**AP Language and Composition**

**Course Information**

**Teacher:** Sarah Ogborn (sarah.ogborn@chsd117.org)

**Website/Calendar:** Ogborn.weebly.com

**Twitter:** @SarahOgborn

**Phone:** 847-395-9352

**Availability:**

* Before and after school by appointment
* 2nd, 4th, 7th hours

Welcome to AP Language and Comp. This is a challenging class for students with a special talent and interest in reading, writing, and speaking. Although the class requires more time and effort than a regular English class, an increased confidence in your ability to use language and a greater appreciation for literature are the rewards.

**Materials:**

* Paper
* A folder and/or a 3-ring binder
* Highlighters and/or post-its

**Course Objectives:**

* Analyze and interpret samples of good writing, identifying and explaining an author’s use of rhetorical strategies and techniques
* Apply effective strategies and techniques in your own writing
* Create and sustain arguments based on readings, research and/or personal experience
* Write for a variety of purposes
* Produce expository, analytical and argumentative compositions that introduce a complex central idea and develop it with appropriate evidence drawn from primary and/or secondary sources, cogent explanations and clear transitions
* Demonstrate understanding and mastery of standard written English as well as stylistic maturity in your own writings
* Demonstrate understanding of the conventions of citing primary and secondary sources
* Move effectively through the stages of the writing process, with careful attention to inquiry and research, drafting, revising, editing and review
* Write thoughtfully about your own process of composition
* Revise a work to make it suitable for a different audience
* Analyze image as text
* Evaluate and incorporate reference documents into research papers

**Course of Study:**

* **Semester One:**
  + Introduction to Rhetoric
  + Early American and Foundational Texts
  + Romanticism and *The Scarlet Letter*
  + Transcendentalism
  + Realism
* **Semester Two:**
  + *The Great Gatsby*
  + *Death of the Salesman*
  + Satire
  + SAT and AP preparation
* **Both Semesters:**
  + Rhetorical Analysis
  + Argumentation
  + Synthesis

**Class Rules and Expectations:**

* You must devote regular time to class, approximately 30 minutes a night. However, I promise not to waste your time with inconsequential assignments. Every assignment has a purpose.
* You must be willing to accept challenging reading and writing assignments without complaining about their difficulty.
* You must participate actively in small group and whole class discussions. You will receive points for your participation
* You must consistently come to class prepared and turn in all work on time. I do not accept late work. **Late assignments will receive no credit.**
* You must be able to work independently, carefully scheduling your time to complete long-term assignments.
* You are responsible for promptly making up work you missed when you were absent. The student handbook states that students are allowed one day to make up work because of an excused absence. Please contact a class “friend” first about the make-up work or check the class calendar on my website. **All assignments are attached to the calendar**. You can also contact me about make-up work. You may also be required to complete an assignment to receive points you missed for a class discussion. **Remember that you also need to make up the work you missed if you were gone on a field trip or for an athletic event, so don’t forget to ask about that work prior to your absence.**
* You must treat others, both your fellow students and me, with respect and sensitivity. Only such caring behavior will produce the kind of atmosphere where all students are capable of learning from each other—an essential part of an AP class.
* Finally, you must understand that as a student in a weighted class, you will be graded by rigorous standards.

**Handbook Policy:**

For more information on the following, please reference the student handbook page numbers: attendance (page 14-16​) and controversial curriculum (page 62​).

**Allergies:**

When our curriculum involves the handling and/or consumption of food, staff will notify students and parents/guardians in advance. Accommodations and/or alternative assignments will be made available for students with documented allergies.  Please contact the classroom teacher or administration with any questions.

**Video/Film:**

In this course, students will be required to complete assignments that require filming and/or photographing of other students and/or themselves. This may involve the posting of class projects to classroom areas on the Internet. Please contact me if there are questions or concerns.

**Grading Criteria:**

Grades are weighted in an AP class. Your semester grade consists of the following categories:

35% Homework and Participation

25% Major Assessments: Quizzes/Tests, Formal Essays, Projects, and Presentations

20% AP Preparation: Multiple Choice and Writing

20% Semester One Final Exam (Objective and Essay)/ Semester Two Research Project

**Other Important Information:**

* + Google Classroom
    - 3rd hour: njhd8x
    - 8th hour: piiwin

**Chromebooks and BYOD Policies**

**The Courtesy Policy:**

* Students may not use devices while anyone (teacher or student) is attempting to provide them with information at the center of the classroom.
* Students may not use devices for personal reasons.
* No FOOD or DRINKS in the classroom, with the exception of water. Water must be kept on the floor, capped or closed, and away from electronic devices at all times.
* Feel free to bring your own devices, including:
  + Smartphones
  + iPads
  + E-readers that have internet capabilities
  + Laptops
* Be sanitary. Use hand sanitizer and wipe down the screen when necessary.
* Use of these devices is a privilege, not a right.

**Please sign and return this form**

\*\*\*Signing this form confirms that the Student and Parent/Guardian have received and read the course information for AP Language and Composition.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_