

October eNews: "DON'T 'Abandon All Hope, Ye who Enter Here' "

October in West Chicago means Bears games, 40 degree temperatures, and course selection time for the 2018-2019 school year!

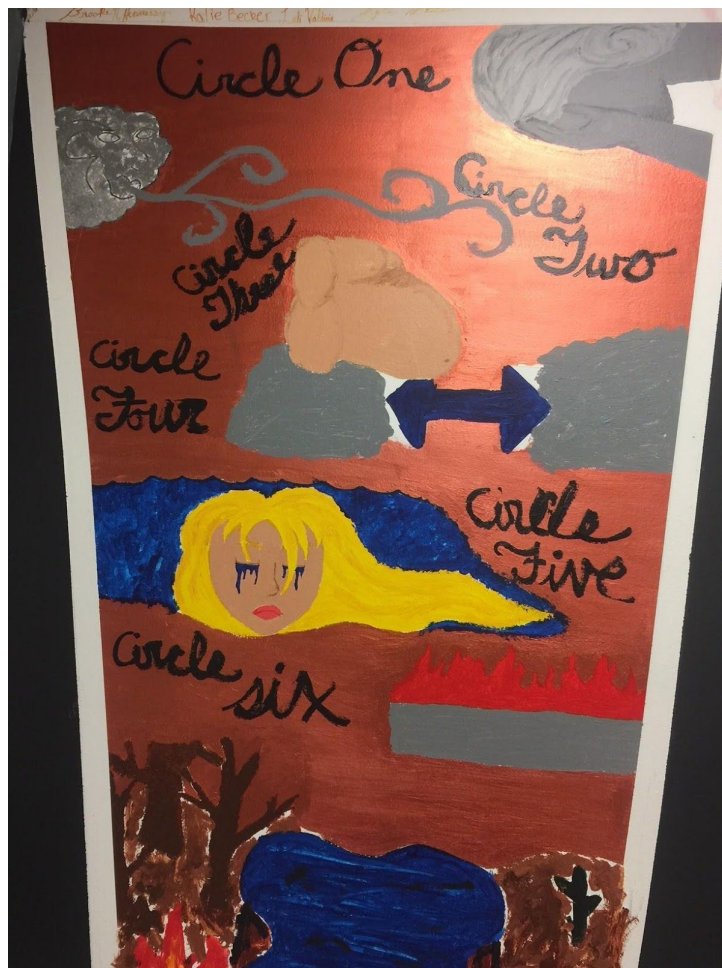
On Wednesday, November 1st, all students will participate in Curriculum Day, hourly presentations on course options in each subject. Teachers will also complete course recommendations for each student for next year's classes from November 1st through the 5th.

Current juniors, the Class of 2019, will begin the course selection process on Friday, November 3rd, when the Wego Counseling Department hosts a "course fair" upperclassmen will attend during their social studies classes. At the course fair students will visit kiosks that promote WCCHS course offerings and will have the opportunity to ask questions of teachers and current students, as well as view student work from elective departments like art or career and technical education. Current freshmen and sophomores will attend the course fair and begin registration in the coming weeks.

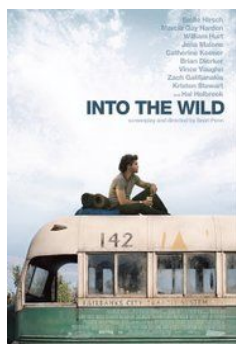
Rising seniors choose from ten options for

English credit from British and World Literature to Media Literacy and Composition. (Please click [here](#) for the link to the WCCHS 2018-2019 Course Description Handbook.)

Students interested in a simulated college experience in English during high school and the potential to earn college credit should select, **Advanced Placement Language and Composition** or **Advanced Placement Literature and Composition** that offer unique opportunities in a college prep environment.

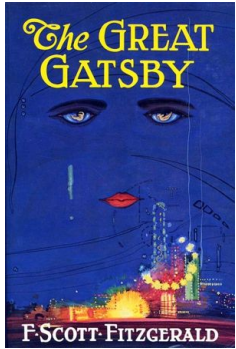


AP English Literature students' depiction of Dante's "Circles of Hell" from *Inferno*

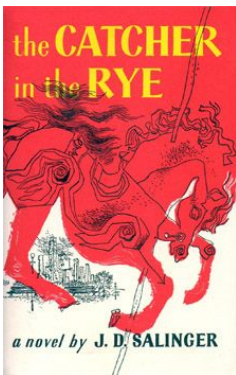
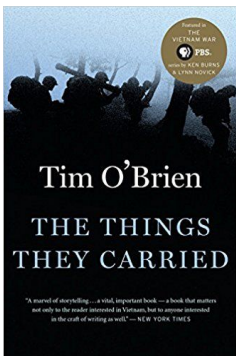


