

AP Language & Composition

2022-2023 Course Overview

What is this course?

This class is intended to cultivate reading and writing skills that you will need for college success and for intellectually responsible civic engagement.

You will be guided in becoming curious, critical, and responsive readers of diverse texts and becoming flexible, reflective writers of texts addressed to diverse audiences for different purposes.

The reading and writing done in this class should deepen and expand your understanding of how written language functions rhetorically: to communicate writers' intentions and elicit readers' responses in particular situations.

AP English Language and Composition Test Date:

Tuesday, May 9, 2023 8:00am

*The exam is 3 hrs 15 mins and you must stay for the entire time (no leaving early).

*You are required to take the AP test at the designated time and place.

Your exam score means the following:

5 - very highly qualified (for college level work in this subject area)

4 - highly qualified

3 - qualified

2 - possibly qualified

1 - not qualified

These scores are *recommendations* from the College Board to the universities. The universities use these recommendations to determine student standing based on their own admissions, placement, and credit allocation policies. For that reason, there is no "passing score." Some colleges grant credit for a 2; others look at scores as part of the admissions process but don't grant any credit. Students should be aware of this, and understand their score and its role in their college plans accordingly.

Course Organization

This course is organized thematically and by skill over two semesters. Readings, mostly nonfiction, have been selected to support the themes in each unit. However, the instructor reserves the right to adjust readings based on students' needs.

The calendar for the week can be found on my website under the AP Lang section.

Supplies Needed

A notebook for work in class and notes as well as a composition notebook for daily prompts.

Writing utensils: lead, black or blue ink.

School-issued Chromebook or other (nonphone) device, charged

Grade Breakdown

Minor Assignments: 40% of the quarter grade

Includes annotations, quizzes, informal discussions, short responses, vocabulary, and homework.

Major Assignments: 60% of the quarter grade

Includes essays, essay reflections, formal discussions. Please note that essays will be evaluated using the rubric published by the College Board specifically for AP English Language and Composition.

Absent & Late Work Policy

The Middle Creek Absent and Late Work Policy is in effect for this class. Please refer to the MCHS student hub, found on the website, for more information/details regarding this policy.

Plagiarism

Not tolerated. The expectation is that you generate your own ideas and work to the best of YOUR ability. If you are struggling, don't be tempted to cheat. Instead, you should interpret it as an area to work on, and come talk to me. We'll make a plan to deal with what you need.

Controversial Content

There will be a lot of debates and discussions in this classroom, so be prepared to respectfully hear others' opinions, even if they don't match yours. We may also read texts that are discomfoting to you. To that end, the College Board puts forth the following statement, taken from page 86 of the *AP English Language and Composition Course and Exam Description* (teacher emphasis added) :

“Issues that might, from particular social, historical, or cultural viewpoints, be considered controversial, including references to ethnicities, nationalities, religions, races, dialects, gender, or class, may be addressed in texts that are appropriate for the AP English Language and Composition course. Fair representation of issues and peoples may occasionally include controversial material. **Since AP students have chosen a program that directly involves them in college-level work, participation in this course depends on a level of maturity consistent with the age of high school students who have engaged in thoughtful analyses of a variety of texts.** The best response to controversial language or ideas in a text [or in class] might well be a question about the larger meaning, purpose, or overall effect of the language or idea in context. **AP students should have the maturity, skill, and will to seek the larger meaning of a text or issue through thoughtful research.**”

Texts for Class

I will provide access to any texts that we need. If you would like to get your own copy of any novels we read, feel free to do so. If you have any questions that this document didn't cover, please feel free to email me. I'm excited for the year ahead and am looking forward to all that we will accomplish.

Sincerely,
Ms. Wagoner