a transcript. This course will provide you with the intellectual challenges and workload consistent with a typical undergraduate university English literature/Humanities course and a composition exam given in early May (required). A grade of 4 or 5 on this exam is considered equivalent to a 3.3-4.0 for comparable course at the college or university level. A student who earns a grade of 3 or above on the exam will be granted college credit at most colleges and universities throughout the United States.

The purposes of this course are to help students further develop and refine skills in analytical reading, expository writing, and investigative methods of research. Representative literary works and argumentation essays are studied. Through constant observing, reading, discussing, thinking, writing, and reflecting, the learner has the opportunity to further develop his understanding of humanity and his skills in studying appropriate literary selections.

### **Textbooks**

\*AMOSCO-AP Literature (classroom Set)

\*Perrine's Literature (Classroom Set)

1. [Atlas Shrugged or Fountainhead by Ayn Rand Scholarship Essay Contest](#) (Obtain a Copy of Your Choice Online)

### **Novels (Individually Owned Copies for Annotations)**

2. *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley
3. *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare (Classroomset)
4. *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley
5. *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen
6. *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe
7. *Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller (Classroom Set)
8. *The Awakening* by Kate Chopin

### **Optional Supplemental Texts Selected from,**

1. Sylvan Barnet, William E. Cain: *A Short Guide to Writing about Literature*, Pearson, 9<sup>th</sup> Edition
2. Kelley Griffith, Jr. *Writing Essays about Literature*, Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Publishers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition
3. Edith Hamilton: *Mythology*, Warner Books, 1999
4. Samuel Cohen: *50 Essays, a Portable Anthology*, Bedford/St. Martin's, 2004
5. Mattie Williams: *English Literature and Composition*, Research & Education Association, 2000

### **Additional Reading**

Students will be required to read at least three or four novels or plays outside of class, either individually or as a group assignments. Novel choices will be specified and will be based on suggested reading lists for the AP English Literature and Composition Exam and Essay Competition Requirements. Some will be completed during semesters, and two will be completed between semesters. Writing assignments and/or examinations will culminate each reading experience as specified.

### **On-Going Assignments:**

AP Literature Binder with sections for Vocabulary, Literary and Grammar/Syntax Terminology (See detailed outline below for how to divide your notebook).

Consistent and frequent practice with AP-style multiple choice questions and free response prompts.

**\*\*Two per week after-school Intensive Practice and One Discussion Session are reserved and required for each AP student throughout the year and those tutorials last till April**  
***Consistent reading and explication of poetry, particularly Shakespeare's Sonnets, the***

*Metaphysical, the Romantic, the Victorian and Modern Poets - John Donne through T. S. Eliot and Dylan Thomas. This is a daily activity used to teach students how to read a poem and how to write explications of poetry. It is used alternately with grammar and syntax lessons on a daily basis and fosters close reading, identification of sentence styles and in-depth interpretation of the selections. This is a journal activity that is interactive. Following our reading and journal, the class discusses the particulars of the poetry.*

### **Writing Expectations:**

Throughout this course, students will be expected to complete a variety of college-level writing assignments. These can range from the informed paragraph that describes your reader's response to the imagery of a poem to the informal, analytical essay that will be revised and edited multiple times. Some writing will consist of one draft only (timed essays, informal and exploratory writing), and some will be carried through the entire writing process, from pre-writing to revising and editing by student, peer, and instructor. All formal writing will be graded on the College Board's 6 – point essay rubric, in which you will be trained early in the year.

As this is a college-level course, all writing and writing instruction will meet the following criteria as stated in The College Board AP Course Description (2006). All writing will be returned to the students with instructor comments. Full-class mini lessons and individual tutoring exercises will place emphasis on “helping students develop stylistic maturity, which, for AP English, is characterized by the following:

- ❖ A wide-ranging vocabulary used with denotive accuracy and connotative resourcefulness;
- ❖ A variety of sentence structures, including appropriate use of subordinate and coordinate constructions;
- ❖ A logical organization, enhanced by specific techniques of coherence such as repetition, transitions, and emphasis;
- ❖ A balance of generalization with specific illustrative detail; and
- ❖ An effective use of rhetoric, including controlling tone, maintaining a consistent voice, and achieving emphasis through parallelism and antithesis.”

### **Grammar/Syntax Review**

[EOL Book](#)

### **Vocabulary**

[\\*The Vocabulary Power Plus 12<sup>th</sup> Grade](#)

\*Words in Readings

### **Plan for AP Multiple Choice Questions (45%) and Free Response Questions(55%):**

At least once every two weeks, students will practice released questions from AP Literature Exams. To increase the ability to answer multiple choice questions, they will complete reading strategy activities and will study question types and justifications for correct answers. With free-response prompts, students will write in a 40-minute timed setting and will have their essays scored on a 1-9 scoring guide scale. They will receive feedback on their essays and will frequently have the opportunity to revise and resubmit for scoring. As the year progresses, the level of pre-reading and pre-writing activities will decrease until in the last two months before the AP exam, students will respond to new questions without having seen them before in a structured, test-taking format. Grades will be taken on all practice AP test-question work.

**ATTENDANCE AND TARDY POLICY** will follow the guidelines set in the student handbook.

**CONDUCT-** everyone starts with an “S” in conduct, and if you have a perfect attendance, no late work turned in and follow the class rules, requirements, instructions and maintain a 80 course average, you will earn an E in Conduct.

