

2021- 2022 Syllabus

AP English Language & Composition

Carlos Marquina, M.A.



Welcome to AP English Language & Composition! It is my distinct pleasure to be your instructor this semester! I believe that English should be experienced as an art form- words are the essential units of communication and creativity. It is my hope to help students not only understand the English language, but to master it and use it to create stronger selves and communities. To be successful in this course, students are expected to be active participants. It is my goal to provide a positive and engaging classroom where all students can learn, succeed, and share their thoughts and opinions verbally without fear of embarrassment or ridicule.

Course Description: The AP English Language course provides students with the opportunity to read rigorous texts from various eras and in different genres, analyzing the big ideas of rhetorical situation, claims/evidence, reasoning/organization, and style. Students use given texts to reach the goal of effective writing and analysis: they will read and annotate texts from a critical perspective to craft well-reasoned essays and personal reflections in response.

Course Objective: I hope to increase your appreciation of reading and writing by exposing you to as much diverse texts as possible. I want you to leave this class feeling confident about your academic abilities and to truly enjoy reading and writing. By the end of this course, you will be able to master the following big ideas:

- **Rhetorical Situation:** Individuals write within a particular situation and make strategic writing choices based on that situation.
- **Claims and Evidence:** Writers make claims about subjects, rely on evidence that supports the reasoning that justifies the claim, and often acknowledge or respond to other, possibly opposing, arguments.
- **Reasoning and Organization:** Writers guide understanding of a text's lines of reasoning and claims through that text's organization and integration of evidence.
- **Style:** The rhetorical situation informs the strategic stylistic choices that writers make.

Contact Information:

Preferred Mode of Communication: TEAMS Chat or Email

Email: Carlos.Marquina@houstonisd.org

Web Address: <http://www.houstonisd.org/Carlos.Marquina>

Room: EECHS 242

Materials:

- HISD issued laptop and charger
- 1 composition notebook
- Pencil/Pen

Grade Weight and Grading Scale:

Formative- 60% (Daily Grades, Quizzes, Homework)

Summative- 40% (Projects, Tests, Essays)

(A=100-90)

(B=89-80)

(C=79-75)

(D=74-70)

(F=69-0)

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Honor Code: East Early College High School embodies a spirit of mutual trust and intellectual honesty that is central to the very nature of learning and represents the highest possible expression of shared values among the members of the school community. The core values underlying and reflected in the Honor Code are:

- Academic honesty is demonstrated by students when the ideas and the writing of others are properly cited; students submit their own work for tests and assignments without unauthorized assistance; students do not provide unauthorized assistance to others; and students report their research or accomplishments accurately
- Respect for others and the learning process to demonstrate academic honesty
- Trust in others to act with academic honesty as a positive community-building force in the school
- Responsibility is recognized by all to demonstrate their best effort to prepare and complete academic tasks
- Fairness and equity are demonstrated so that every student can experience an academic environment that is free from the injustices caused by any form of intellectual dishonesty
- Integrity of all members of the school community as demonstrated by a commitment to academic honesty and support of our quest for authentic learning.

Policy on Electronic Devices: Once students enter classroom, all electronic devices should be silenced and put away such that they are not visible. These include cell phones, headphones, ear buds, etc. Students may only use electronic devices if authorized by teacher. Teachers may use electronic devices for instruction purposes at their discretion.

Make Up and Late Work: Homework and daily class work will not be given full credit, if accepted late. Evaluation on late work will be done on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the teacher. Make-up work will not be made-up during class time; this time will be reserved for planned instruction. It is the responsibility of the student to get make-up work and to return it to the instructor in a timely manner.

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Student Success: Expect to spend at least twice as many hours per week outside of class as you do in class studying the course content. Additional time will be required for written assignments. The assignments provided will help you use your study hours wisely. Successful completion of this course requires a combination of the following:

- Reading the textbook
- Attending class in person and/or online
- Completing assignments
- Participating in class activities

There is no short cut for success in this course; it requires reading (and probably re-reading) and studying the material using the course objectives as a guide.

As your teacher, it is my responsibility to:

- Provide the grading scale and detailed grading formula explaining how student grades are to be derived
- Facilitate an effective learning environment through learner-centered instructional techniques
- Provide a description of any special projects or assignments
- Inform students of policies such as attendance, withdrawal, tardiness, and making up assignments
- Provide the course outline and class calendar that will include a description of any special projects or assignments
- Arrange to meet with individual students before and after class as required

As a student, it is your responsibility to:

- Attend class on time
- Participate actively by reviewing course material, interacting with classmates, and responding promptly in your communication with me
- Read and comprehend the textbook
- Complete the required assignments and exams
- Ask for help when there is a question or problem
- Keep copies of all paperwork, including this syllabus, handouts, and all assignments
- Attain a raw score of at least 50% on the departmental final exam