

**Mrs. Gildner (Pedersen last year)**  
**AP Literature and Composition**

Welcome Students and Parents!

The focus of AP Literature and Composition is to develop each student's ability to use the writing process in response to a literature-based curriculum. The course will integrate reading, writing, listening, analysis, and technology into lessons and assessments, thereby assisting students in preparing for college and the rigorous Advanced Placement Literature and Composition Exam.

For the AP exam, students must be able to analyze literature in a mature and thoughtful manner. Specifically, they will have to analyze poetry, short fiction, and major works of literature, applying their knowledge of literary analysis terms when they take both the multiple choice and essay portions of the test. The class will cover and include the following:

- Close reading of literature (short and long fiction, drama (plays), and poetry)
- Analysis of literary devices used in literature:
  - Oral discussions
  - Written analysis of various works
- Writing Analytical Essays:
  - On varied genres
  - Working on timed writing and student's voice in writing

Students will be expected to read and analyze college level literature and write at a college level. Please note: This class will not teach you how to write an essay. Rather, it will refine the skills you have already acquired from previous honors and AP courses.

**Course Expectations:**

By enrolling in this course, you are making a yearlong commitment with the expectation that you will take the AP exam offered in May as part of fulfilling the requirements of the course. All the work leading up the exam will serve as preparation for that specific test. Regardless, all students will take a similar exam offered by the instructor to serve as a final for the class. The College Board has changed the writing rubric from 9 point scale to a 6. We will review this.

**The Ap Lit Exam consists of the following components:**

Part I:

Multiple Choice (60 min) Approx. 55 questions (45% of final score)

Typically there are 4 passages followed by various multiple choice questions in literary analysis. Two prose and 2 poems make up that content.

Part II:

Free Response Questions (FRQ) (2 hours-3 essays)

#1 Poem (Classic or Contemporary) 18%

#2 Prose (Classic or Contemporary) 18%

#3 Open-Ended (on a work of your choice based on what the prompt requires) 18%  
Each essay is 40 min each. 55% of final score  
The test is skill based and not content based.

### **Materials:**

Your school issued textbook: *Bedford: Literature and Composition-Essential Skills (Purple)*  
**You will also need your school issued Chromebook EVERYDAY as most work is done digitally in class.**

The following is a list (subject to change) of works (novels/plays) that we will be reading this year. Some we will read as a whole class, and others will be read at home often simultaneously. I HIGHLY RECOMMEND that you purchase a copy of your own, or download the material for easier annotations and study. Most will be provided by our school textbook office, and I will provide a digital version via GC.

1. *Hamlet* by William Shakespeare
2. *1984* by George Orwell
3. *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelly
4. *Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger
5. *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley
6. *Animal Farm* by George Orwell
7. Poetry and short stories

This course requires that you READ. The more exposure to all types of works, authors, and themes will help you hone your skills as a writer and thinker. The end goal for many may be the exam; however, for me, it is your understanding and enjoyment of literature.

You will be asked to read much of the required works at home, while we read another in class. Discussion and input is imperative to your success. Participate. It will be of great use in Socratic seminars, and eventually, in your writing.

### **Grading:**

Your grades in this course will be based on class work, homework (including reading, writing, speaking and listening assignments, class discussions, and assessments (including essays). Grades work on a point system, where tests and assessments will be worth more than the homework.

Scale: A=90-100% B=80-89% C=70-79% D=60-69% F=below 60%

### **Homework/Classwork**

Homework and classwork will consist of (but not be limited to) annotation and reading, poetry analysis, short paragraphs, Dialectical Journals, and essays. Homework will prompt the discussion for the following day, therefore it must be done. MOST work will be turned in on Google Classroom, and SOME of your written work will be done in groups. If you are on

campus for a school sponsored event, or need to leave for sports, homework must be turned in prior to that day or by that morning. Late work will not be accepted unless due to an illness or an absence. I will not take things for "half-credit." Please write ABSENT on all absent work OR TYPE IT IN THE NOTES SECTION OF GC. All absent work is due in the amount of time you were out. (Missed 2 days, you will have 2 days.) I will use REMIND quite a bit to help communicate your needs while absent, and email is another option as well. It is your job to get your make up work.

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE: ABOUT 90% OF ALL WORK (CLASSWORK AND HOMEWORK) WILL BE TURNED IN VIA GOOGLE CLASSROOM. ALL STUDENTS SHOULD BE AWARE OF THE DUE DATE AND TIME OF ASSIGNMENTS. ASSIGNMENTS CAN NO LONGER BE TURNED IN WITH A NOTE ATTACHED THAT SIMPLY APOLOGIZES FOR THE LATE ASSIGNMENT, WITH AN EXPECTATION THAT IT WILL BE GRADED FOR HALF CREDIT. GC WILL BLOCK STUDENTS AFTER THE ASSIGNED TIME, THEREOF, STUDENTS MUST SPEAK WITH ME FIRST IF THERE IS A CONFLICT BEFORE THE WORK IS DUE TO BE CONSIDERED FOR HALF CREDIT. PLEASE INITIAL HERE.**

### Classroom Behavior:

I do not anticipate behavior issues in an AP course, but failure to do the work will result in a conference with myself, counselor, and possibly a parent at the semester. Your behavior includes responsibility. If you are a chronic cell phone user in class, you will need to break that behavior for this course. Cell phones are used for educational purposes only. During class, please do not have them out and use them. If you have work downloaded on your phone, please let me know prior to class. I will be collecting phones on the day of any exam or FRQ. They will be in plain sight during testing. Cheating and plagiarizing will not be tolerated and will result in a 0 on the assignment. Please refer to the image on the right for what AI plagiarism looks like on writing assignments and homework.

We are all learners in this endeavor of AP Literature. I hope to learn and grow as your instructor as I guide you through what will be a wonderful year.

Thank you,

Mrs. Gildner  
Ayesha.gildner@cnsd.k12.ca.us

**A.I AND PLAGIARISM**

- Student plugged prompt into A.I, copied response and submitted to teacher.
- A.I created a response. Student read, edited, adjusted, and submitted
- Student wrote main ideas, A.I generated a draft and offered feedback to improve.
- Student consulted internet/A.I for ideas, then wrote and submitted.
- Student wrote all assignment content without consulting A.I or the internet.

Adapted from the work of Matt Miller. Ditch That Textbook

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read and understand the AP Literature course syllabus. I am also agreeing to its contents and requirements.

Student signature:

Parent signature:

Parent email:

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