Current sophomores enrolled in English 2 Honors and current juniors in English 3 Enriched or American Studies are encouraged to enroll in AP English Language and Composition, known as "AP Lang." The College Board states that this course is intended to "strengthen the effectiveness of [a student's] writing" through close reading and analyzing rhetorical strategies in nonfiction texts such as excerpts from the canon including Thoreau's *Walden* and Emerson's *Nature*, or Jon Krakauer's *Into*

the Wild (1996), in addition to selections from current periodicals including *The New York Times* and longform journalism featured in *Longreads* at <https://longreads.com>.



The fiction reading list includes Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*, Tim O'Brien's *The Things They Carried*, and Salinger's *The Catcher in the Rye*. This class resembles other inquiry-based courses in the language arts division; however, the rigor of the content and the pace of the class are unique.



The two main goals of the course, to prepare for college coursework in English and to earn college credit, drive the curriculum and instruction. However, AP Lang also engages students. For example, AP English teachers, **Nicole Osborne and Brian Turnbaugh**, designed an activity based on the TV show *Chopped* on the Food Network. According to Ms. Osborne, “the activity will cook up some intense insights into a variety of Free-Response prompts (Question 3’s) for the AP exam.”

Example of AP Language and Composition Question 3 Format

In 1929, American author Ernest Hemingway (1899–1961) wrote, “The world breaks everyone, and afterward, some are strong at the broken places. But those that will not break it kills. It kills the very good and the very gentle and the very brave impartially.”

Hemingway claims that resilience is a valuable human trait but that vitality is rare and life is dispassionate about its victims. Write an essay that argues your position on the extent to which Hemingway’s claims are valid. Use appropriate examples from your reading, experience, or observations to support your argument.”

On the “chopped” day, teams of students engage in three rounds of competition that lead to two semi-final rounds that culminate in an “AP Chopped Champion” round. Each “chef” prepares an AP-worthy response based upon the object provided in a basket, and each round has a specific skill focus such as claim writing, evidence selection, or rhetorical analysis. One prompt asked

Team members may provide feedback; however, each chef submits his or her own product at the end of the round. Lessons such as these utilize creative curriculum to teach sophisticated skills.

Another example of an AP Language lesson is explained in detail by Mr. Turnbaugh in a screencastify that details how professional movie reviews are utilized to improve students use of sentence variety and diction. The use of approachable, professional samples scaffolds rhetorical analysis. Click [here](#) to listen to a model lesson.

A former “AP Chopped Champion” donned an apron after dashing all competitors in class.



AP Language, modeled after introductory college rhetoric courses, enriches students' reading and writing skills while in high school, yet it offers additional benefits in college. Studies conducted by the College Board demonstrate that students who earn a "3" or better on AP exams have higher graduation rates in college than peers who did not enroll in Advanced Placement Coursework, and most colleges and universities award credit for freshman English courses, which saves time and money. (See the chart below that details the credit that may be awarded by the five schools most often attended by Wego grads.)

Moreover, Big Ten schools like Northwestern University also award credit (English 1LC and/or English 1LT), as do perennial favorites such as the University of Notre Dame (Writing & Rhetoric 131000) and Harvard University (between 4-8 credit hours).

Top 5 most attended colleges for Wego grads and the courses they may earn credit for through the AP English Exams:

College of DuPage	English 1101
Aurora University	English 1000 and/or English 1060
University of IL-Urbana	Rhetoric and/or 100 Level English
University of IL-Chicago	English 101 and/or English 160
Northern IL University	English 103 and/or English 203

For more information, review the course overview for AP Language and Composition from the College Board [here](#), or contact AP Language teachers Nicole Osborne (nosborne@d94.org) or Brian Turnbaugh (bturnbaugh@d94.org).



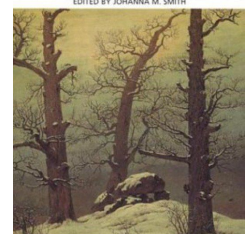
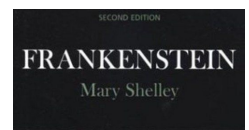
AP Literature students pose outside the Art Institute of Chicago as they consider the Connections between art and literature.

