

Welcome! This course has been designed to help you through the challenges that lie ahead for you: the Advanced Placement Exam in Literature and Composition and your academic life beyond high school. Along the way we will be reading and discussing a variety of literature that will provide a basis for you to excel at your required exams and assist you in growing as a perceptive reader and writer. **All students will be prepared to take the Literature and Composition Advanced Placement exam.**

Summer Assignments: Look for an invitation to a summer Google Classroom for the course. All summer assignments and materials will be posted there. There are 3. One for *Foster* by Claire Keegan, one for *Emma* by Jane Austen and one that asks you to review/familiarize yourself with literary terms.

Opportunities for College Credit:

1. The Advanced Placement Exam in Literature and Composition is given in early May 2026. Students scoring 3, 4, or 5 may earn college credit (4 or 5 for competitive colleges). Sign up is in early fall. Cost is approx \$100.
2. SUNY College Credit. Students may also earn SUNY credit through Columbia-Greene Community College for two 3 credit courses, by enrolling in the Fall. Sign up through Columbia-Greene Community College at the start of the school year. Cost is approx \$200/course.

Students may select one or both of the above options, or opt to take the class for the experience and decide against AP credit or college credit. However, expectations and in-class requirements for all students enrolled in the course remain the same.

Works of Study:

Assorted Short Fiction & Poetry

Foster - Claire Keegan

Emma - Jane Austen

The Crucible - Arthur Miller

Hamlet - William Shakespeare

Doubt - John Patrick Shanley

Snow Falling on Cedars - David Guterson

Expectations:

1. *We take our class time seriously*, because that is where the majority of the learning happens. Students in AP are expected to be conscientious and dedicated to their own improvement. We read, write and discuss daily. You may be expected to read or complete assignments outside of class, but this is generally not onerous.
2. Please have your charged Chromebook in class with you everyday, as well as your English notebook, folder, pens/pencils and loose leaf paper.
3. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to make up missed work. Please consult Google Classroom first before asking me. The class agenda and materials will be posted there. If you need assistance, stop by during Advisory.

4. **MOST IMPORTANTLY, using outside sources to complete coursework (summer assignment and any assignment throughout the year) is allowed only if specified** on the assignment. Students who resort to using outside materials are shortchanging themselves by circumventing the thinking and purpose of the coursework.

Grading Your Writing: This year, we have welcomed more students into 11AP than ever before, yet specific feedback on writing assignments is essential. The list of comments below is provided for you to understand where your writing is falling on the scale. In class, following writing assignments, I will be providing sample essays and detailed explanations of the best thinking and writing approaches to the question. Common pitfalls will be discussed, and targeted instruction will address the areas in need of improvement. **Students will need to take the lead in comparing their writing to the samples provided and adjust accordingly.** Students who feel they need further guidance are encouraged to see me to discuss their papers.

The majority of the writing in the course is timed writing practice. Below is the rubric scale (we will be looking closely and learning the rubrics early on) and how it is converted to grades in the gradebook. Unfortunately, there are not usually opportunities for multiple drafts, as we have just a few months to practice our ability to think nimbly and execute essays in a short amount of time.

SCORE	SCALE	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
6	1-4-1	100	100	100	100	OUTSTANDING
5	1-3-1 1-4-0	95	93	93	93	PROFICIENT
4	1-3-0	90	87	87	87	EFFECTIVE
3	1-2-0	85	80	80	80	DEVELOPING
2	1-1-0 0-2-0	65	60	60	60	BASIC
1	1-0-0 0-1-0	60	55	50	50	WEAK

Points of Emphasis in English 11AP:

Close reading - What is said explicitly and implicitly? What conclusions or inferences can be drawn?

Literary Elements - Do we recognize, comprehend and appreciate the use of figurative language and other literary techniques? Can we explain how their use elevates the work, or underscores meaning?

Structure - What effect is created through the arrangement of chapters, scenes and events?

Point of view - How does it affect purpose and content?

Identification of central and lesser themes - How are they developed over the course of the work? How does this work connect to other works with similar themes? How are literary elements working to underscore and support our themes?

Language Use - connotation, style and diction, figurative language.

How can we apply what we learn from our reading to make our writing more effective?

Poetry - Improving our familiarity and comfort with poetry. If you can analyze a poem and explain your thinking, there is no analysis in English (or any other subject) that you cannot do.

Signatures

Please return this page to me on the first day of school.

Plagiarism: Please understand that as a department we will not tolerate plagiarism in any form. By plagiarism we mean the use of anyone else's words or ideas without proper citation. This may include, but is not limited to:

- Copying all or portions of a paper from book or internet sources
- Using a paper of one's own from another class or year (self-plagiarism)
- Submitting work created by or copied from other students or parents
- Submitting work created wholly or in part by an A.I. program

We have taken a moment to discuss plagiarism. We understand that in the completion of work that requires outside sources, these sources must always be cited, and students must always submit work that is their own. Failure to do so will lead to a zero.

Parent/Guardian _____

Student _____

Outside sources: By signing below, I commit to adhere to the requirement that I will not seek assistance from any outside sources in the completion of any and all work for the class, beginning with the summer assignment. I understand that unless the teacher directly specifies that it is okay, I should assume that I am not to consult outside sources.

Student _____

Summer Assignments: I understand that the summer assignments will be counted in the first quarter and will be an integral part of our first weeks of class. I understand that I will be quizzed on some of the material immediately upon our return to school. Furthermore, I understand that as I am already enrolled in the course as of June, if I do not complete the summer assignment, there will be no extensions given.

Student _____

Materials:

Please have blue/black ink pens and pencils

A dedicated folder for English

1 subject notebook for class (can be one section of a multi-sectioned notebook)

Highlighters - multicolor