

AP® ENGLISH IV EXPECTATIONS AND SYLLABUS

WELCOME

It is going to be a great year! I am so excited for the year ahead and so glad that I get to spend it with you. I am excited for the challenge of AP Literature, and for the opportunity to see you excel.

COURSE OVERVIEW

This open enrollment college level course includes an intensive study of American and British literary works written in several genres from the sixteenth century to the present. The curriculum requirements are based on the AP® English course description and are intended to fully prepare each student for the corresponding College Board exam at the end of the academic year.

The concentration of this course's content is the study of the artistic use of language in increasing complexity as employed by skilled authors to achieve specific effects on their readers. Evaluation of student progress will be through in class and out-of-class writing assignments, content quizzes over the reading assignments, and projects designed to encourage critical thinking and literary analysis.

"Students will engage in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. Through this close reading of selected texts, students should deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As they read, students should consider a work's structure, style, and themes as well as smaller-scale elements as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone" (College Board 2004).

Course Overview adapted from Round Rock HS's AP® English Literature and Composition syllabus

BIG IDEAS

"The big ideas serve as the foundation of the AP® English Literature and Composition course and enable students to create meaningful connections among course concepts. They are threads that run throughout the course and revisiting them and applying them in a variety of contexts helps students to develop deeper conceptual understanding. Below are the big ideas of the course, along with the enduring understanding associated with each one" (College Board 2019).

- CHARACTER
 - Enduring Understanding: Characters in literature allow readers to study and explore a range of values, beliefs, assumptions, biases, and cultural norms represented by those characters.
- SETTING
 - Enduring Understanding: Setting and the details associated with it not only depict a time and place, but also convey values associated with that setting.
- STRUCTURE
 - Enduring Understanding: The arrangement of the parts and sections of a text, the relationship of the parts to each other, and the sequence in which the text reveals information are all structural choices made by a writer that contribute to the reader's interpretation of a text.
- NARRATION
 - Enduring Understanding: A narrator's or speaker's perspective controls the details and emphases that affect how readers experience and interpret a text.
- FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE
 - Enduring Understanding: Comparisons, representations, and associations shift meaning from the literal to the figurative and invite readers to interpret a text.
- LITERARY ARGUMENTATION
 - Enduring Understanding: Readers establish and communicate their interpretations of literature through arguments supported by textual evidence.

TEXTS

- Choice novels from summer reading
- Short fiction
- Poetry
 - Poetry Collection - [*Counting Descent*](#), Clint Smith *Please purchase by August 30
- Novels and Drama
 - [*The Namesake*](#), Jhumpa Lahiri
 - [*Pride and Prejudice*](#), Jane Austen
 - This is the ugliest but cheapest version of the book I could find. Please feel free to purchase any version you like, as long as it is unabridged!
 - [*The Importance of Being Earnest*](#), Oscar Wilde *You do not need to purchase this book

- o Shakespeare play *TBD
- o Student choice novels
 - You will choose two from a list provided in class.

EXPECTATIONS

- BE RESPECTFUL
 - o Respect your peers, your teacher, and any other guests. Everyone has a voice here, and this is a safe space. That means we listen to one another and respond in a *respectful* manner – even when disagreeing.
 - o Technology (including laptops, cell phones, gaming devices, and tablets of any kind) should be put away unless told otherwise. Part of being respectful involves listening attentively and not being distracted.
- BE RESPONSIBLE
 - o Complete all assignments on time and keep up with all materials.
 - o You are responsible for making sure you get caught up after missing (check the absent bin). If you miss a test/quiz, schedule a time to make it up. I follow the district guidelines for makeup work/absences.
 - o As a general rule, late work will not be accepted.
 - *If you are falling behind or struggling in class, come talk to me. I'm not unreasonable, but if you don't communicate with me, I can't work with you.*
 - o You're welcome to bring food/drinks to class with you, but you must clean up after yourself.
- BE ORIGINAL
 - o Don't cheat. Don't plagiarize. Be insightful, dig into the text(s), think for yourself, take risks, and work hard.
 - *Cheating and/or plagiarizing will result in a zero. There are no exceptions or excuses for this.*

GRADING BREAKDOWN

- Minor, weight x 1 (Classwork/homework) – 34%
- Minor, weight x 2 (timed essays/quizzes) – 34%
- Major, weight x 1 (revised essays/tests/projects) – 66%

SUPPLIES

- Binder (or folder) with notebook paper OR a notebook for this class with a pocket
- Pens/pencils and highlighters
- Clorox wipes, germ-ex, tissues, paper towels (for class use, not required but welcomed)

CONTACT INFO

- **Email** - wpena@madison-schools.com
- **Remind** - To sign up, text @ghspenaap to 81010 or go to <https://www.remind.com/join/ghspenaap>

PARENTS & GUARDIANS

Please visit this [link](#) to fill out the parent contact information. There is also space for you to let me know about any needs your student may have.