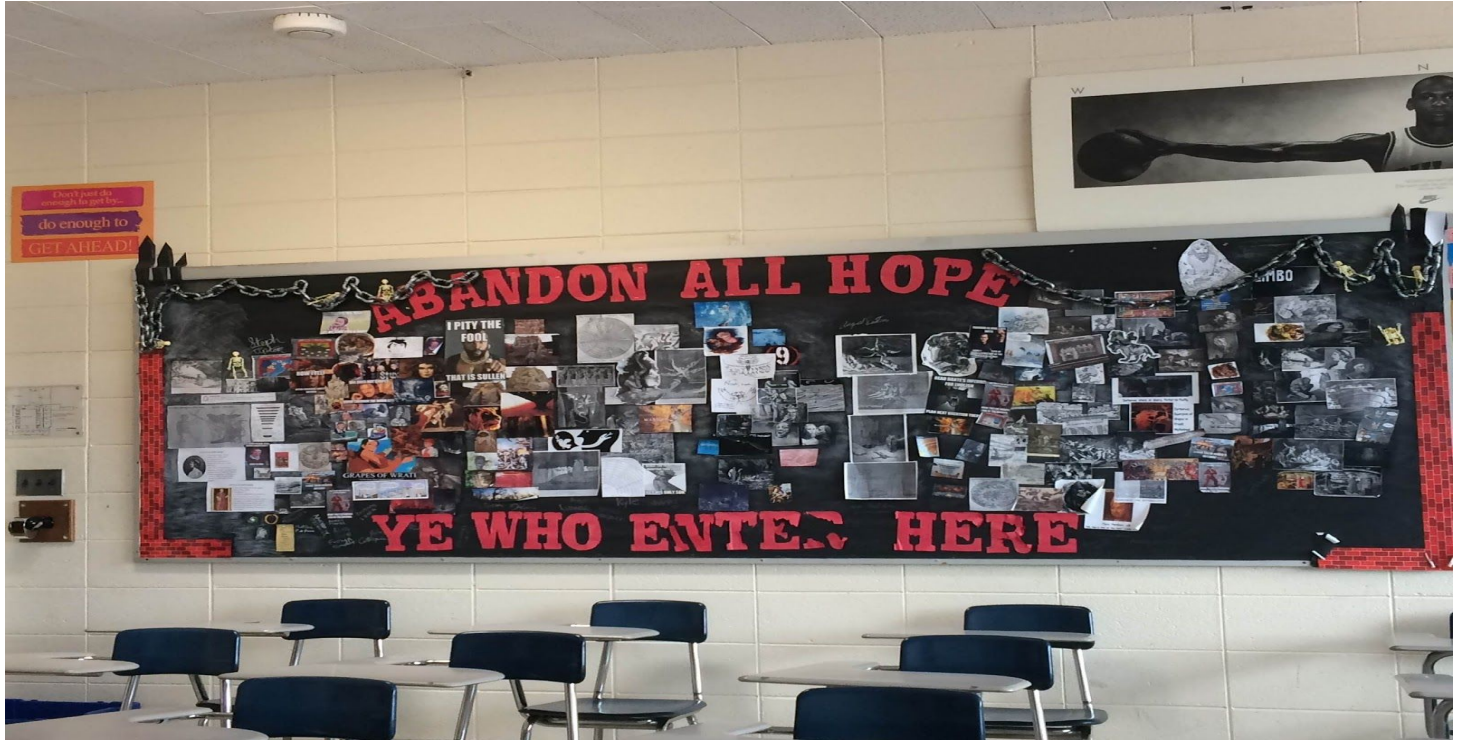
Wildcats who complete AP Language as juniors have the option to take a second AP English course, AP Literature and Composition, as seniors. "AP Lit" enables students to experience literature from a variety of genres and literary movements, while evaluating their literary merit and artistry.

AP Lit students further develop many reading and writing skills addressed in AP Language; however AP Literature focuses on literary analysis. The College Board explains that

students "deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure." They also identify the foci as evaluating a text's "structure, style, themes. . . figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone."

In addition to rigorous close reading and analysis, students engage in activities like creating a "Pinterest Board" to synthesize a variety of visual literacy pieces to represent the themes in Dante's *Inferno*. Students "tag" a board with images, symbols, memes, etc. that scaffold their peer's understanding of the text.



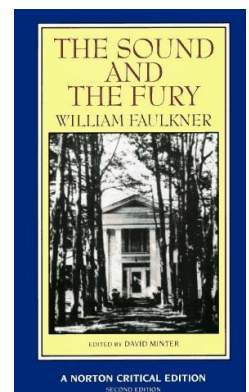


The AP Literature curriculum includes novels including *Frankenstein*, *The Sound and the Fury*, and *Wuthering Heights*, as well as *Candide*, *Hamlet*, *A Picture of Dorian Gray* and a variety of poems.

