

Course Description:

AP® English Literature and Composition is designed to be a college/university level course, thus the “AP” designation on a transcript rather than “H” (Honors) or “CP” (College Prep). This course will provide you with the intellectual challenges and workload consistent with a typical undergraduate university English literature/Humanities course. As a culmination of the course, you will take the AP English Literature and Composition Exam given in May (required). A grade of 4 or 5 on this exam is considered equivalent to a 3.3–4.0 for comparable courses at the college or university level. A student who earns a grade of 3 or above on the exam will be granted college credit at most colleges and universities throughout the United States.

Course Goals:

1. To carefully read and critically analyze imaginative literature.
2. To understand the way writers’ use language to provide meaning and pleasure.
3. To consider a work’s structure, style, and themes as well as such smaller scale elements as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone.
4. To study representative works from various genres and periods (from the fourteenth to the twentieth century) and to know a few works extremely well.
5. To understand a work’s complexity, to absorb richness of meaning, and to analyze how meaning is embodied in literary form.
6. To consider the social and historical values a work reflects and embodies.
7. To write, focusing on critical analysis of literature including expository, analytical, and argumentative essays as well as creative writing to sharpen understanding of writers’ accomplishments and deepen appreciation of literary artistry.
8. To become aware of, through speaking, listening, reading, and, chiefly, writing, the resources of language: connotation, metaphor, irony, syntax, and tone.

AP Toolbox

The AP Toolbox is a packet that contains crucial information for many aspects of the AP course. You can find the toolbox on the class website listed below.

Teacher Contact:

Cherish Tenney (ctenney@mylpsd.net)

Class Website: Login to your Google account; go to <https://classroom.google.com>; click the + sign at the top right of the page; click “join class”; enter the following class code: **rvumnz**

Supplies:

- Binder with loose-leaf paper and 5 tab dividers
- Ink pens black or blue and #2 pencils
- Highlighters (pink, green, blue, yellow)
- Sticky Notes
- Novels/Plays

The following is a list of novels/plays needed for the class. We are asking students to purchase the actual books, not an eBook version. A few more novels/plays will be added during the year.

- *Othello* William Shakespeare
- *Wuthering Heights* Emily Bronte
- *Candide* Voltaire
- *The Picture of Dorian Gray* Oscar Wilde
- *Tartuffe* Moliere
- *A Streetcar Named Desire* Tennessee Williams

SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS

You will be reading two novels this summer and completing specific written assignments to go with each of them. The assignments from the summer will be worth major grades and will be addressed during the first two weeks of school. All summer reading and writing is due on the first day of class. For every day an assignment is late, I will lower the starting letter grade. Please read and follow ALL directions carefully. If at any point during the summer, you are confused about your assignment, please feel free to email Mrs. Tenney (ctenney@mylpsd.net). You should purchase the following novels for your summer assignment:

- *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* by Ken Kesey
- *Never Let Me Go* by Kazuo Ishiguro

Assignment #1: *Never Let Me Go* by Kazuo Ishiguro

For this assignment, you will complete 2 writing responses, one a response to a review/criticism of the novel and the other a comparison/criticism of the movie version of this novel.

- Literary Criticism Response:
 - Use the Internet to find a literary review of your novel of choice (New York Times, The Atlantic, Kirkus Reviews, etc. are excellent resources.) Write a response to the review (see instruction below). Examples of literary review websites include the following:
 - <http://www.nytimes.com/pages/books/index.html>
 - <http://www.literaryhistory.com>
 - <https://andromeda.rutgers.edu/~jlynch/Lit/>
 - <http://medhum.med.nyu.edu/>
 - <http://www.luminarium.org/lumina.htm>
 - Write a minimum one page (no more than two), double-spaced typed letter to the editor in which you agree or disagree with the critic. Support each point of your evaluation with specific references from the literary review and the novel, including at least two quotations from the novel. Print and include a copy of the review you're critiquing.
- Movie Response:
 - Watch a film version of the novel. Write a minimum two page, double-spaced typed review of the movie recommending or not recommending the movie as an effective presentation of the play or novel. (The movie version might have adaptations such as a change of the time period, setting, place, words, characters, omissions, or additions.) Support each point of your evaluation with specific references to the movie AND to the novel, including at least two quotations from the novel.

Assignment #2: *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* by Ken Kesey

For this assignment, you will create a data sheet on the novel. This information should be typed. Each section of your data sheet should include thorough explanations and specific references/passages from the novel.

- Historical Context: Provide information about the period (literary, historical, philosophical, etc.).
- Genre: Identify the genre & specify how this work fits its characteristics.
- Impressions: Write your impressions of the novel.
- Plot: Provide major plot points (use bullet points).
- Literary Techniques: Identify and explain the use and effect of three literary techniques. Identify and explain key metaphors, symbols and/or motifs in the work.
- Significant Passages: Cite and quote three significant passages (use ellipses to abbreviate). Explain the significance of each passage or explain how it relates to the work as a whole.
- Character: Identify 5 significant characters. Discuss each character's relationship to other characters. Use three adjectives to describe each character. Discuss each character's purpose/function in story (specify round or flat).

- Setting: Describe the setting(s) and explain its significance.
- Theme: Identify and explain a major theme of the work.
- Vocabulary: Write at least five vocabulary words from the text and define them (words you didn't know, preferably). Cite the page and passage in which you found them.
- Discussion: Write at least 3 significant, critical questions or topics for further discussion of the novel.

IMPORTANT

If your work on either novel is ***remotely similar*** to something found online about the book (such as Sparknotes, etc.), you will receive a 0 for that assignment. The only thing you should look up online about your novel(s) is the book review/criticism for Assignment #1. Other than this, you ***should not*** look up plot summaries, theme summaries, literary elements, etc. Both novels are easy to read and understand, so you should not need help from outside sources!! I want your work to be your work, I want you to show me your dedication to your work, and I want you to impress me with your knowledge, comprehension, and critical thinking skills!!

You should follow MLA style and formatting guidelines for both assignments. This can be found on page 15 of your AP Toolbox.