



# 2018--2019 COURSE SYLLABUS

## Advanced Placement English 11: Language and Composition

Welcome to AP English Language and Composition! We will be learning how writers use rhetorical modes and literary techniques/devices/elements to convey significant messages to a wide audience. We will also practice writing works that describe, define, narrate, explain, argue, and synthesize other texts.

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 in college and on the job.

### Emmanuel Valadez

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### Important Dates

AP Testing will occur between 5/6/19 – 5/17/19

### Required Materials :

Two Notebooks, pencil, blue/black pen

### Grading Policy

All assignments are worth points and grades will be calculated based on the amount of points earned in each category. Most work will be completed in class, during class time. Work will be divided into the following categories:

- Final (20%)
- Classwork (40%)
  - o graphic organizers, warm-ups, reflections, responses to pre-reading/post-reading questions, grammar exercises
- Writing (40%)
  - o formal in-class essays and creative writing assignments

### Homework Policy:

- No late homework will be accepted unless there are unusual circumstances that must be verified by the student's parent or guardian. In case of absence, it is the student's responsibility to get make-up work the day the student returns.

### Plagiarism/Cheating:

- Plagiarism/cheating will be dealt with according to the school rules and guidelines. All parties involved in the plagiarism/cheating (i.e. the person who copied the work and the person who allowed the work to be copied) will receive a zero for the assignment, test, or quiz. Parents of both parties will be notified and no make-up on the assignment, test, or quiz will be permitted.

### Support Services:

- I am available to assist and help students before and after class. For further questions, you may contact me at (916) 395-5090 (ext. 506210) or by emailing me at [emmanuel-valadez@scusd.edu](mailto:emmanuel-valadez@scusd.edu).



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## Class Overview (subject to change)

### Unit 1: Introduction to Rhetorical Analysis, Techniques, and Advanced Placement Philosophy

#### Overview:

As an introduction to Advanced Placement Language and Composition, students report to their first class with the journals and assignments (See Appendix A) completed over the summer hiatus. With each piece, we delve into the rhetorical strategies – diction, tone, syntax, imagery, and detail – in order to create a basis for analysis and to recognize different writing styles.

### Unit 2: Argument and Fallacy

#### Overview:

After learning the principals of rhetoric students must see how they apply. We begin with close reading and analysis of various essays and move into writing and development.

### Unit 3: Tone and Purpose

#### Overview:

This unit will focus on the ability to recognize tone and purpose in various works. Through close reading and careful rhetorical analysis the process of writing with these elements will become clearer. By this point students should be more in tune with what is expected of them on the exam. This unit will challenge and refine the skills previously acquired.

### Unit 4: The Power of Language

#### Overview:

This unit will focus not only on the language we use, but HOW we use the language. Students will have the opportunity to view different perspectives on the same topics, assess the importance of audience and its impact on writing.

### Unit 5: Satire and Humor as Argument

#### Overview:

In this unit students will learn to satirize and create humor in order to open the eyes of their audience. Through writing, observation, and discussion about topics like what our passions are and the things that make us laugh, students will be able to create and relate important topics to their audience.

### Unit 6: Preparation and Insight into the AP Exam

#### Overview:

This unit will be the culmination of our year. At this point students will focus on the test ahead through constant reading, writing, practice and analysis. Together we will view sample essays from past exams and score them based on the techniques acquired. In addition, students will use peer review to sharpen their style and voice.