Example of AP Literature and Composition Question 3 Format

Select a novel, play, or epic poem that features a character whose origins are archetypal. Then write an essay in which you analyze how this pattern shapes the character and that character's relationships, and how the character's role contributes to the meaning of the work as a whole.

Although Dante warns readers, "Lasciate ogni speranza, voi ch'entrate!" Abandon all hope, ye who enter here, English 2 Honors sophomores and English 3 Enriched and American Studies juniors are encouraged to challenge themselves with an AP English course. Don't fear, enter AP here.



The College Board lists 82 career areas that AP English can lead to. . .

[Actors](#)

[Adult Educators](#)

[Advertising, Marketing, and Public Relations](#)

[Managers](#)

[Announcers](#)

[Anthropologists and Archaeologists](#)

[Architects](#)

[Archivists](#)

[Art Directors](#)

[Arts Administrators](#)

[Biological Scientists](#)

[Camera Operators and Film and Video Editors](#)

[Child Care Workers](#)

[Child, Family, and School Social Workers](#)

[Clinical Psychologists](#)

[Community Organizers and Activists](#)

[Computer Scientists](#)

[Computer Systems Analysts](#)

[Conservators](#)

[Copy Editors](#)

[Copywriters](#)

[Craft Artists](#)

[Curators](#)

[Database Administrators](#)

[Directors](#)

[Economists](#)

[Editors](#)

[Education Administrators](#)

[Elementary, Middle, and High School Teachers](#)

[Exhibit Designers and Museum Technicians](#)

[Fashion Designers](#)

[Federal Agents](#)

[Fine Artists](#)

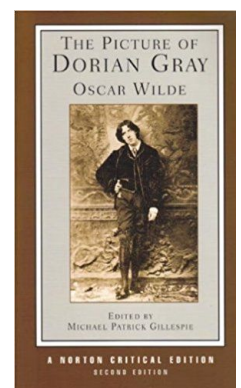
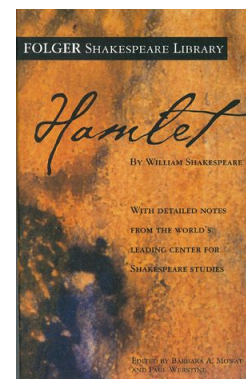
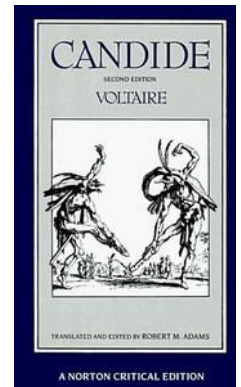
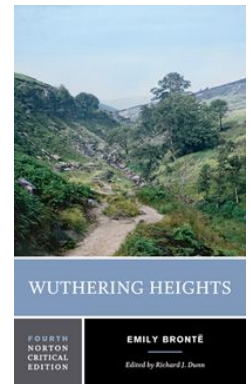
[Foreign Service Officers](#)

[Forensic Scientists](#)

[Government Executives and Legislators](#)

[Government Lawyers](#)

[Health Educators](#)



[Historians](#)
[Human Resources Managers](#)
[Human-Service Assistants](#)
[Illustrators](#)
[Imams](#)
[Industrial Designers](#)
[Industrial Psychologists](#)
[Instructional Coordinators](#)
[Interpreters](#)
[Judges](#)
[Librarians](#)
[Lodging Managers](#)
[Marriage and Family Therapists](#)
[Mathematicians](#)
[Medical Scientists](#)
[Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers](#)
[Mental Health Counselors](#)
[News Analysts, Reporters, and Correspondents](#)
[Occupational Therapists](#)
[Political Scientists](#)
[Postsecondary Teachers](#)
[Priests](#)
[Private-Practice Lawyers](#)
[Probation Officers and Correctional Treatment Specialists](#)
[Program Directors](#)
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[Public Interest Advocates](#)
[Public Interest Lawyers](#)
[Public Relations Specialists](#)
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[Rehabilitation Counselors](#)
[Research Psychologists](#)
[School Psychologists](#)
[Set Designers](#)
[Sociologists](#)
[Special Education Teachers](#)
[Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists](#)
[Speech-Language Pathology Assistants](#)
[Technical Writers](#)

Theater, Film, and TV Technicians

Trainers

Translators

Web Designers

Writers