

# AP Language and Composition

## Requirements

AP course requirements are at the college level; as such, the content, work load, and grading policies will reflect that level. We will write approximately one in-class essay every other week. Students are also expected to practice writing and reading of college level texts on their own. Writing and reading are skills that must be practiced for improvement to be realized. In most cases, doing the assignments for this class alone will not be sufficient to bring students' writing and reading skills to the level required for college and university level work.

*\*Students who take this course are expected to take the AP Language and Composition national exam in the spring.*

## Grading Scale

Formative Assessments=35%  
Summative Assessments=55%  
Practice Assessments=10%

*Students will receive a 20-point curve  
on all AP Lang MC tests they take  
first semester only*

A=100-90  
B=89-79  
C=79-70  
F=69-0

## Course Overview

This course is composed of two major components: AP Language and Composition (college level work) and 11<sup>th</sup> grade American Literature. If the student successfully completes this class, he/she will receive credit for both courses. An AP course in English Language and Composition engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts and in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Both their writing and their reading should make you aware of the interactions among a writer's purposes, audience expectations, and subjects as well as the way generic conventions and the resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing (College Board).

Students taking AP Language/Composition should be prepared:

- To write timed essays for major assessment grades every other week
- To read outside of class (both texts assigned for school and "choice" texts) every day
- To engage in class discussions 2-3 times a week (participation WILL be graded, so speaking is a graded expectation of the course)
- To be prepared to engage with different and diverse viewpoints sometimes outside of their comfort zones

Students will demonstrate mastery of the skills this class seeks to develop on The AP English Language and Composition Exam (The College Board) in May.

## Units of Study

This course will explore numerous controversial real-world concerns from a variety of perspectives. **Please note that the months/topics of study listed below are approximate and may change due to pacing:**

### Fall

|           |                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| August    | Education (Anchor text: <i>Educated</i> – Tara Westover)                                                                                                                              |
| September | Community vs Individual / Morality vs Law (Anchor text: <i>The Scarlet Letter</i> – Hawthorne)                                                                                        |
| October/  |                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| November  | Environmental Concerns (Anchor text: <i>Walden</i> – Thoreau / Essays by Emerson); Local & Regional Dialect / Satire (Anchor text: <i>The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i> – Twain) |
| December  | Synthesis Project – Student choice                                                                                                                                                    |

### Spring

|          |                                                                                                               |
|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| January  | Money in America (Anchor text: <i>The Great Gatsby</i> )                                                      |
| February | Media Awareness (Texts will consist of various essays, articles, and documentaries.)<br>Culture / Pop Culture |
| March    | Technology (Texts will consist of various essays, articles, and documentaries.)                               |
| April    | Societal roles, rules, norms, responsibilities                                                                |
| May      | Test prep                                                                                                     |