

Advanced Placement English 2017/2018  
Ms. Vachris/Ms. Weinstein

The purpose of the Advanced Placement English course is to examine literature the way a college course would. Therefore, it is **imperative** that you do the reading. The works are specifically chosen to help you prepare for A.P. free response questions. The goal is to make you accustomed to a real college course and the A.P. exam.

To this end you must read the following book over the summer: *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Brontë

It doesn't really matter what version you read of this book as long as you read the full, unabridged version of the story. Do the reading! It is advised that you buy your own copy and take notes on the book as you read. Read it completely and master it well.

You will be required to submit **two** short papers, using chapter citations, along with the reading of the book.

- 1) A bildungsroman, or coming-of-age novel, recounts the psychological or moral development of its protagonist from youth to maturity, when this character recognizes his or her place in the world. Select a single pivotal moment in the psychological or moral development of the protagonist of the bildungsroman, *Jane Eyre*. Then write a well-organized essay that analyzes how that single moment shapes the meaning of the work as a whole. Be sure to mention the literary devices, such as theme, tone, syntax, diction, mood, characterization, etc. that Brontë uses to portray the psychological development.
- 2) Works of literature often depict acts of betrayal. Friends and even family may betray a protagonist; main characters may likewise be guilty of treachery or may betray their own values. In a well written essay, analyze the nature of the betrayal in *Jane Eyre* and show how it contributes to the meaning of the work as a whole. Once again, be sure to mention the literary devices, such as theme, tone, syntax, diction, mood, characterization, etc. that Brontë uses to portray the betrayal.

Each paper should be approximately three pages in length. If you have any questions, see me before the end of the school year. A hard copy of this paper must be handed in the first day of class, as well as sent to tunitin.com. You will be given the turnitin class ID number and password on the first day of school.

In addition, you will read different works during the year some of which may include: Shakespeare, *Othello*; James, *The Turn of the Screw*; Williams, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*; Williams, *A Streetcar Named Desire*; Ibsen, *A Doll's House*; Camus, *The Stranger*; Sophocles, *Electra*; Twain, *Pudd'nhead Wilson*

The teacher reserves the right to alter the titles used in this course at any time. We will also be doing the usual elements of an English class: vocabulary and spelling, writing, extensive poetry units, and a senior term paper.

**Good Luck!**