

AP Eng. Lang Syllabus

Welcome to the AP Lang Gang

Mrs. Okechi (oh-KAY-chi)

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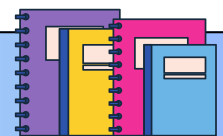
Office Hours: Wednesdays @ Lunch, Room 103



Course Description

AP English Language and Composition is a rigorous course designed to immerse students in close reading and critical analysis of various rhetorical situations and writing styles. By engaging with different forms of writing—essays, speeches, articles, and more—students will explore how authors use language to express ideas, persuade, inform, and entertain. Learners will examine a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as finer details such as rhetorical situations, appeals, figurative language, symbolism, and tone. The course prepares students for the College Board AP Exam in May, aligning with the academic expectations of college-level rhetorical analysis courses. Note that acceptance of AP Exam scores for college credit may vary by institution.

Supplies * = Required, the rest are suggestions



School Issued Laptop*	Pencils and blue/black pens*	Highlighters, multi color*	Notebook*	Binder or Accordion File
Headphones/ear buds (only used w/ permission)	Colors of any kind	Index Cards	Looseleaf Paper	Sticky Notes



Grading Categories

Major – 45%

Minor – 25%

Quizzes – 30%

AP Classroom Codes /Class Period

1st – TBA

3rd- TBA

7th- TBA

CB hasn't given me access to this class yet. :(

Types of Assignments

Major Assignments: Tests, Presentations/Speeches, Project Deliverables, Socratic Seminars, Process Essays

Minor Assignments: Reading Checks, Daily Class Assignments, Weekly Participation, AP Classroom Completion, Note Checks: lectures and word/grammar skill of the day

Quizzes: Rhetorical Analysis MC, Vocab, Mechanics

Class Anchor Texts

Digital copies will be provided for each anchor text on Canvas, but is high suggested to add each of these texts to your personal library

- [*Knowing What We Know*](#), by Simon Winchester, 2023
- [*The Encyclopedia of Trouble and Spaciousness*](#), by Rebecca Solnit, 2014
- [*Colors of Nature*](#), edited by Demming and Savoy, 2002
- [*A Modest Proposal*](#), by Jonathan Swift (satirical essay), 1729
- [*The Splendid Cannibals*](#), by Ransom Riggs (fantasy short story), 2016
- [*Braiding Sweetgrass*](#), by Dr. Robin Wall Kimmerer, 2018
- [*There There*](#) *only Prologue & Interlude, by Tommy Orange, 2018
- [*The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail*](#), by Jerome Lawrence and Robert Edwin Lee (play), 1971
- Various Essays by Zora Neale Hurston & Alain Leroy Locke, the Harlem Renaissance, 1920s–30s
- [*The Thesmophoriazuesae*](#), by Aristophanes, 411 BCE (satirical play)



Be bold!




Be curious!



Be tenacious!



Be engaged!

Safe Learning Space	Attendance & Tardies 
<p>Our class will be a safe space for you to make mistakes and learn from them with tenacity and peer support. Embrace the discomfort of the learning process. This space will be one where everyone belongs, and everyone learns. This means that all of our interactions will be respectful of each other, as well as respectful of each other's diverse array of culture, nationality, race, ethnicity, disability, economic status, religion, gender identity, and sexuality. Our learning environment will be one of respect and safety. I encourage you to get to know and learn from each other. Our differing perspectives will make this class and year better.</p>	<p>Regular attendance is crucial for success in this course. This classes content is planned up until the week before the AP Exam. You must follow the school attendance policy. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed and attend lunch office hours.</p> <p>Missing over a certain minutes of class will result in an absence. Repeated tardies, will result in one day of detention. Patterns of tardiness will lead to a conference with a parent or administrator.</p>

Conduct & Discipline Policy

Students are expected to behave in class and online in a considerate, respectful manner that does impede upon the learning environment or violate the rights and human decency of others. There is not exact measure for this, so be kind and do unto others as you want to be treated. In addition to being respectful of others, students should be on time, on task, and prepared to learn every day. Take responsibility for your own learning, language (no profanity), and have a growth mindset. Always do your best and encourage those around you to do the same, hyping each other is better than accepting defeat!

