**AP English Language and Composition**

Syllabus

**Course Overview:**

The AP English Language and Composition course cultivates the reading and writing skills that students need for college success and for intellectually responsible civic engagement. The course guides students in becoming curious, critical, and responsive readers of diverse texts, and becoming flexible, reflective writers of texts addressed to diverse audiences for diverse purposes. The reading and writing in this course should deepen and expand student understanding of how written language functions rhetorically: to communicate writers’ intentions and elicit readers’ responses in particular situations. The course cultivates the rhetorical understanding and use of written language by directing students’ attention to writer/reader interactions in their reading and writing of various formal and informal genres.

Reading and writing activities in the course also deepen students’ knowledge and control of formal conventions of written language. The course helps students understand that formal conventions of the English language in its many written and spoken dialects are historically, culturally, and socially produced; that the use of these conventions may intentionally or unintentionally contribute to the effectiveness of a piece of writing in a particular rhetorical context; and that a particular set of language conventions defines Standard Written English, the preferred dialect for academic discourse.

**Course Goals:**

The course introduces students to the literacy expectations of higher education by cultivating essential academic skills such as critical inquiry, deliberation, argument, reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Furthermore, students should be able to use the literacy skills practiced in this course for personal satisfaction and responsible engagement in civic life.

**General Learning Objectives:**

Upon completing the AP English Language and Composition course, students should be able to:

* Analyze and interpret samples of purposeful writing, identifying and explaining an author’s use of rhetorical strategies.
* Analyze images and other multimodal texts for rhetorical features.
* Use effective rhetorical strategies and techniques when composing.
* Write for a variety of purposes.
* Respond to different writing tasks according to their unique rhetorical and composition demands, and translate that rhetorical assessment into a plan for writing.
* Create and sustain original arguments based on information synthesized from readings, research, and/or personal observation and experience.
* Evaluate and incorporate sources into researched arguments.
* Demonstrate understanding of the conventions of citing primary and secondary sources.
* Gain control over various reading and writing processes, with careful attention to inquiry, rhetorical analysis and synthesis of sources, drafting, revising/rereading, editing, and review.
* Converse and write reflectively about personal processes of composition.
* Demonstrate understanding and control of Standard Written English as well as stylistic maturity in their own writing.
* Revise a work to make it suitable for a different audience.

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| **Contact Info:**  Mr. Martinez  Room 112  nsmartinez@hlpusd.k12.ca.us |
| **Required Text:**   * Everyday Use   **Recommended Texts:**   * The Language of Composition * They Say / I Say * AP English Language Reader |
| **Grade Weights**   * Assessments (30%)   10% - Quizzes  10% - Exams  10% - Final   * Writing (30%)   30% - Essays   * Assignments (40%)   10% - Unit 1  10% - Unit 2  10% - Unit 3  10% - Unit 4  **Grading Scale:**   * A = 100% - 90% * B = 89% - 80% * C = 79% - 70% * D = 69% - 60% * F = 59% - 0% |
| **Academic Dishonesty:**  All forms of copying and plagiarism will result in severe penalties. According to M-W online, to plagiarize means "to steal and pass off the ideas or words of another as one's own.”  Turning in plagiarized work will result in earning a zero for the assignment. Repeat offenses will result in further disciplinary actions. |
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