



11 AP English Language and Composition

11th Grade (10 Credits)

- *Meets high school graduation requirement for English*
- *Meets the UC/CSU subject area B requirement*

General Information

Description

The AP Language and Composition program recognizes that skill in writing proceeds from students' awareness of their own composition process, which is enhanced by analysis of others' writing. The class is viewed as a college freshman rhetoric and composition course, with curriculum grounded in rhetorical analysis of non-fiction text, argument and synthesis. American literature is also read and studied in conjunction with related non-fiction texts. Selections from American literature may include novels, short stories, plays, and poetry. This is a fast-paced, rigorous, college freshman course that will prepare students for the AP English Language and Composition exam.

Expectations and Goals

This is an accelerated course that fulfills the 11th grade English requirement.

It is recommended that students considering taking AP English Language and Composition should have taken

- English 10 Honors (earning a grade of "A")
- English 10 Honors (earning a grade of "B" and conferencing with 10th grade English teacher)
- English 10 College Prep (earning a grade of "A" and conferencing with 10th grade English teacher)

Student background and skill set should include:

READING

- Complex comprehension & critical analysis of grade-level text
- Critical understanding and ability to analyze non-fiction, expository text

WRITING

- Thorough understanding of MLA format and research process
- Well-developed argumentative thesis / multifaceted thesis
- Writing a process paper (multi paragraph)
- Develop main ideas with supporting evidence
- Evaluate articulately the credibility of an author's argument
- Blend quotations & textual evidence artfully

SPEAKING

- Support deeper perspectives & insightful judgments with convincing evidence
- Deliver well-planned presentations
- Contributes actively to class discussions by asking questions & takes discussion into new realms

Grammar and Style Conventions

- Sophisticated use of clauses, phrases, mechanics of punctuation
- Understand sentence construction and proper English usage
- Sophisticated use and control of grammar, paragraph and sentence structure, diction, syntax

Estimated Homework

Students will primarily be assigned reading homework. Generally, students can expect to read between 30 to 50 pages of literature between classes. The amount of time this requires depends on the student's reading ability.

This Class Is Best For...

- Curricular area is his/her gift or passion - strong, experienced, avid reader
- Interests lie in careers related to curricular area
- Able to keep a well-organized notebook and take notes
- Exceptional work ethic, self-motivated
- Masters concepts quickly; requires fast-paced, rigorous curriculum
- Loves the challenges of complex, critical-thinking problems; can solve them without assistance and can often take them to a higher level without being asked; thrives on "non-routine" problems
- Is inquiry-driven in particular curricular area; asks "Why?" and "What if...?"; wants to know or figure out the theory behind the concept
- Divergent thinker may come up with own problem-solving methods in subject area
- Seeks competitive classroom environment as a medium for critical reading, intensive writing, and thought-provoking discussion.

Workload Expectations

- 6-8 major literary works (i.e. novels, autobiographies, plays, etc.) or units (i.e. short stories, essays, poetry, etc.) -being assigned 25-60 pages of reading per class period
- 1-2 pages of written response to the literary works/units
- 20 - 30 AP Style timed writings (including essay tests and practice for the DWA)
- 3-4 projects (group or individual)

Works Typically Read

- *Anthology* (short stories / poetry)
- *The Great Gatsby*
- *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*
- *Their Eyes Were Watching God*
- *Invisible Man*
- *Death of a Salesman*
- *Fences*
- *The Crucible*
- *The Joy Luck Club*
- *The Scarlet Letter*
- *The Awakening*
- *The Grapes of Wrath*
- *The Sun Also Rises*
- *The Sound and the Fury*
- *The Things They Carried*
- *Seminar Set* (book of choice from district-approved list)