

SYLLABUS FOR ENGLISH 246 ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course, designed for the advanced student who enjoys independent study, provides students with experience in studying college-level material as well as preparing them for the AP exam. Emphasis is placed on the various modes of writing: illustration, comparison-contrast, argument, and analysis. Topics for writing are taken from a wide variety of literary works, including novels, novellas, short stories, plays, poems, and essays. In addition, students are exposed to the types of essay questions given on the AP exam and practice responding to these questions as part of their preparation for this exam. The students are expected to write essays which demonstrate a mastery of the concepts taught in class. Grammatical and mechanical errors are viewed in the context of the student's writing. The writing of cited papers continues to develop research skills necessary for college-level compositions. College-level vocabulary based on ACT and SAT formats is taught. Students are required to read novels during the summer and complete assignments related to these works. Students are also required to take the AP exam at the end of the course and are responsible for paying the fee for this test (approximately \$85).

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS GIVEN IN ORDER TO PROVIDE THE BEST OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUR SUCCESS IN THIS CLASS, SO PLEASE READ ALL OF THIS MATERIAL CAREFULLY AND REFER TO IT WHENEVER NECESSARY.

TEXTBOOKS:

Literature: Reading Fiction, Poetry and Drama 6th ed.

Heart of Darkness – Joseph Conrad

Vocabulary Workshop Level H

The Stranger - Albert Camus

Things Fall Apart - Chinua Achebe

MLA Handbook – 6th edition

In addition to the texts listed, students will also be required to get various novels and plays (which will be assigned in class) from the library. Since these books will be readily available in the library, students do not need to purchase these books unless they wish to. There will also be class sets of books which will be loaned to the students.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- A. all texts for this course (as listed above). These books **are due at the time that we cover this material in class**. PAPERBACKS ARE TO BE BY THE SAME PUBLISHER LISTED ON THE BOOKLIST.
- B. a small three-ring binder for class notes. Place some loose leaf paper in this binder for taking quizzes or for class work. **PAPER TORN FROM A SPIRAL-BOUND NOTEBOOK IS NOT ACCEPTABLE. ALL EDGES OF THE PAPER MUST BE CLEAN. ALL HANDOUTS WILL BE HOLE-PUNCHED AND PLACED IN THIS NOTEBOOK. YOU WILL ALSO NEED PAGE-PROTECTORS.**
- C. **two** paper folders with metal tabs: you will use one of these for the book notes on the all of the major works that you read this year; you will use the other one for your poetry responses.
- D. a pen, black or blue, for taking tests and vocabulary quizzes, and writing compositions. All quizzes except for vocabulary may be done in pencil. **ANYTHING DONE IN RED INK IS UNACCEPTABLE. DO HOMEWORK IN INK UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED.**
- E. a #2 pencil (in case we **ever** have a scantron test).

GRADING:

Your grade will be determined by an accumulation of points from each of the following:

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| A. major tests | E. out-of-class writing assignments |
| B. vocabulary assignments: quizzes and related assignments | F. pop quizzes based on reading |
| C. written homework assignments | G. group projects |
| D. in-class writing assignments | H. poetry responses and book notes |

There will be a standard rubric for each of the writing assignments which I will share with you in class. Rubrics for all other types of assignments will be discussed with you in class at the time the assignments are given.

HONOR CODE: All students in this class are expected to maintain the Honor Code listed in the *Student/Parent Handbook*. Please refer to this if there is any doubt about an action that may call your honor into question.

ABSENCES AND WORK MISSED:

You are responsible for anything that you miss during an absence from class including, but not limited to, tests, quizzes, homework assignments, deadlines for projects, and compositions . If you are absent, you are expected to do one of the following so that you do not lose these homework points:

a) check my faculty page on the jcchs.org website under assignments

b) call a classmate (that is why you have your contact sheet)

c) or email me to find out what work you have missed

d) or to see me before school on the day that you return. **A.P. SENIORS, PLEASE BE RESPONSIBLE ABOUT THIS REQUIREMENT.**

POLICY FOR MAKEUP TESTS:

If you are absent on the day of a test or the day before the test is given, and **if your absence is excused**, you are required to take the makeup test within two days (**SEE THE STUDENT HANDBOOK FOR THIS POLICY ON MAKEUP WORK**). **THIS MEANS THAT YOU MUST MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO STAY AFTER SCHOOL OR DO WHATEVER IS NECESSARY TO TAKE THIS MAKEUP TEST ON TIME.** If your absence is an extended one, you will make up your test according to the policy in the Handbook regarding extended absences. If you know about your absence beforehand, (for example, a school-related absence or a college day), you are required to take the test before you leave.

REGARDLESS OF THE LENGTH OF YOUR ABSENCE, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO SEE ME ON THE DAY THAT YOU RETURN TO SCHOOL. SEE ME EARLY IN THE DAY! DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE CLASS MEETS TO SEE ME. YOU MAY NEVER TAKE A MAKEUP TEST DURING CLASS. If you don't make arrangements to take this test, or if you just "forget," you will not be allowed to take the test. **BE RESPONSIBLE ABOUT THIS!!!!**

CHECK-INS AND CHECKOUTS ON TEST DAYS OR QUIZ DAYS:

If a test is scheduled and you miss it because you check in after the class has met, **find me as soon as possible!!!!** If you do not, I must assume that you are avoiding taking this test. If you are checking out on a test day and you will miss the test, **CHECK WITH ME BEFORE YOU LEAVE.** If you know ahead of time that you will have to check out early on a test day and you will miss the test, let me know and I will arrange for you to take the test early, if possible. **All assignments due on the day you check out must be turned in prior to dismissal for credit. FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR SANITY AND THE SAKE OF YOUR GRADE, PLEASE BE RESPONSIBLE ABOUT THIS!!!**

TARDIES:

Please make every effort to be on time for class. Tardy will be defined as being outside of this classroom when the bell begins to make a sound. @ If you are tardy for an acceptable reason (another teacher detains you, you are called to the office, etc.), you must bring a signed note with the time you left written on it. Please keep these kinds of tardies to a minimum (i.e., don't get help with academic problems between classes). **YOU WILL RECEIVE ONE AFREE TARDY@ a QUARTER.** Once you have used your Afree tardy,@ you will serve an after school detention. If your tardiness becomes an habitual thing, then you will be placed in the discipline system with the Dean of Students.

MY ABSENCE:

In the event that it becomes necessary for me to miss class, you are expected to follow all normal class policies (i.e., **SIT IN YOUR ASSIGNED SEAT, ETC.**) and do the work which I send to the substitute teacher. **WORK NOT COMPLETED DURING CLASS TIME BECOMES AUTOMATIC HOMEWORK FOR THAT NIGHT. PLEASE MAKE A NOTE OF THIS. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS.**

HELP SESSIONS:

Help sessions for AP English are by appointment. Since written assignments in this class are so frequent, you may often want to come by to discuss your idea for an approach to a paper or to get clarification on an assignment. Please let me know that you are coming by and I will reserve that time for you. Also, if you are just passing by the room and need a quick question answered, please feel free to drop in.

FINALLY, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY:

If you are having a problem with anything in this class or if there is anything that I can help you with (it doesn't

necessarily have to be related to this class), please see me. I want you to be successful in this class; however, your grade does not, NOR WILL IT EVER, determine my personal feelings for you. I expect you to do the best that you can and to be an honorable student. That is all that anyone can ask of you.

GOOD LUCK CLASS OF '11. HAVE A GREAT AND PRODUCTIVE YEAR!