

Tentative Syllabus: English IV-AP 2016-17
Mrs. Liza Lopez-Cantu, Rm 146
Conference 1st Block: 8:07—9:37am
580-5300 ext. 1148
lizacantu@sharylandisd.org

Objectives:

- To become acquainted with history, the literature, and the major writers of the English literary periods and paying special attention to literature from the 16th century to present day.
- To read and analyze selected plays and novels outside the classroom setting.*
- To improve writing skills by developing a broader vocabulary, utilizing various organizational techniques and sentence structures as well as mastering effective use of rhetoric by writing various types of compositions, with special emphasis on the AP© essay.**
- To help students improve grammar skills such as sentence structure, organization as well as help students develop a balance between generalizations and details in their writing.
- To compare and contrast the works and styles of selected poets and short story writers.
- To participate in independent and group projects including peer editing and reviews.
- To participate in oral presentations.
- To demonstrate skill in research writing through short research projects.
- To review literary terms and become acquainted with new ones.
- To compare the Greek tragedy with the Shakespearean tragedy.
- To become acquainted with critical strategies for reading.
- To read selections from British, American and World literature paying special attention to literature from the 16th century to present day.
- To practice AP strategies through released AP© tests and other AP© materials inclusive timed AP© practice exams and in-class timed AP© essays.
- To prepare for the college application process and SAT examinations by writing college application essays and introducing SAT vocabulary.
- To bond better with students.

Resources:

- * The *Bedford Introduction to Literature 8th ed.*
- * Strunk and White's *The Elements of Style*-(online free)
- * Critical analyses on various authors and works
- * *The Lively Art of Writing* Lucile Vaughan Payne

Pre-Course Reading:

- *The Awakening* by Kate Chopin
- *The Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka,
- *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* by Thomas C. Foster

Other Required Outside Reading:

- *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe
- *Hamlet* by William Shakespeare
- *Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad
- *Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller
- Selections from *Bedford* and other sources
- Student choice of novel from assigned reading list: *Lord of the Flies*, *The Tragedy of Macbeth*, *Animal Farm*, 1984, *Fahrenheit 451*, *Brave New World*, *Bless Me Ultima*, *The Joy Luck Club*, *The Kite Runner*, *Frankenstein*, *Grendel*, and *Dracula*

Grade distribution:

*Major Assignments: 60%

Exams, Essays, Research Projects, etc.

*Minor Assignments: 40%

Daily work, journals, rough drafts, some presentations, etc

Late Work:

All students will be given 3 additional days to make up a major assignment if late (with a progressive grade penalty of 10 points per day).

ALL students assigned to a yearlong AP Literature and Composition course are expected to take the AP exam in May. An alternate assignment will be given to any student who does not take the AP exam for this course.

*Reading Assignments:

One of the most important requirements of this class is the reading assignment, therefore, read with care and read on time. If you are not used to reading, you need to plan time around your schedule to do so because even though most of the reading assignments are not entirely lengthy, they are rich in meaning and require time to understand the reading. The class will include the four genres: Fiction, Non-Fiction, Drama, and Poetry, and it will include a careful observation of the work's style, structure, themes, as well as its social and historical values. Poetry should always be read at least twice.

**Written Assignments: Writing assignments will be submitted to an authentication program.

Analytical essays will be graded on the basis of overall organization, textual evidence, and understanding of the task such as but not limited to: personal, comprehension, expository, interpretation, persuasive, and timed AP© writing assignments. Students are expected to produce creative writing as well.

All Major Writing Assignments will include a specific AP© grading rubric. The rubric will be reviewed before each writing assignment is due. *All written assignments must be written in a neat and legible manner.

As per SISD Student Code of Conduct (pg. 46), *the student will be subject to academic discipline that may include loss of credit for the work in question.* Therefore, an act of *plagiarism, cheating, or copying the work of another*, will result in a student receiving a zero for the assignment with no opportunity to make up the assignment and a disciplinary referral (for documentation purposes).

Mini-lessons on complex grammar and usage issues will be addressed as needed. **Students with excessive or repetitive mistakes in grammar/mechanics are expected to conference with the teacher or attend tutoring.

Tentative Timeline:

Ongoing Assignments	Timed Writing AP Practice Novel Projects Note Cards Grammar Revision Writing Assignments Reading Assignments Other:
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1 st 6 weeks	<p>Orientation</p> <p>College essay</p> <p>AP Literature and Composition Test Orientation</p> <p>Diagnostic AP Literature and Composition Test</p> <p>Pre-Course Reading Tests and Essay</p> <p>Critical Reading Lenses</p>
2 nd 6 weeks	<p>Elements of Fiction through Thematic Study and Literary Techniques:</p> <p>Diction, Imagery, Details, Language, Syntax</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -plot -character -setting -point of view -symbolism -theme -style, tone, irony -author's purpose
3 rd 6 weeks	<p>The Literary Criticism Research Paper and Poetry</p> <p>Poetic Structures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Sonnets -Villanelle -Sestina -Elegy -Ode -Dramatic Monologue
4 th 6 weeks	<p>Elements of Drama</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -origins The Greek Tragedy -Renaissance Drama -Modern Drama
5 th 6 weeks	<p>Modern Literature: Plight of Modern Man</p>
6 th 6 weeks	<p>AP Review—Anyone not taking the AP exam will be subject to an Alternate Assignment</p> <p>British Literature:</p> <p><i>Beowulf</i></p> <p><i>The Canterbury Tales</i></p> <p>The Resume</p> <p>Thank You Letters</p> <p>Project--TBA</p>

***Students will have an opportunity to create an interpretative video at the end of the year. Students are required to submit a signed contract outlining the project guidelines and the students are given 3 weeks to get their groups together and film. No late projects will be accepted!

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I have read the syllabus and retesting policy for English IV-AP, and I am aware of all tentative assignments required for this class. I also understand that if I do not meet the criteria for this AP class within the first 6 weeks of school, I will have the option to be placed in an English IV-Pre-AP or English IV-CP class or otherwise wait until the end of first semester. I also understand that if I transfer to a Pre-AP or CP class my current average in the English IV-AP class will transfer with me.

Student signature

Parent signature

Date

Date