

A.P. English Language and Composition Course Syllabus

Ms. Abigail Woelke, Room 414

awoelke@tvusd.us

(951) 294-6450 ext. 3414

True genius resides in the capacity for evaluation of uncertain, hazardous, and conflicting information. --Winston Churchill

Welcome to A.P. English Language!

This course is equivalent to a beginning composition course in college, and therefore we will do a great deal of writing. However, before you write, you will read many models that demonstrate the variety of skills and tools an author holds at his or her disposal. Authors use these tools for a variety of purposes, but each author has a purpose in mind before he or she sits down to write. As a critical reader, you will constantly look for the connection between the author's purpose and the skills and tools he or she has chosen. With this in mind, it becomes clear that the reading and writing in the class are inextricably linked. It is critical to your success that the readings are completed carefully and critically and the discussions are lively and thoughtful. This should lead to voice in your writing, in the classroom, and in society. We will write journals, timed writings, process papers, group papers, literary papers, and arguments. We will write with style, coherence and clarity. We will write with a mature voice and with academic integrity. We will do these things because these skills will follow you to college, to the workplace, and to your personal life. Furthermore, we will learn to assess the arguments and positions of others with precision and with an open mind.

Structure:

We have organized the course in a thematic format. Although there may be some variation, the units will be structured as follows:

Semester A

- Unit 1: Rhetorical Analysis I (3weeks)
- Unit 2: Argument I (3 weeks)
- Unit 3: Synthesis I (3 weeks)
- Unit 4: Rhetorical Analysis II (3 weeks)
- Unit 5: Argument II (3 weeks)

Semester B

- Unit 6: Synthesis II (3 weeks)
- Unit 7: Rhetorical Analysis III (3 weeks)
- Unit 8: Argument III (3 weeks)
- Unit 9: Synthesis III (3 weeks)
- Unit 10: Exam Prep. and Review (2 weeks)

AP English Language and Composition Exam: Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Recommended Supplies and Curriculum:

The curriculum for the class includes the close reading of essays, letters, speeches and prose pieces. You will need to come prepared with:

- ❖ loose leaf paper (college ruled) for class notes and handwritten essays
- ❖ highlighters (3-4 of varying colors) for annotating and color-marking
- ❖ blue/black pens for handwritten essays
- ❖ no. 2 pencils for multiple choice testing
- ❖ post-it notes for annotating books

Texts:

TVUSD uses Board approved standards-based texts that are designed to challenge sophisticated readers and offer diverse stories for diverse students and may sometimes deal with mature topics. If you would like more information about a text being read in class please reach out to the classroom teacher.

The following texts will be provided by the school if used in class. Because you don't need every text on a daily basis, I will tell you the day before if one is needed for the following day. It is critical to bring the text on that day in order to participate with the class. Students may consider purchasing their own novels in order to annotate.

<i>The Language of Composition</i>	A reader organized by theme and rhetorical mode
<i>An American Childhood</i>	Annie Dillard
<i>Animal Farm</i>	George Orwell
<i>The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks</i>	Rebecca Skloot
<i>Julius Caesar</i>	William Shakespeare
<i>Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass</i>	Frederick Douglass
<i>Night</i>	Elie Wiesel

Grading:

Your academic grade is broken into these areas (Infinite Campus is divided into these categories):

Reading: Literature & Info Materials	35%
Writing	35%
Language	15%
Listening and Speaking	15%

Classroom Expectations:

1. **Electronic devices may be *used*, or *visible* in the classroom when directed by the teacher.**
2. **No food or drink** may be consumed within the classroom. Bottled water is the only exception.
3. Students must be in their seats before the bell rings each day. The school-wide tardy policy will be strongly enforced.
4. Only ask to use the restroom during appropriate times, not during *instructional* time. Restroom passes will only be permitted for emergencies. Remember to use the restroom before class, during break, lunch and passing periods.
5. Always clean your desk and the area around it before leaving class each day.
6. **DO NOT PLAGIARIZE.** Plagiarism of any kind will earn you a zero on the assignment, a referral, and a conference with your parents/legal guardians.
7. **Late work will only be accepted upon return to school following excused absences.**
8. **All formal writing assignments must be completed in order to pass AP English Language.** Failure to submit all such assignments will result in a semester grade listed as incomplete.
9. Be respectful to the teacher, classmates, and all visitors.
10. Work hard and have fun!

Let's all do our part to make this a GREAT OAK year. Again, I look forward to working with you. Please feel free to contact me any time at the school, or through e-mail.

Sincerely,
Ms. Woelke

Please sign below to confirm you have read this syllabus with your child. The additional information is appreciated and will be used to contact you more easily if necessary.

Student Name (print): _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent Name (print): _____

Parent Signature: _____

Phone Number: _____

Parent Email: _____