

AP Language and Composition 11

Course Description: Advanced Placement English Language and Composition is an intense college-level course that encourages the student to read critically-complex texts deeply in order to gain greater understanding of a text. The students will examine each author's choice of rhetorical mode and his/her use of various rhetorical devices. Key questions in their exploration of these primarily non-fiction works will be as follows: To whom is the author writing? What is the author's purpose? What does the author say? How does the author use form and style to achieve purpose and communicate the ideas? Careful attention to the writers' works will guide the student toward developing his or her own writer's voice and style from a variety of modes: narrative, descriptive, expository, argumentative/persuasive, and the literary analysis essay. In addition to reading critically and writing effectively, the student will mature in his use of grammar and his vocabulary selection.

Textbooks: *5 Steps to a 5: AP English Language*, (McGraw-Hill); a variety of texts including, but not limited to *American Literature for Christian Schools* (BJUP), *British Literature for Christian Schools* (BJUP), *The Norton Reader* (Norton), *The Bedford Reader* (Bedford-St. Martins)

Goal 1: To read widely, deeply, and critically non-fiction works of literature.

- _____ 1.1 The student will be able to develop accurate, perceptive reading through close study of major texts representing various literary genres.
- _____ 1.2 The student will be able to read deliberately and thoroughly to understand a work's complexity and its interpretation.
- _____ 1.3 The student will develop effective annotation skills in reading.
- _____ 1.4 The student will be able to evaluate an author's literary artistry—its quality and effectiveness—through a thorough knowledge of literary terms.
- _____ 1.5 The student will develop skills in summarization of complex ideas, in distinguishing issues, and examining styles of expression.
- _____ 1.6 The student will improve comprehension and use of AP level vocabulary

Goal 2: To acquire a fluent, precise writing style through the preparation of essays about various texts.

- _____ 2.1 The student will be able to write in a variety of contexts and genres.
- _____ 2.2 The student will develop effective rhetoric, establishing tone, creating and maintaining a voice, and gaining emphasis through careful selection of diction and manipulation of sentence structure.
- _____ 2.3 The student will compose essays introducing a complex idea, supporting it with logical evidence, developing clear explanations, and making coherent transitions.

_____ 2.4 The student will learn to apply meticulously the steps of the writing process.

Goal 3: To apply correct spelling, accurate grammar, precise mechanics, and effective editing to enhance their writing skills.

_____ 3.1 The student will demonstrate knowledge of grammar and punctuation.

_____ 3.2 The student will apply careful proofreading to their writing work.

Goal 4: To understand and incorporate research in their writing.

_____ 3.1 The student will be able to evaluate research materials for authenticity.

_____ 3.2 The student will be familiar with and make use of the many research tools available to them: books, periodicals, technology sources, etc.

_____ 3.3 The student will incorporate supportive material from outside sources effectively into their writings.

_____ 3.4 The student will cite accurately information from outside sources.

_____ 3.5 The student will understand and avoid plagiarism.

Goal 5: To develop cogent and articulate speaking skills.

_____ 5.1 The student will develop and apply listening skills.

_____ 5.2 The student will enter into and effectively respond to class discussion.

_____ 5.3 The student will apply oral communication skills.

Goal 6: To prepare for and take the AP Language and Composition Exam.

_____ 6.1 The student will improve multiple-choice taking skills by annotating test texts and analyze test texts for the thesis and supportive points.

_____ 6.2 The student will learn to identify question language, to recognize subtleties in questioning, to anticipate questions, and understand question structure.

_____ 6.3 The student will apply multiple-choice answering strategies.

_____ 6.4 The student will learn the three types of free response questions.

_____ 6.5 The student will effectively analyze the test questions, looking for key response words.

_____ 6.6 The student will analyze the free response question texts annotatively and apply literary term analysis.

_____ 6.7 The student will develop an AP exam written essay, applying introduction strategies, writing a clear, logical thesis, supporting with strong developmental paragraphs, and incorporating concise, but complete conclusion strategies.

_____ 6.8 The student will learn to write under time constraints through regular timed writings and exam settings.