

Advanced Placement English Language and Composition/Uma Eng 101 Dual Enrollment English

Instructor: Mr. Pelletier, rm 125
Room: 125
Email Address: ppelletier@augustaschools.org

AP Language and Composition is a class designed to help you build upon English language arts skills necessary for success in higher education. During the course of the year, you will be challenged in a variety of ways. This overview lays out the general framework you will be following to build upon language arts skills including:

- Comprehension of texts (non-fiction)
- Identification of writing styles and concerns
- Organization and development of effective writing
- Communication of ideas (both written and oral)

The main premise behind taking this class is for you to earn a successful score on the College Board AP exam given in the Spring of 2022. However, regardless of the exam outcome, there are many benefits to taking this challenging class as you develop as a reader, writer and communicator.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING: In addition to the AP Lang/Comp curriculum, we will also be working with the UMA ENG 101 curriculum which is writing-based. For those of you who enroll with UMA, you will be able to receive college credit (3 CEUs). Your UMA grade will be based upon a series of formal writing projects that will be conducted throughout the year.

Reading Materials

Textbooks: *Subjects/Strategies* by Paul Eschholz and Alfred Rosa

Nonfiction: *In Cold Blood* by Truman Capote
Into the Wild by John Krakauer

Fiction: *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald
The Crucible (play adaptation of the Salem Witch Hunts)

In addition, there are a number of short readings (stories and articles), primarily non-fiction, that will be distributed to you.

There will be opportunities throughout the year to examine readings that are fiction-based; however, they will be anchored with non-fiction writings.

Overview of Assignments/Assessments/Grading

Your grade in this class is broken down into the following:

- Reading 30%
- Writing 40%

- Vocabulary and grammar exercises are 10%
- Quizzes and Tests 20%
- In addition, significant assignments will also be assessed based upon HOW (Habits Of Work) Please refer to the handout that describes what this is.

Note: your term grade is arrived at by the following: 80% (reading, writing, vocabulary and grammar) + 20% (HOW)

Expect to write an essay (in-class or out) every two to three weeks. Note that the research synthesis paper will be weighted more heavily than other paper assignments.

Quarter One: Introduction to Rhetoric

We will begin by examining a series of writings, photos and films with the intent of understanding the *purposes, strategies* and *audiences* these works are geared towards. Activities will include close reading (annotating) and written and oral reflections in response to them. In addition, specific modes of writing development (the narrative, description, comparison/contrast) will be practiced.

Quarter Two: Writing Strategies

We will continue writing skills development by examining readings that are *cause and effect* and *classification* by design. Both modes of development will be practiced in essay form. In addition, you will be introduced to MLA research (strategies and formatting). There will be some time spent examining the AP Language and Composition test. In addition, we will read John Krakauer's *Into the Wild*, as well.

Quarter Three: Introduction to Argumentation

A significant project you will be asked to complete is the research paper – a necessary piece of writing at the college level. Here is where we will examine how writers incorporate primary and secondary source materials into their writings. AP exam written argumentative test-taking strategies will be explored, as well. You will be asked to read a second book as part of the independent reading project. We will also examine Truman Capote's famous narrative *In Cold Blood*.

Quarter Four: The Exam and Beyond

Final AP exam preparations will be the focus with a full-length exam practice. We will be reading F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* together as a class, as well. The year will conclude with essay writing tips, tricks and exercises in preparation for the senior year college applications process.

Other Bits and Pieces

Throughout the year, we will be working on the following:

- SAT test-taking strategies and vocabulary
- Literary terms (identification and application)
- Grammar exercises to strengthen writing

Nuts and Bolts

The following is a series of pointers, tips and rules to pay attention to. Remember the cardinal rule: *If in doubt, please ask me!*

Assignments

Homework: must be turned in by assigned due date to receive full credit. If not, then should be made up to receive a passing grade (70%). Otherwise, you will receive a zero.

Essays/Writing: drafts/final copies must be turned in by assigned due dates. If not, then they will only receive partial credit at best!

Quizzes and Tests: must be made up within 48hrs upon your return to school and my class. If not, then a “zero” will be assigned.

Classroom Rules

-Respect the right of each and everyone in the class to have a productive learning environment by not causing unnecessary disruptions (i.e. talking when I or one of your peers is talking about something classroom related)

-It is not appropriate to argue with or question me about a specific issue such as a grade on an assignment while I am conducting class. Please reserve this type of discussion for a time when we can speak privately about it. I *am* generally a person whom you can negotiate with; however, do so when it is appropriate.

Other Items

-If you are experiencing difficulties with specific assignments, please see me! Don't fall behind.

-Please review the Cony H.S. policies regarding plagiarism found in your student handbook.

Additional Notes

You need to have the following items to keep yourself organized in this class:

- 3 ring binder
- note paper
- flash drive
- pen/pencil
- Highlighting marker (for annotations of reading materials)

A special note about electronics in the classroom

You will have a busy year ahead developing and practicing the reading and writing skills necessary to prepare you for the AP exam. That said, electronics can interfere with this, so please consider the following:

- Electronics (phones, laptop) may only be used by permission
- Use of electronic devices without permission will affect your grade in this class