

DEPARTMENT: ENGLISH

NAME OF COURSE: AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

This is a college-level course, and students can, by good performance on the Advanced Placement Examination, obtain up to one year of college credit and/or advanced placement in college composition. The course includes both the reading and analysis of discursive prose and the study of the process of writing. Students will study examples of prose from various fields and periods primarily in American Literature. These examples will serve as models of effective writing, enabling students to become more effective writers themselves. Finally, the organized study of the structures of sentences, paragraphs, and larger discursive patterns introduces students to the semantic, structural, and rhetorical resources of language.

MAJOR TOPICS

This course will encourage students to make connections among various important works of literature spanning different genres and historical periods, thereby enriching the reading experience. Some authors read will be Nathaniel Hawthorne, Daniel Defoe, Derek Walcott, William Shakespeare, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry David Thoreau, Frederick Douglass, Mark Twain, Arthur Miller, E.L. Doctorow, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Edward Albee, Sherwood Anderson, Martin Luther King, George Orwell, Eudora Welty, Joan Didion, and Maxine Hong Kingston. In addition, extensive study of non-fictional texts will be included.

GRADING PROCEDURE

Averages for each quarter are based on major essays, which receive more weight than minor assignments, written interpretations of selected passages, quizzes, and class participation. A process writing approach allows for revision.