

William A. Shine—Great Neck South High School
Course Expectation Sheet

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

COURSE: 11AP LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION

(Revised 10/25)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course students will continue to develop skills of close reading, clear writing, and confident oral expression. AP English Language and Composition is a college-level course that emphasizes the study of rhetoric and the power of language in shaping thought and argument. Students read a wide range of nonfiction texts—from journalism and essays to speeches and visual rhetoric—to analyze how writers use purpose, audience, and style to convey meaning and influence readers. They develop their own voice as writers through frequent analytical, argumentative, and synthesis essays that require them to evaluate and integrate evidence effectively. Research and citation skills are taught and reinforced throughout the year, preparing students to write with clarity, precision, and authority. The course cultivates critical reading, evidence-based reasoning, and stylistic control.

The course culminates in both the AP English Language and Composition Exam in May and the NYS English Regents Examination in June.

TEXT LISTS

Core Text

Macbeth

Additional Texts May Include

Antigone

Born a Crime

The Crucible

Crying in H-Mart

It Was the Best of Sentences, It Was the Worst of Sentences

The Glass Castle

The Great Gatsby

The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass

1984

Stolen Focus

When Breath Becomes Air

In addition to major literary works, students will read poetry and a variety of short nonfiction to broaden their understanding of voice, style, and rhetorical technique.

GRADES

Grades will be calculated based on assessments, assignments and participation. These will include, but are not limited to: quizzes, tests, projects, presentations, homework, classwork, essays, and research. Please familiarize yourself with the following department-wide assessment policies:

- Major tests will be given on English testing day.
- In-class essays that require minimal preparation may be given on any day.
- Unannounced quizzes may be given on any day.
- Class participation may count as much as 20% of the quarter grade.
- It is the responsibility of absent students to arrange a time to make up missed work and tests.
- Students with unexcused absences will not be entitled to make up assignments or exams missed during that period.
- Students will be responsible for all assignments on the date they are due unless prior arrangements have been approved by the teacher.
- All unapproved late submission of work will be penalized by reduction in grade.

EXTRA HELP

Students are encouraged to attend extra help sessions on the day before English testing day.

WRITING CONFERENCES

Writing conferences provide students with the opportunity to discuss and improve their writing. Each student is expected to schedule appointments at a time that is mutually convenient for both student and teacher. Students may not absent themselves from another class in order to attend a writing conference.

ATTENDANCE

According to the school's attendance policy, excessive absences will result in parental notification, a negative impact on the course grade, and in some cases will result in a loss of course credit.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Plagiarism involves passing off someone's work (including another student's work, an online source, or AI-generated writing) as one's own. When students submit work that is not their own, they will receive no credit for that work and will have no opportunity to make up that work. Students who willingly share their work with others are also subject to penalty.