



## 2019-2020 COURSE SYLLABUS

### Advanced Placement English 11: Language and Composition

**Teacher Name:** Emmanuel Valadez

**Teacher Email:** emmanuel-valadez@scusd.edu (preferred communication method)

**Check grades on Infinite Campus via [www.scusd.edu](http://www.scusd.edu)**

#### Course Description:

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 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.

#### Important Dates

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

#### Required Materials :

- Two Notebooks
- Blue/Black Pen
- Highlighter
- Binder for class handouts

#### 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, discussions, socratic seminars, activities
- Writing (40%)
  - o formal in-class essays and creative writing assignments, extended writing prompts, critical thinking questions

#### CLASSWORK/HOMEWORK POLICIES (Read carefully here students)

We will cover all that we can in class, but there may be work outside of class as well. This will typically be in the form of reading, researching for an in class project, preparing for an in-class discussion, or reviewing for a test.

We will be moving very quickly, so get all your work in on time. Late work will receive zero credit. I understand things come up though, so in the event that you are not able to turn something in on time, please make sure you attach the Late/Incomplete Work form to your assignment before submitting it. You can find these here: <http://bit.ly/2KKrW9V>. Each student is able to use three per semester.

If you are absent, you have as many days as you were absent to make up the material. You are responsible for getting any assignments you missed. If you are turning in work late because you were absent, be sure to tell me so I can check it off rather than marking it late. I will not accept work on a unit of study after we have tested. You will also need to contact me if you are late on the day of a group presentation by phone or email and get clearance from attendance for illness, without these expect a 0. First and foremost though, please remember to communicate with me regarding your absences and/or inability to get work in on time. We need to work together this year, and the only way we can do that is if we are open and honest with each other.

**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.

**Classroom Expectations:**

While some days can be harder than others, we are all going to be together for an entire school year. In order to make this year a fun year, I have a few classroom expectations that we will all follow (myself included).

- Be respectful to me, your classmates and yourself
- Use names (do not just say “hey you”)
- No hats, hoods, or headbands in the classroom. No sunglasses are to be worn in the classroom.
- Cell Phones are not allowed.
- Headphones must be put away before class begins.
- No profanities.
- Students are allowed to go to the restroom one at a time. Students are encouraged to use the restroom before class begins.

**Class Overview (subject to change)****Unit 1: Introduction to Rhetorical Analysis, Techniques, and Advanced Placement Philosophy**

As an introduction to Advanced Placement Language and Composition, students report to their first class with the assignment 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**

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

**Unit 3: Tone and Purpose**

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**

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**

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**

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.