

Google Classroom Code:

mzl52cc

Course Description: AP English Language and Composition immerses students in the elements of argument and analysis of rhetorical devices. It emphasizes careful analysis of nonfiction texts and development of writing and critical thinking skills. Students will engage in careful analysis of visual texts and multi-genre texts (letters, articles, speeches, essays, etc.). Their analysis will focus on the how and why an author creates a text to convey specific meaning to specific audiences. Student writing will range in mode from the synthesis essay to the definition essay. To engage in thoughtful analysis, students will consistently be developing their vocabulary both through learning academic language specific to the course of study, but also through college level vocabulary that will inform their reading of multiple texts. Grammar and syntax will be taught in the vein of rhetorical analysis. In addition to in-class work and study, students will constantly build their background knowledge in order to maturely inform their writing, reading, and understanding. They will have to read multi-genre non-fiction texts outside of the class and compile a commonplace book of two credible non-fiction articles a week. This is a rigorous course that prepares students for not only college but a world replete with argument. It seeks to create a well-versed reader, citizen, and communicator who can approach any text with a critical eye and see meaning and how it is created.

Texts: -Various selections provided by teacher.

-*The Language of Composition (2nd Edition)* by Renée H. Shea, Lawrence Scanlon, and Robin Dissin Aufses

-*The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck

-*The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne

Outside Reading: Students will be required to read four different non-fiction texts outside of class. The texts must be of literary merit and must range in genre. You will need to have them approved by me. Each text will be reported on in a style of my choosing. Due dates will be announced throughout the year.

1st genre-Biography or Autobiography Due Date _____

2nd genre- Adventure/Nature/Science Due Date _____

3rd genre-History Due Date _____

4th genre-Sports OR True Crime Due Date _____

The following is a great web resource that lists ideas of different texts in the above categories. Please do not feel limited to the list. There is a plethora of excellent books in the above genres that can be found. [*http://othslibrary.libguides.com/apenglish](http://othslibrary.libguides.com/apenglish)

Commonplace Books: Students will be keeping a commonplace book throughout the school year which will be used to build background knowledge. This book will be a compilation of individual research about different topics.

Materials: Students will ALWAYS need paper, a writing utensil, the current text being read, a binder, and a positive attitude.

Suggested Binder Sections:

- Notes
- Handouts
- Multiple Choice
- Vocabulary
- Essays

Grading: *Essays* 45%

Process papers are worth a total of 150 points. Rough and revised drafts are worth 25 points each. The final draft is worth 100 points. There should be significant revision reflected on both the revised and the final drafts. All final drafts must be in MLA format.

Timed Writing is worth 50 points, and are scored according to the AP Rubric.

Assignments 25%

Assignments are scored on a 1-5 scale. 1 denotes a complete misunderstanding of the assignment or minimal effort. A 5 denotes that the student has demonstrated mastery of the skill reflected in the assignment. Some assignments' scores are contingent upon revision.

Projects/Tests 20%

These include vocabulary tests, outside reading projects and presentations.

Participation 10%

This score is reflective of preparedness, positive attitude, and cooperation with peers and the teacher. 100 points will be allocated for this category each quarter.

Out of Class Passes: Each student will receive two passes per quarter to be used either for the bathroom or getting supplies. If the student does not use the pass, then he/she can redeem those passes at the end of the quarter and receive extra credit in the class.

Late Work: Students are encouraged to turn in their work on time. If a student does not turn his/her work on time, he/she has five days (a week) to turn in the assignment for half credit. Late work will not be accepted after five days past its due date. Come see me for special circumstances.

Extra Credit: This is only offered to the class as a whole; do not ask for individualized extra credit.

Student's Printed Name _____

Student's Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____