

Syllabus

AP English Literature and Composition

Mrs. Ashley Fitch

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Course Overview: "AP English Literature and Composition is an introductory college-level literary analysis course. Students cultivate their understanding of literature through reading and analyzing texts as they explore concepts like character, setting, structure, perspective, figurative language, and literary analysis in the context of literary works." (College Board Course Description)



Materials

These are items that you will be using in class most days

- Binder** (with paper, dividers, and handouts)
- Chromebook** (charged BEFORE class)
- Current Text**
- Pen, Pencil, and Highlighters**
- Colored pen for editing**
- Post-it notes and sticky tabs**
- Optional supplies:** ruler, art supplies



Google Classroom Reminders

- Notifications turned **ON**
- Always hit **SUBMIT** on assignments
- Check for Daily Agenda / Upcoming Assignments
- Work is considered late based on the timestamp and edit history of the document.



Texts and Units of Study

The course will be structured according to the College Board's Course and Exam Description for AP English Literature and Composition. Embedded Units will be integrated throughout the semester and will build on skills in primary units.

- Short Fiction (Parts 1, 2, and 3)
- Poetry (Parts 1, 2, and 3)
- Longer Fiction (Parts 1, 2, and 3)
- Independent reading project

Embedded Units of Study

- Writing
- Vocabulary and grammar
- Exam prep and review
- Nonfiction and historical texts



Absences and Makeup Work

- If you are absent from class, YOU are responsible for getting and making up any missing work. The best way to keep up with missed work is to check Google Classroom.
 - The school's policy on makeup work will be observed. As stated in the student handbook, the policy is as follows:
 - A student will be allowed an equal number of days to complete the make-up work as the number of days they missed. (Example: A student who is absent two days should have all work turned in by the second day that the student has returned to school.) More time for make-up work may be granted in special circumstances by making arrangements with the teacher involved.
 - It is the responsibility of the student to see that the requirements of the attendance policy are met, and all work missed is completed to the satisfaction of the teacher. This also applies when a student has been suspended from school.
 - See me during before or after class or during break - **not during class** - to get help, ask questions about missing work, or schedule make up tests/quizzes



Late Work

- Late work may be turned in the following day for a 20% penalty. After that, it will be marked as a zero.
- Work submitted online will be considered late if it was **edited or submitted** after the due date.



College Prep and Credit

- **Coursework** - Coursework and assignments in this class are designed to mimic the reading, analysis, discussion, and writing students would encounter in an entry-level college literature course. As such, **the expectations are much higher than that of a regular English course.**
- **Grades** - Grades for the course are awarded based on the quality of the student's coursework. Students will receive 5 rigor points to their course average to reflect the difficulty of the course
- **College credit** - College credit may be earned by taking and earning a qualifying score on the AP Literature exam at the end of the course. Each college sets their own standards for the scores they accept for credit; it is up to the student to check with the colleges and universities to which they are applying and know their requirements. **ALL STUDENTS ENROLLED IN AP ENGLISH WILL BE EXPECTED TO PAY FOR AND TAKE THE AP EXAM IN MAY, REGARDLESS OF PRIOR CREDITS OR COLLEGE PLANS.**
- **Your performance on the exam and your performance in the class not related.** It is possible to make a high grade in class and a low score on the exam, or to make a great score on the exam and a low grade in class. However, to make the most out of class and prepare yourself for college **and** the exam, it is important that you complete each assignment and give it your best effort.



Reading and Homework Expectations

As a college-level literature course, students should expect to **read outside of class**. I strive to make sure that reading assignments are manageable for students, however, students should plan to complete about 30 minutes of reading outside class each day (average). **Written homework** is usually minimal and only necessary if we cannot get through with everything on the agenda for the day. **Outside projects** may be assigned for certain texts and units. In these cases, students will be given the project, instructions, and deadlines ahead of time for planning purposes.



Texts and Authors

The following texts and authors may be covered in class throughout the year. **This is not an inclusive list and may change.**

William Shakespeare - *Hamlet* and *Othello*

William Golding - *Lord of the Flies*

Zora Neale Hurston - *Their Eyes Were Watching God*

Mary Shelley - *Frankenstein*

Oscar Wilde - *The Importance of Being Earnest*

Short texts from the following authors:

Maya Angelou

Kate Chopin

Langston Hughes

Walt Whitman

Edgar Allan Poe

Marge Piercy

Katharyn Howd Machan

William Shakespeare

Andrew Marvell

Oscar Wilde

Edwin Arlington Robinson

Katherine Mansfield

Joyce Carol Oates

Edith Wharton

John Updike

Flannery O'Connor

Billy Collins

Robert Hayden

Wilfred Owen

William Wordsworth

Julia Alvarez

Jamaica Kincaid



Attendance and Tardies

Because of the nature of the work we do to prepare for the AP exam, many assignments in class are completed in a timed, proctored setting. **Missing a timed, proctored assignment will require you to schedule a makeup appointment with me.** Be here and on time to avoid this whenever possible.



Procedures and Expectations

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→ Be on time

- Be in the room (and in your seat) when the bell rings. Begin working on the first assignment of the day.

→ Respect my time

- Take care of any personal business before or after class. Passes out will be limited to emergencies.

→ Respect others



- When others are speaking, be quiet. Raise your hand to speak.
- If you can't be kind, it's best to be quiet.

→ Stay on task

- Class periods are short. We will work from bell to bell. Be ready to begin when class starts, and I will tell you when it is time to pack up to leave.

→ Don't be gross

- Clean up after yourself, and leave your area (and the room) as neat or neater than you found it.

→ Non-negotiables



- The following are not allowed in my classroom:
 - Phones
 - Earbuds
 - Hats or hoods
- These are MY rules. **IT DOES NOT MATTER WHAT THE OTHER CLASSES/TEACHERS ARE DOING.**

→ Rules > Opinion



- I must abide by the school system rules as well as the school rules; you must abide by those rules as well as the rules of my classroom—regardless of how you feel about them.



Consequences

If a student chooses not to meet these expectations, the following consequences will be followed:

- Verbal Warning
- Parent Contact
- Administrative Referral

The order of these consequences may be altered as necessary to fit the situation.



Cheating

→ Just don't. Seriously.

- I expect your work to be original, and plagiarism will not be tolerated under any circumstances

- **You will receive a zero for any assignments that are plagiarized, a write up, and a parent contact.**

Is it plagiarism? A quiz:

- Did you, at any point, copy and paste it from the internet?
 - A: Yes.**
- Is it someone else's ideas that you reworded?
 - A: Yes.**
- Did you take another student's work and reword it?
 - A: Yes**



Heartbeats

"Life isn't measured in minutes, but in heartbeats." - Joan Lowery Nixon

"I believe that every human has a finite number of heartbeats. I don't intend to waste any of mine." - Neil Armstrong

MAKE EVERY HEARTBEAT IN THIS ROOM MATTER – THAT IS MY COMMITMENT TO YOU, AND I EXPECT THE SAME IN RETURN. THIS IS GOING TO BE A GREAT YEAR!

Love, Mrs. Fitch