

AP Language and Composition Course Syllabus, 2012-2013

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Advanced Placement English Language and Composition is a two-semester, college-level course in argument and rhetoric. According to the College Board, “An AP course in English 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. Both their writing and their reading make students aware of the interactions among writer’s purposes, audience expectations, and subjects, as well as the way generic conventions and the resources of language contribute to the effectiveness in writing.” AP English Language and Composition students are prepared for, and expected to take, the National AP English Language and Composition Exam in May. A successful score on the examination may enable students to receive college credit for freshman-year composition

By the end of this course, **students should successfully:**

Read, interpret, analyze, and evaluate a range of thought-provoking texts in order to justify, challenge, or qualify assertions on the nature of the human experience.

Use the English language masterfully in writing and speaking to generate, refine, and extend meaning and to create, maintain, and expand a learning community.

Write effectively (with an emphasis on argument and comparison and contrast) in order to create, clarify, and communicate their own ideas.

Apply an understanding of structure and rhetoric in order to build upon tradition, enrich their own ideas, and extend their range of participation in society.

Although the AP Language and Composition course focusing on rhetoric in preparation for the AP test in May, you are also responsible for learning the American Literature coursework you would be exposed to in other Junior-year English classes, as well as mastering California’s **Common Core Content Standards for English Language Arts (11th/12th)**.

Expectations:

Respect yourself, your peers, and your environment; this will ensure everyone has the opportunity to learn. Remember, everyone has the right to an education. If you are impeding on other students’ right to learn, there will be consequences (See CHS Student Handbook).

Absence/Tardy Policy:

In general, abide by the absence/tardy policy found in your CHS Student Handbook. **You are responsible for finding out what you have missed during an absence.** Check with a classmate to get notes and other in-class information you have missed. All coursework can be found @ chsenglishap3.weebly.com. You will need to check the website regularly to find handouts and other new information. You should be able to keep up with the majority of class work while at home or anywhere else. In terms of making up work, an absence because of a school activity is in absence like any other. Please see the CHS Student Handbook regarding making up work because of an absence. Not being told directly from the teacher about everything you have missed is not an excuse; all the information is available to you.

Honesty:

If you ever feel overwhelmed, see me for help. Do not resort to other measures, such as copying homework or plagiarizing an essay. It is your responsibility to review the CHS policy regarding cheating/dishonesty. Do not share answers for any assignment or test unless instructed to do so. The CHS academic dishonesty policy will be strictly enforced.

Grading Scale:

90-100% A
80-89% B
70-79% C
60-69% D
<60% F

In-class writing discussions and activities (incl. timed essays)	40%
Group projects, seminar topics, and collaborative work	40%
Out-of-class writing, reading, and other assignments	20%
Extra credit and enrichment activities	up to 3%

*This syllabus may be amended at any time to better serve the academic needs of students.