



# 2024-2025 Course Syllabus

**Course** AP English Literature and Composition

**Teacher** Jennifer Reynaga

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**Google Classroom** [hayapvz](#)

## **Course description**

Welcome to Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition. In this course we will be reading literature spanning many genres, continents, and centuries. We will learn to analytically address all of the texts we read, and learn the best way to convey this analysis in our speaking and writing.

This is the last English class you will be taking in high school. The purpose of this course is to meet graduation requirements and prepare you for the rigorous reading, analysis, and writing that will be required of you as scholars and citizens. This course will also prepare you to take the Advanced Placement Exam in English Literature and Composition. Bear in mind that most universities will deny your application if you earn less than a C in this course. The following is a list of my rules and policies and a description of my grading system. If you understand and follow these guidelines, you should have no trouble succeeding in this class.

## **Academic Expectations**

During a normal school year this course requires 8 hours a week. 5 of those hours are normal class hours that include a mixture of direct instruction, small group work, whole class discussion, and in-class readings/writings. On top of 5 instructional hours, students should expect to spend 3 more hours (give or take 30 minutes) on completing out-of-class assignments. 80% of these assignments will be reading and annotating texts in preparation for in-class instruction. Plagiarism and inappropriate use of artificial intelligence programs will result in no credit for the assignment and a behavioral referral.

Additionally, I expect the following:

--Students will come to class on time and well-prepared: This includes bringing all necessary materials: lined paper, blue/black pens, highlighter, current text.

--Students will use appropriate and respectful language during all class activities.

--Students will actively participate in all class activities. This includes asking questions!

--Students will use technology appropriately. We will use digital devices from time to time in class. However, students must ask permission before using digital devices in-class. Under no circumstances should a student record another student, class materials, or the teacher without prior explicit permission.

### **Required Materials**

Laptop/tablet, current text, lined paper, blue/black pen, highlighter. Bring these to class daily unless otherwise instructed

### **Textbook**

Jago, Carol, et al. *Literature & Composition: Reading, Writing, Thinking*. Bedford/St. Martin's, 2017.

The textbook, individual titles, and supplementary materials are accessible in the Books Folder on Google Classroom

### **Grading Policy**

The course grade is a percentage based on the number of points possible. Expect to spend 3-3.5 hours a week preparing for class. Students who show evidence that they do will earn a minimum of a B. Students who do not show evidence of this will not earn an A.

--Process assignments—these assignments are preparation for class activities. They include preparing short drafts and reading quizzes. These assignments are graded immediately. Students may not make them up but may ask for an alternate assignment to replace the original. These assignments usually represent 30 minutes of homework and are usually worth 5 points.

--Product—these assignments demonstrate student mastery of course content and skill. These include literary analysis essays (graded using the AP rubrics), AP released multiple choice exams, personal narrative essays, and oral presentations. Some of these assignments may be resubmitted/reattempted in order to raise scores. These assignments are worth 150 points and will be clearly indicated on Infinite Campus.

All assignments will be posted in the weekly topics in Google Classroom. I do not sync with Infinite Campus and not all assignments will show up in your Google Classroom to-do list. Make sure you check the schedule for each week. I will post this as the first folder under the weekly topic. Once posted, I may delay items, but I will not add items.

### **Course Objectives**

Students will learn to analyze and discuss a wide variety of culturally significant creative and non-fiction texts. We will focus on the elements of close reading—using the structural and compositional features of a text to discern meaning. Students will also learn to compose effective narrative and literary texts. Students will frequently contribute to in-class discussions using appropriate and clear spoken language.

### **Course Outline**

We will read and analyze most or all of the texts listed below and learn appropriate literary terminology and cultural context for each text. Other texts will be added as necessary.

First Semester all students will complete the following:

1. an extended poetry analysis followed by a dramatic recitation
2. a college personal statement (We will be using the University of California prompts, but students are allowed to use prompts from other universities.)
3. Three AP English Literature and Composition released multiple choice exams, a minimum of six analytical essays, at least three of which will contribute significantly to the semester grade.

Second Semester all students will complete the following:

1. a minimum of six analytical essays, three of which will contribute significantly to the semester grade. One of these essays will be 3-5 typed pages.
2. an extended annotation of a complex text
3. an AP English Literature and Composition released multiple choice exam
4. a postmodernist intertextual final project

Here is a list of works I have taught in the past:

Ancient Near Eastern literature (Selections from *The Epic of Gilgamesh*, Genesis, 5 Psalms, and Ruth)

*The Odyssey*

*Oedipus the King*

*Canterbury Tales* (selections)

*Macbeth*

Shakespeare and the Metaphysical poets (sonnet focus)

*Pride and Prejudice*

*A Doll's House*

“A Modest Proposal,” “Body Ritual Among the Nacirema,” “An Image of Africa”

*The Metamorphosis*

*Heart of Darkness*

*No Longer at East*

*The Sound of Waves*

*Romeo and Juliet*

*Lord of the Flies*

Modern Poetry (Selected from released AP prompts, and the textbook)