The following are some possible consequences for inappropriate behavior, ranging from minor to serious student handbook violations:

- Conference with teacher, student, and/or parent/guardian.
- Loss of privileges, detention, or in-school suspension.
- Referral to school personnel (administrator, counselor, nurse)
- Behavior plan implementation
- Out-of-school suspension (let's not get here please, just talk to me, I am a human, who cares for your wellbeing outside the class and content)



Academic Integrity

All work in this class is expected to be your own, completed by you for this class. If you receive help from an article, book, website, another person, etc., you must indicate that on the assignment, by using [APA citations](#). This is called citing your sources and avoids getting a 0 for an assignment for plagiarism. When you take credit for someone else's work, it is plagiarism. If you are ever unsure about whether you have correctly given credit to a source, please ask, and I will support you.






AI Usage

We will embrace the responsible use of AI as a learning tool while maintaining academic integrity. For each assignment, I will clearly specify the allowed level of AI usage, ranging from no AI use to full AI collaboration. When AI is used, you must always cite this assistance, provide links to AI interactions, and include your original work. You are expected to follow these guidelines and be prepared to discuss and evaluate AI contributions. This policy will help you learn digital, proper citation practices, and critical thinking while you develop essential writing and analytical skills. Remember, the goal is for everyone to learn and grow in their abilities.

Students will handwrite assignments in class and have a document history and baseline of writing, that can be compared to any assignment suspected of using AI without citation of permittance of use.

“ All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given us. ”
 - Gandalf the Grey in *The Fellowship of the Ring*, by J.R.R. Tolkien

Classroom Procedures & Expectations

<p>Entering Class</p>	<p>Class Materials</p> 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrived to class with assigned reading; already read comprehension reading checks, which are minor grades. • Do not stand and talk in the classroom, socialize in the hallway, at the risk of being tardy. • Upon entering, look at the board and follow the instructions you see. • There will be something on the board every day, in the form of a Do Now or Brain Teaser, be sure to date it. • Be in your seat working on the given task when the bell rings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring all materials listed on the first page of this syllabus. • This includes a charged Chromebook and charging cable. • Have an independent reading book with you, you are expected to be reading a book of choice on your own. Your goal is to read a million words or more this school year. • You may check out books from the classroom library. Please ask before removing any materials from the classroom. • You'll are allowed to read silently if you finish work early.
 <p>Cell Phone</p>	 <p>Hall Pass</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phones will be stored in pouches on the wall, students may earn the privilege to not have to store devices after a 6 week conditional period. • If phones privileges are granted, keep all personal devices out of sight unless permission is given for class work. • Ensure ringer and notifications are silent, when entering the classroom. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Violation: Phone taken for the rest of class. 2. Violation: Phone taken for the day, pick up at office EOD. 3. Violation: Phone sent to office to an admin. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the restroom between classes, if you think you are going to be late, come to class to drop off your stuff, let me know and then go. • No more than two people will be allowed out of the room at a time. • If bathroom behaviors becomes problem, then a sign out / sign in sheet will be implemented and you will have to sign in and out any time you leave the room. Let's not have to do this and just go the bathroom and come back without incident or travels into other realms of the school. • Take a pass when you leave the classroom for any reason, do not require reminded and redirection about this basic expectation.
<p>Food / Drink / Gum</p> 	<p>Leaving Class</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You are allowed to have water in class. • Fill your water bottle between classes. • Do not eat in class, this attracts critters that should be in the garden, not my room. • You may chew gum, but please throw it away in the trash when done. Let's not lose this privilege, by sticking gum wherever you whimsy, that is unhygienic and plan ole' gross. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You will be given two minutes to pack up at the end of class. • Do not pack up early or gather by the door. • If you must stand for physical or mental comfort, then stand by your desk. • You will be dismissed when the bell rings. • If a mess if made, you will not be permitted to leave until it is addressed. I am not your maid, nor is the custodial staff.