

WELCOME TO AP LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION

2015-2016

Course Overview:

AP Language & Composition prepares students to effectively communicate through reading and critically thinking about college level materials, mastering expository modes of writing, and analyzing visual texts. This course requires students to develop evidence-based analytic and argumentative essays using credible resources. The majority of texts used in the class will compel students to develop an understanding and take a position on historical, local, national, and global concerns. In essence, the course aims to promote mature, fluent, and insightful communication for college success.

Course Content:

First Quarter:

Rhetorical Analysis

- Summer Reading wrap-up
- Building rhetorical skills
- AP terminology
- Critical reading skills and analysis
- Multiple choice practice
- Rhetorical Analysis
- Narration, Description, Example essay modes
- *Ethos, Logos, Pathos*
- Allusions
- Outside reading: Biography

Second Quarter: Synthesis

- Various readings & writings
- Definition, Cause/Effect, Comparison/Contrast essay modes

Second Quarter, continued

- Argumentative essay
- Multiple choice practice
- Outside reading: *The Tipping Point*

Third Quarter: Argumentation

- Various readings & writings
- Process Analysis, Classification, Argument/Persuasion essay modes
- Satire
- Multiple choice practice
- Synthesis essay
- Outside reading: *Grapes of Wrath*

Fourth Quarter: Test Prep

- Various readings & writings
- Multiple choice practice
- Essay practice
- Review for AP Test

GRADE WEIGHTS FOR AP LANGUAGE ASSIGNMENTS:

Homework/Bell work—10%

Essays/Timed Writes/Revisions—40%

Critical Reading/AP Reading Tests—30%

Daily Assignments/Participation/Quizzes—20%

AP ESSAY RUBRIC:

9=100%

8=95%

7=90%

6=85%

5=75%

4=70%

3=65%

2=60%

1=50%

Texts Needed:

Quarter 1:

Memoir or biography of your choice, approved by teacher

Quarter 2:

The Tipping Point by Malcolm Gladwell

Quarter 3:

Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck

Tips for Success in AP Language & Composition



AP LANGUAGE COURSE

REQUIREMENTS:

Daily vocabulary study and AP skills review is mandatory!

(Handouts and materials will be distributed.)

Obtain a copy of the required text each quarter.

Active critical reading with written annotations (you may use sticky notes in text books) and reflective journal entries are on-going and must be kept up-to-date.

Keep current on all assignments.

NO LATE WORK will be accepted without previous arrangements.

If emergency situations arise, the instructor may approve a new deadline and/or grading modification. Poor planning, forgetting to complete assignments, computer or printer issues, or “lost” papers do not constitute valid emergencies.

Extra Credit is **not** available. AP courses contain so many requirements that extra credit is not an option.

EACH DAY students **MUST** bring to class and maintain an **AP ONLY** course binder which contains all assignments and AP materials throughout the school year. **NEVER** discard **ANY** tests, essays, quizzes, handouts, etc. **The AP notebook is your most valuable study guide.**

- ◆ Attend class and try to limit absences
- ◆ If absent, make up work immediately
- ◆ Ask questions
- ◆ Use your planner
- ◆ Complete all homework, including outside reading
- ◆ Participate in class
- ◆ Stay after school for help with essay revisions
- ◆ Stay informed of current events by reading newspapers, watching TV news, and talking to your parents
- ◆ Study AP terms and PSR lists—make flashcards
- ◆ Take notes
- ◆ Make it a habit to annotate all reading material
- ◆ Keep all handouts and organize your AP binder
- ◆ Go to the College Board website and explore; there is a wealth of resources
- ◆ Read anything and everything outside of class (this will make you smarter and more well-informed, give you background knowledge, and help you with the MC part of the AP test)
- ◆ Read, read, read!
- ◆ Remember: this is an AP class and you can pass the test if you work hard all year

Make-up Work—Revising—Extra Help

- All make up work needs to be completed in a timely manner, in accordance with the SFMHS Code of Conduct.
- Zeros will be entered in the grade book until the work is made up.
- Set up an appointment for make up work, help sessions, or writing consultations with Ms. Edwins on Tuesday or Thursday after school from 1:45-2:45.
- There are no excuses for not making up missed assignments, so plan accordingly with coaches, clubs sponsors, parents, etc.

NOTE: I am here to help you be successful in this class. Please ask for help, stay after school, email me, and do your part!

I have read and understand the AP course policies and procedures for this AP Language and Composition class and will keep this information in my AP notebook.

Student _____

Parent _____

Parent Email or phone Number: