



AP English Language and Composition CURRICULUM

Board Approved: 6/05/2025

Course Information

High School Full Year Course

Course Description:

One of the goals of Advanced Placement (AP) English Language and Composition is to reinforce the literacy skills taught in Honors English I and Honors English II while beginning to prepare students for the challenging reading and writing they will encounter in college and life beyond high school. Although a majority of the assigned readings in the class will be nonfiction texts, 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 students 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. The course often allows students to write in a variety of forms – narrative, exploratory, expository, argumentative – and on a variety of subjects from personal experiences to public policies, from imaginative literature to popular culture. As in the college course, its purpose is to enable students to read complex texts with understanding and to write prose of sufficient richness and complexity to communicate effectively with mature readers. The AP Language and Composition course assumes that students already understand and use standard English grammar. The intense concentration on language use in this course should enhance their ability to use grammatical conventions both appropriately and with sophistication, as well as to develop stylistic maturity in their prose.

Curriculum Standards: [AP English Language and Composition Course at a Glance](#)

Curriculum Resource(s): Williamson, John, *Ideas in Argument: Building Skills and Understanding for the AP English Language Course, First Edition*. Bedford/St. Martin's, [2022]

Curriculum Link: The curriculum for AP English Language and Composition is published by The College Board and is linked here: [AP English Language and Composition Curriculum](#)