**Homework:**

Homework exists every night of each semester; there is always a book, play, essay, or short story to read. There is always a composition at some stage in the writing process on which to work; there are numerous usage rules to review, to relearn, and to analyze each week; and there is a notebook to keep organized. A scheme for how to divide your notebook will be provided. There will be periodic reading quizzes. These will sometimes be unannounced.

**Late Work Policy**

Please refer to the English Department Policies on Canvas.

**Make-up Work Policy**

Please refer to the English Department Policies on Canvas.

**ATTENDANCE AND TARDY POLICY** will follow the guidelines set in the student handbook.

CONDUCT- everyone starts with an “S” in conduct, and if you have a perfect attendance, no late work turned in and follow the class rules, requirement, instructions and maintain 80% a course average, you will earn an E in Conduct.

**College and Competitions:**

You may participate in as many essay competitions for college scholarships. Those essay contests offer you opportunities to learn from other writers, and at the same time, you are able to demonstrate your skills in various forms of writing. Please see your Assignment Schedule for details.

**After-school Tutorials:**

For the AP exam on May 3, 2022, I offer two after-school tutorials per week and one Saturday mock exam on March 25, 2023. You are, though not required, strongly encouraged to participate and to appreciate those free tutorials, which have been for years proved to be inarguably valuable to your success in May.

**Assessment:**

Every student will be provided a **Assignments/Quizzes/Tests Schedule** on the first day of each cycle on Canvas. You will have to keep a writing folder which at times I will evaluate your folder and give you a grade over several writings at one time before the end of each cycle. You should keep a copy of everything you have turned in. Some grades will be determined by the progress you make.

**You will be evaluated:**

Through responses and questions presented either orally or in writing, the students will demonstrate concern and involvement with ideas and values expressed in literature and with those in their own lives. Through discussions and essays, students will demonstrate ways to analyze and write about literature. Through written research papers, students will demonstrate skills in the research process. Through discussion, written reports, essay examinations, objective tests, and oral and written projects, the student will demonstrate knowledge of:

- a. Selected works of fiction, non-fiction, poetry, drama, and film.
- b. Man's relationship to himself, to others, and to the universe through identifying themes in literature,

- c. Man's values and how he defends these values
- d. All forms of Style Analysis

### **Grading**

Quality of performance is the primary basis for grades. Major work will not be accepted after the date on the assignment schedule unless a prior arrangement has been made with the teacher. Course grades will be average of the grades for daily work, major papers, a research paper and exams. The research paper will have various components: Content, style, grammar and mechanics and will count as three separate grades -- to be averaged. All papers will be graded on the quality of the fulfillment of the requirement even for a completion grade. Be sure papers are well organized, have accurate content, and have followed the writing process.

GRADING: CYCLE GRADING: 1<sup>st</sup>

2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>

3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>

60% 2 Major	1 Essay 1 Common Assessment	1 Essay 1 Common Assessment	1 Essay 1 Teacher's Choice
30% 2-6 Assessments	3 Quizzes/ Class Activities (Max)	6 Quizzes/ Class Activities (Max)	6 Quizzes/ Class Activities (Max)
10% Unlimited Daily	Daily Lessons Related	Daily Lessons Related	Daily Lessons Related

\*10 grades minimum per cycle

\*Tests, exams and quizzes are considered confidential materials that are not allowed to be taken out of the classroom.

### **SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY**

Please read and remember the Student Disciplinary Rules in the HISD Student Handbook. Cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited by HISD system policy and the rules of this class.

#### **Cheating on a test includes:**

- a. Copying from another student's test paper; using materials during the test that are not authorized by the teacher
- b. Collaborating with another student without authorization
- c. Using misappropriated test materials and/or answer keys

**PLAIGERISM** means using someone else's work and not telling. You must document every quotation, every paraphrase, every concept harvested from the work of another writer. **Further offenses (whether in this class or others) could adversely affect membership in the Honor Societies.**

IF...	Grade
Students lack citations in rough draft for the first time, student receives...	70 %
Students lack citations on the final draft (after having been warned on the rough draft), student receives...	0%
Students are taking a timed writing, some paraphrasing is accepted, and no page numbers are needed	n/a

**\*If at any time you plagiarized, a zero will be issued and conduct grade will be reduced to a P which will be reflected on your school transcript. So do not take any chances because the damage caused by any poor judgment will be too colossal to you than a bad grade will.**

**Class Rules:**

**See student *Class Rules* on Canvas.**

**SUPPLIES:**

- \*black or blue pen, two red pen, two highlighters (any two different colors)
- \*notebook paper
- \*school issued laptop and its accessories every class.
- \*required Textbooks
- \*Others TBA

**All other issues not discussed here will be subject to the policies in the Student's Handbook and my discretion.**

Thank you for reading the information. I expect you to do your very best each class period. In return, I will put my best effort into each class that I teach. If at any time you are having difficulties in this class, please let me know and I will be more than happy to help you.

\*Please be aware that this is a college level course, and you will have as many or more writing grades per cycle than you have ever experienced in high school. Therefore, You ought to be well prepared and be more than willing to do your very best on each and every assignment in order to achieve an A in this calss!

Student Name (Print)\_\_\_\_\_

StudentSignature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent (pringt)\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature

Date\_\_\_\_\_

