

AP Literature & Composition: 2023 - 2024 Course Guide

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2023 - 2024

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"All that is gold does not glitter,
Not all those who wander are lost;
The old that is strong does not wither,
Deep roots are not reached by the frost."

— J.R.R. Tolkien, The Fellowship of the Ring

Introduction

Hello, Crew! Welcome to AP Lit. In this room you'll develop college-level literary sophistication and even encounter an idea or two that will change your life. I am truly excited to be a part of your memorable Senior year journey and am here to support you every step of the way.

Before getting into our prospective syllabus and calendar, let's take care of the basics.

Classroom Rules

1. Arrive before the bell: Aim to be in class on time, prepared with the assigned reading.
2. Technology policy: Use of school-provided personal laptops is required. Phones are not permitted.
3. Academic honesty: As per school policy, plagiarism and AI are prohibited and will be responded to with a variety of corrective measures. You are encouraged to take pride in producing your own original work, and to avoid submitting any material which may lead to undesirable results.

Required Materials

1. Your school laptop: Remember to bring your laptop to class every day, as it will be an essential tool for our learning activities. Almost all work is posted on Google Classroom.
2. Dedicated notebook: Please have a single subject notebook dedicated exclusively for English class. You can also use a specific section of a larger notebook or binder, clearly labeled as English.
3. Two pocket folders: To maximize your organization and avoid unnecessary clutter, you will need two folders in this class. Ensure both folders have your name on them and are properly labeled. Here's how to use them:

- a. **“Student name” English Work:** This is where you'll store handouts and worksheets. You're responsible for keeping them until the end of the marking period.
 - b. **“Student name” Portfolio:** This folder will stay in the classroom and hold important documents for future reference.
4. Writing Instruments: 2 pens (Black/Blue), 2 pencils, 4 Light Highlighters (Blue, Pink, Yellow, Green).

Classwork Submission and Late Work Policy

1. Classwork submission: In order to receive full credit, it is important to make an effort to finish *and submit* your classwork during our class hours. This allows you to learn most effectively and allows me to give timely feedback.
2. Late work / Absent policy: In general, late work will be accepted with a penalty if submitted within 24 hours of the original due date, but no later. If you're absent during assigned classwork, you automatically have until the day after you return to hand in the work for full credit.
3. Extensions: Extensions are available to every student through request when a genuine effort is being made to complete work in a timely manner. I will try and accomodate you if possible, but you must adhere to the following guidelines.
 - a. Requests for extensions must be submitted in writing **before** the due date.
 - b. Ask for an extension by **email**, not by google classroom or by asking in person.
 - c. Make sure to specify when the assignment will be completed.

Note that students who qualify for extensions because of IEP and 501 extensions will be approved but should follow the same guidelines.

Course Description

Now to the good stuff. If you're reading this, you'll want to know. What exactly is AP LIT? This course is designed to offer students a meaningful study of British, American, and world literature. Students will study from various forms of literature, including poetry, short stories, novels, plays, and many excerpts from longer texts. By focusing on the seven key skills (see attachments), this course will bring your powers of reading comprehension and analytical composition, especially on-demand writing, to the college level. Thus, this class will be composed of three main components:

- Literary analysis of PROSE (Novels, Plays, Short Fiction)
- Literary analysis of POETRY
- Analytical WRITING of literature and poetry

This course comprehensively prepares students to take the AP English Literature exam (May 8th), which all students are required to take. Separate from the AP EXAM, this course culminates in the form of a slow-build research paper, rather than a traditional test.

IF YOU NEED HELP, JUST ASK!

I expect that several texts or assignments throughout the year will result in some amount of confusion or frustration. I also understand that life is a constant balance between many responsibilities. I expect you to communicate in advance of the due date if you need more time on an assignment. I will attempt to accommodate you, as I understand you are also dealing with sports, hobbies, families, part-time jobs, and personal lives. My typical office hours are 2:40 - 3:15 or you can reach me via email at mfridman@bogotaboe.com to set up a time for one-on-one help. Just remember, if you don't ask for help, I may not know you need it!

Tentative Calendar

Month -	"Unit"	Class Readings / Independent Readings
September	Sept - "Intro to AP Lit"	Class Reading: <i>How to Read Literature Like a Professor</i> by Thomas Foster Independent Reading: Your Choice of work from "AP List"
October A	Unit 1 (Short Fiction I) "Short Story Boot Camp"	Assorted Short Stories.
October B / Nov A	Unit 2 (Poetry I) "Introduction to Poetry"	Assorted Poems
November B / December	Unit 3 (Long Fiction I) Novel Study	Class Reading: <i>Kite Runner</i> by Khaled Hosseini
January	Units 4 and 5 (Short Fiction II + Poetry II)	Class Reading: To be Determined Independent Reading: Your choice of Pre-1900
February	Unit 6 (Long Fiction II) "African American Lit"	Class Reading: <i>Beloved</i> by Toni Morrison
March A	Unit 7 (Short Fiction III) "Literary Movements"	Class Reading: Assorted Short Fiction Independent Reading: Your choice from "AP LIST"
March B -	Units 8 and 9	Class Reading: <i>King Lear</i> and <i>Shakespearean Sonnets</i>

April A	(Poetry III and Long Fiction III)	Independent Reading: Your choice of literature from the genre or period of literature you will do for research paper.
April B - May A	Unit 10	Test Prep May 8th is AP Exam
May B - June	Unit 11 - Research Paper	Final Research Paper

→ Students and parents both please sign below showing your understanding of our rules, requirements and policies.

Student Signature_____

Parent Signature_____