**AP English Language and Composition Syllabus**

We will be using Remind to stay in contact. Text @8ab8a3b to the number 81010.

\*Parents and students may join!

**St. Clair County High School 2017-2018**

**Instructor**: Holly Sutherland

**Email**: holly.sutherland@sccboe.org

 

This QR Code will take you directly to apstudent.collegeboard.org. This site is important for many reasons. Here you can explore AP in general and look up information such as what scores specific universities require for college credit. This is also where you will go in July to access your exam scores. Visit this site and create an account! ☺

**Help!?!**

If you need help, contact me before or after school, or via email. I check email twice a day and will reply to emails within 48 hours.

**Students are encouraged to drop by before or after school with questions.**

**Course Description**:

AP Language and Composition is a college level course designed to help students “write effectively and confidently in their college courses across the curriculum and in their professional and personal lives,” (The College Board *AP English Description*, May 2007, May 2008, pg. 6). This course provides rigorous instruction in reading, writing, and rhetoric. Students are exposed to a variety of texts from a wide range of authors and historical contexts and will be expected to provide written and/or oral analysis. Through close reading of nonfiction prose selections and frequent formal and informal writing, students will not only broaden their awareness of rhetoric and language, but also develop their abilities to use language and text with strategy and purpose, thus strengthening their composition abilities. Readings in this class will include, but not be limited to, short stories, essays, novels, letters, speeches and sermons, images, and poetry, and while the majority of the reading is nonfiction, some fictional pieces will be incorporated. Amid the reading and writing assignments in this course, students will spend time preparing for the AP English Language and Composition Exam, through which they may earn advanced placement, college credit, or both. This course is constructed in accordance with the guidelines put forth in the *AP English Course Description*.

Again, this is a college-level course; therefore, students **must be prepared** for a rigorous and quick-paced environment. Summer work is required for all participants as well as willingness to work the entire class. Additionally, students will need to work at home. **All of your work must be your best effort and must be of the highest quality.**

**Course Objectives:**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

* Critically analyze texts of varying form and purpose
* Recognize and utilize rhetorical strategies and stylistic devices
* Analyze, formulate, and develop arguments
* Compose clear, coherent prose
* Read and write personal narratives, short stories, letters, essays, poems, reports, research, evaluation, critiques/persuasive writing
* Actively and consistently incorporate newly acquired grammar skills and vocabulary into composition and writing
* Students will be trained in stylistic analysis, logical reasoning, and communication skills necessary for success on the AP English Language and Composition Exam

**Required Texts**:

* Aufses, Robin Dissin, Lawrence Scanlon, Renee H. Shea. *The Language*

 *of Composition*. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin’s, 2013.

* *Columbine* by Dave Cullen

*The Language of Composition* will be provided by SCCHS; however, students may be required to obtain additional texts. Supplemental texts will be used as well, including essays, poems, songs, political cartoons, visual texts, films, and articles. This is a college course; therefore, many of the readings address adult themes and/or disturbing situations.

**Mature reading and mature readers are necessary components for this course.**

**Required Materials:**

* A BIG binder
* College-ruled, loose leaf paper
* 1-subject college ruled spiral notebook OR composition notebook (for Dialectical Journal)
* Sticky notes (reading strategies, marking pages/passages)
* Spiral Bound Index Cards
* Blue and/or black ink pens (for formal writing and tests)
* Colored pens (red, green, purple, etc.) for annotations and peer editing
* Highlighters
* One pack of copy paper
* **There is an AP exam fee of $85/55 (free/reduced lunch). The fee must be paid before Christmas break!**

**Grading Policy:**

The student’s grade each nine weeks will be averaged on the basis of the number of points earned divided by the total number of points possible. Grades will come from a variety of different activities, including tests, quizzes, writing assignments, classwork, homework, and participation.

**Technology Requirement:**

From Web-based assignments and material to email, this course requires consistent access to the Internet, word processing, and a printer. Not having access to a computer will not be an acceptable excuse for not having completed assignments by the due date. Make plans ahead of time to access a computer and printer. A flash drive is handy for saving documents at home and then printing them on campus.

**Do NOT ask me to print your paper on the day an assignment is due or to go elsewhere to print it. Think ahead!**

**Class Rules and Classroom Procedures:**

Appropriate behavior and respect for others is key to student success and learning. Students who are tardy, disruptive, disrespectful to others, or in any way impeding the learning process in my classroom will experience one or more of the following consequences: verbal warning, student conference, parental contact, referral to Assistant Principal, or a schedule change to a less challenging course.

Students are expected to follow all district and school policies as stated in their student handbook and posted in the classroom.

