



AP English Literature and Composition

COURSE OVERVIEW

Students in this introductory college-level course read, carefully analyze and write about imaginative literature (fiction, poetry and drama) from various periods. Students engage in close reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature to deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, themes as well as its use of figurative imagery, and symbolism. Writing assignments include expository, analytical and argumentative essays that require students to analyze and interpret literary works.

As this is a college-level course, performance expectations are appropriately high, and the workload is challenging. Students are expected to commit to a minimum of five hours of course work per week outside of class. Often, this work involves long-term writing and reading assignments, so effective time management is important. Because of the demanding curriculum, students must bring to the course sufficient command of mechanical conventions and an ability to read and discuss genres.

SUMMER TASK:

Students are encouraged to read and annotate the longer works listed below, starting with **KING LEAR**, our first text. You are expected to annotate the text, commenting on the following in each Act:

Characters:	Identify the characters. Make notes on actions, thoughts and interactions. What role do you think he/she plays?
Setting:	Identify the setting. Comment on the time period and identify examples that reflect this time period.

Plot and Structure:	Summarize each and try to identify the part of the plot using Freytag's plot outline ... exposition, rising action, climax, falling action or resolution.
Narrator and Speaker:	Identify the different Points of view and the biases they present.
Imagery, Symbols ,Word Choice and Figurative Devices:	Identify any literary and figurative devices observed and explain their effect and functions.
Comparison:	Who or what is the writer comparing in the text?

PLEASE NOTE:Your annotations will guide our class discussions and subsequently conclude in a graded assignment.Use post-its, index cards or Google Docs to explain your answers.

Readings:

Short stories: A&P,The Story of an Hour,Birthday Party,The Destroyers,Girl,To Build a Fire, Pit and the Pendulum,A Rose for Emily,A Sound of Thunder,Haunting Olivia,Popular Mechanics,Yellow Wallpaper ,Scarlet Ibis,other selected readings...

Longer Works: King Lear, Wuthering Heights, Notes From the Underground , The Great Gatsby, A Doll's House, The Importance of Being Earnest, Free Choice...

Poetry: Richard Cory, The Bean Eaters, My Papa's Waltz,Metaphors, The Sun Rising, Shakespeare Sonnets, Digging, I am Offering this Poem, The Last Duchess, When I was Fifteen, Those Winter Sundays and other poems.