

## Curriculum

### Semester 1

#### CRITICAL READING AND ARGUMENT

- Selections from *The Riverside Reader*, *Reading Like a Writer*, and *Everything's an Argument*; narrative writing

#### RHETORICAL ANALYSIS AND ARGUMENTATION

-*Hamlet* (extended response writing, Socratic Seminar)  
-Researched Argumentative Essay

#### EVALUATION OF ARGUMENT

-Paired pieces from *The Riverside Reader*,  
- Evaluation of Argument Essay

#### CONFORMITY AND INDIVIDUALITY

-Selections from *The Language of Composition*, *The Riverside Reader*, and *Everything's an Argument*

### Semester 2

#### RHETORIC IN FICTION

-*The Scarlet Letter* (dialectical journals, extended response, Socratic Seminar)

-Rhetorical Analysis Essay

#### SATIRE AND LOGICAL REASONING

*A Modest Proposal*, select satirical writings

-Logical fallacies, AP satire prompts

#### RESEARCH AND SYNTHESIS

-Debate project and presentation  
- AP Synthesis Prompt creation and writing

#### INDEPENDENT NON-FICTION

-Self-Selected non-fiction text

- Original Argument/ Persuasive Essay

**Ongoing:** AP Test Prep (Multiple Choice, Timed Writings/Readings, etc) Curiosity Challenges, Daily vocabulary and grammar instruction

# AP English Language and Composition

This course is designed to further develop students' abilities in the elements of composition and to advance stylistic maturity in their prose writing. This course will advance critical analytical skills through a variety of contexts, works, periods and disciplines. Students will prepare for the Advanced Placement Language and Composition Examination (to be taken in May) through reading, analysis, discussion and practice testing. The culture of this classroom is one in which lively discussion and healthy disagreement will lead to deeper questioning, analysis, and consideration of one's self and the surrounding world. Opinions matter and therefore must be heard. Due to the nature of the course, students should expect to have extensive and frequent reading and writing obligations.

## What can I do to succeed in AP English Language?

### Grading Expectations

A—Students working at this level engage fully in every assignment and demonstrate a willingness to examine their own thinking and assumptions. All work reflects a level of thinking far beyond the obvious and the superficial. Students come to class fully prepared to discuss assigned readings and to participate actively in all phases of the course. All assignments are submitted on time and all make-up work from authorized absences is managed in a timely fashion. Obviously, all work is the student's own.

### Tips for Success in This Course

- ✦ **Use a calendar or planner.** Write down daily assignments every day. Check the class calendar for due dates of major assignments/ reading schedule.
- ✦ **Use your time wisely.** Much will be expected of you in this class. Budget your time for major assignments, and do not procrastinate!
- ✦ **Stay organized.** The most successful students keep their handouts in a logical order in a folder or binder, and they never lose class materials.
- ✦ **Meet deadlines.** Turn assignments in on the due date to earn all of your points.
- ✦ **Read.** Anything you can get your hands on! Every day, try to read a news story or a magazine article. Building a knowledge base will be a huge advantage on the AP exam.
- ✦ **Listen.** Demonstrate accountability of by listening closely in class and contributing to class discussions.
- ✦ **Ask for help and advice!** We are here to help you develop the reading and writing skills you need for success. Never hesitate to seek our assistance!

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