1. No talking when someone else is talking. Raise your hand if you have something to say if we are not in the middle of open discussion.
2. No violent words or actions against another person/group – even those not in the room.
3. Daily participation grades are awarded for class discussions.

*Procedures:*

* Students should be in their seats by the time the tardy bell rings. Failure to comply will result in students being written up for excessive tardiness.
* Students should immediately begin the daily Bellringer and Icebreaker activities.
* Bellringers will be checked once every 9 weeks. This will be a 100 point grade.
* All classwork and homework should be turned into the wire basket located on the instructor’s desk, unless otherwise directed.
* **You may have food/drinks in Ms. Sutherland’s class, unless it becomes messy!!**
* **Cell Phone Policy:**
	+ Use of cell phones and text messaging devices are prohibited during class time if I find such use disruptive to the class.
	+ I expect there will be times when we use devices for research and assignments.
	+ Be smart. Use etiquette and manners.
	+ During an exam, your cell phone should be stored securely in such a way that it cannot be seen or used.
	+ The visible presence of such a device during an exam may result in a zero for the exam and is considered de facto evidence of cheating.
* **Restroom/Hall Pass Policy**:
* Students will have three (3) restroom passes PER NINE WEEKS.
* That is twelve (12) passes for the entire year.
* If they are used up in the first week of the grading period, the student will not be given more until the new grading period begins.
* Hall passes will not be issued during lectures, tests, quizzes, or other times that interfere with learning.
* Ms. Sutherland will mark these passes next to the student’s name in her grade book.
* Anyone with medical needs should bring a parent/doctor note to Ms. Sutherland.

**Academic Honesty**

* Cheating on any activity, assignment, or test will result in a grade of ZERO for all parties involved. Plagiarism will also result in a ZERO.
* During a test, talking = cheating. NO TALKING
* Using your phone during a test/quiz is also cheating.
* You are responsible for ensuring that anything you borrow is properly cited.
* Punishment for any form of academic dishonesty, including plagiarism, will range from failure (0) on the assignment(s) in question to dismissal from the course.

**Make-Up Work Policy:**

Late work is not accepted. This is an advanced course. You are expected to do your work on time. You are also expected to attend class. In rigorous courses such as these, it is best not to be absent. Keeping up with your workload will be difficult enough, but ***it’s easier to keep up than to catch up***. In the rare event that you miss class, please adhere to the following make-up work policies.

**You are expected to:**

* Get the make-up Bellringer, Icebreaker, etc. **from a classmate**.
* Ask a classmate if you may copy notes that Ms. Sutherland wrote on the board or anything significant.
* Ask Ms. Sutherland for help.

**What Now?**

After reading this information, you will be required to:

1. Give this syllabus to your parent/ guardian to read. Have them complete and sign the Syllabus Signature Sheet so you can return it to me by the due date.
2. Sign the Syllabus Signature Sheet, which your instructor will keep on file.

**Disclaimer:**

For the betterment of the learning experience, the instructor reserves the right to revise the syllabus. Students will be notified of any changes with ample time to make adjustments.

**Words to the Wise:**

1. We will have a lot of homework – mostly reading assignments. We will not use class time to summarize and review homework assignments. Rather, you will use what you’ve read to complete classroom assignments, papers, projects, quizzes, and tests and to contribute to class discussions. You might have random quizzes on homework reading, but typically I will know if you’ve done the reading by your performance elsewhere. There’s too much to accomplish to read during class – you’re AP students, which means you’re smarter or you work harder than the average teenager, and I expect you to stay current on your reading. And if you don’t stay current, your grade will suffer.
2. Be sure to “read to remember.” This means you should do whatever it takes to be able to recall what you’ve read. This might include any or all of the following: annotations, highlighting, bookmarking, sticky notes, etc.

\*\*\*To view the syllabus: Go to scchs.sccboe.org; click “school staff”; select Holly Sutherland, then click on my forms at the top of the page ☺

**Syllabus Signature Sheet**

I acknowledge that I have read the syllabus for AP English Language and Composition. I understand the contents of this syllabus and acknowledge that I am responsible for adhering to class rules and procedures. I also understand the exam fee of $85/55.

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Student Signature Date

I acknowledge that I have read the syllabus for AP English Language and Composition. I understand the contents of this syllabus and acknowledge that my child is responsible for adhering to class rules and procedures. If he/she chooses not to meet these expectations, I am willing to support the teacher in her commitment to carry out the aforementioned/school policy consequences. I also acknowledge that my child will be reading classic and modern literature and discussing the topics covered within the texts. Some of these topics may involve various mature themes.

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Parent/Guardian Signature Date

**Parent Information (to be filled out by parent/guardian):**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Student: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Email address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Other important information: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_