

## AP LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION

### **AP Application is due to Ms. Ruth by February 17, 2026**

(Primarily for Juniors)

• Length of course: **1 semester**

• **Prerequisites: An “A” average in 10<sup>th</sup> Literature or high B average in Advanced 10<sup>th</sup> Literature, signed AP contract (attached), and above-average work ethic. If you did not take Advanced 10th, then you will also need to have a teacher recommendation from your 10th Lit. teacher. I will contact the 10th grade teacher directly for his or her feedback.**

• Course Description: AP 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. Through their writing and their reading, students will become aware of the interactions among a writer’s purposes, audience expectations, and subjects as well as the way conventions and the resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing.

The college composition course for which the AP Language and Composition course substitutes is one of the most varied in the curriculum. The course 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. The primary purpose in most first-year writing courses is to enable students to write effectively and confidently in their college course, across the curriculum, and in their professional and personal lives. Most college composition courses emphasize the expository, analytical, and argumentative writing that forms the basis of academic and professional communication as well as the personal and reflective writing that fosters the development of writing in any context. The AP Language and Composition course follows this emphasis. 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 instructor’s expectations are high and include a serious work ethic and regular attendance.

The AP Language and Composition course assumes that students already understand and use standard English grammar. The intense concentration of 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. Stylistic development is nurtured by emphasizing the following:

1. A wide-ranging vocabulary used appropriately and effectively.
2. A variety of sentence structures, including appropriate use of subordination and coordination.
3. A logical organization, enhanced by specific techniques to increase coherence, such as repetition, transitions, and emphasis.
4. A balance of generalization and specific illustrative detail.
5. An effective use of rhetoric, including controlling tone, establishing and maintaining voice, and achieving appropriate emphasis through diction and sentence structure.

**As with college language and literature courses, some of the reading selections will contain mature themes, descriptions, and language. Parents should be advised that students will be exposed to these selections and will not be given alternate readings.**

Circle the English course you took last year in 10<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Advanced 10<sup>th</sup> Literature**

**Regular 10<sup>th</sup> Literature**

Who was your teacher? \_\_\_\_\_

Semester Grade (or current grade) \_\_\_\_\_

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**Matt McDonald**  
*Principal*



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Zachry Black  
John Lamb  
Amanda McMillan  
Carrin Meadows  
*Assistant Principals*

## Advanced Placement

Advanced Placement offerings are contingent upon sufficient enrollment of interested, self-disciplined, and self-motivated students who are willing to commit to considerable out-of-class preparation including summer coursework. Consequently, students will NOT be allowed to drop an Advanced Placement course after July 1<sup>st</sup>. Any request to drop a course must be submitted prior to July 1.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I/my child will not be allowed to drop an Advanced Placement course after July 1<sup>st</sup>.

\_\_\_\_\_

Student Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Student ID

\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature