

Name _____

ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH

Mrs. Selfridge

LENGTH OF COURSE: One Year

PREREQUISITES: Grade of A or B in Honors English or English 3, instructor's recommendation, appropriate scores, ability to read and write at advanced levels. Students must maintain an A or B in this class. Students maintaining a C will be put on probation. Any students achieving a D+ or lower will be transferred to English 4.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Advanced Placement English is a college level course taught in high school. The main purpose of this class is to prepare the highly motivated English student to read thoroughly and write critically on a variety of works in the various genres of literature: novels, plays, poetry and short stories. Ultimately, the hope is that each student will take the Advanced Placement Test in Literature and Composition administered by the College Entrance Examination Board in May. Passing the test with a score of a 3, 4 or 5 insures most students entering college some college credit. (Check individual colleges.) Since the AP course is designed for a year, entry into the class at any other time besides the beginning of the year is discouraged. Late entry can only be initiated under special circumstances. Furthermore, students in this class are expected to independently analyze all works. Any student caught using Cliff Notes or other such aids rather than the whole work will be removed from class immediately. The AP instructor will assess individual student ability over the first two weeks and will make recommendations as to suitability of student's placement.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: In addition to the 12th grade objectives, AP includes the following:

1. To pursue in-depth reading of accepted classics in all genres of literature in preparation for the AP Composition and Literature exam. (List follows.)
2. To develop critical standards of independent appreciation of any literary work.
3. To understand the complexities of poetry, including types of poetry, specific terminology, and analysis based on language.
4. To write critically by using honest and effective language, organizing ideas in a clear, coherent and persuasive manner.
5. To emphasize expository, college level writing that will enable students to feel comfortable while writing in any subject area.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND EVALUATION: All assignments must be completed to pass this class.

1. Assigned reading will cover the material in depth
2. Written assignments will be given both in class and out of class using the AP questions and time limit as a model.

3. Longer writing assignments can be expected on every work. Rough drafts must accompany all out of class assignments, even computerized essays. (Other composition rules will be provided.) All out of class papers must be typed.
4. Students are expected to study the teacher's evaluative remarks and learn to work on their individual writing problems to become more fluent as well as necessarily critical as the year progresses.
5. Teacher lecture and class discussion will require note-taking
6. Class discussion is also essential, 10% of each quarter grade will be based on class discussion. The fourth quarter grade will depend largely upon an oral lesson students prepare as a culminating activity.
7. Occasional objective tests will be used to cover comprehension.
8. Absences will effect grade.

READING LIST: Works will be selected from the following

Wuthering Heights
Great Expectations
Hamlet
Othello
Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead
The Heart of Darkness
Cry, Beloved Country
Things Fall Apart
The Stranger
The Sun Also Rises
Their Eyes Were Watching God
The Color Purple
Sound and Sense (Poetry)
A Study of the Short Story

Parents are encouraged to attend Back to School Night to hear about this program.
 Office Hours: after school Monday, Tuesday, Thursday for students.
 Phone extension at school is 304.

Parent signature

date

Student signature

date

Pacific Grove High School
General Attendance and Classroom policies

In keeping with the English Department and PGHS standards for behavior and attendance are the following:

Classroom Standards

1. A verified cut will result in a student's grade being lowered on full letter grade. Three truancies will result in the student being dropped from class. (School policy.)
2. No food, drink, walkmans or discmans, ipods, skateboards, or other items that cause a distraction will be allowed in the classroom.
3. No wearing hats, dark glasses or doing make up work while in class.
4. No passing notes or attending to personal correspondence while in class.
5. No completing other class homework while in class. Such work will be confiscated.
6. No late assignments will be accepted for credit if you are on campus or have been on campus the day an assignment is due. Recopying papers in class is not acceptable.
7. Attendance is important. Continued absences impact both class performance and a student's grade. Be sure to call a member of your base group or request for homework if absent. Remember to write down the week's assignments each Monday. Check Homework Now on the school web site.
8. All assignments missed that a student was not aware of are due the second day a student returns. If student was aware of the assignment all attempts should be made to turn the assignment in on time.
9. Failure to bring appropriate materials to class or completing work will result in student being placed on behavioral contract and points being subtracted from his/ her grade. (5 points are the standard.)
10. There will be no talking without teacher permission. Students should not talk while others are sharing ideas.
11. Substitutes must be respected as adults and as the teacher for the day. Any negative report by the substitute will result in a referral and detention.
12. Tardy policy will be as follows: 1st tardy receives a warning, 2nd tardy receives an after school detention, 3rd tardy receives a detention and a parent contact. Tardy number four is referred to the administration for action.

13. General rules:

Be here.

Be on time.

Be engaged.

Forms and Literary Standards

1. All papers must be accompanied by a rough draft—even papers that have been written on the computer. (Make a copy of your first draft before changing, so I can see the process.)
2. Plagiarism will result in failure. School policy calls for a student to be dropped from class after the second incident.
3. All papers must have a title and your full name, date and period.
4. All out side papers must be written on the computer. In class work must be completed in blue or black ink. No pencil is allowed except on scantron tests. Teacher provides pencils.
5. Notebook (portfolio): Each student is required to have a three ringed binder with tab dividers specifically for English. No other work should be contained in this notebook. No zippered binders please. This binder should be organized as follows:

***Handouts-** with signed course description first and rules and standards following

***Essays and Written Work-** contains papers, study guide questions.

***Notes-** students need to take notes on discussion. Any item placed on the board should find its way into notes. Please date notes. No notebook will receive an A or B grade without notes.

Grading Policy

1. In class and overnight essays receive one grade which reflects a combination of content, mechanics and organization.
2. Out of class essays receive at least two grades: the top reflecting content and the bottom grade reflecting organization and mechanics. Longer essays will receive at least three grades: top = ideas, middle = mechanics and punctuation, bottom = paragraph and paper organization. Failure to include a rough draft will result in a zero for the mechanics/ organization grade. Some papers may be counted as double or even triple grades. These will be announced.
3. All grades are considered equal and quarter and semester grades are an average of all grades received. Point values are as follows:

A+ = 13	B+ = 10	C+ = 7	D+ = 4	F = 0
A = 12	B = 9	C = 6	D = 3	
A- = 11	B- = 8	C- = 5	D- = 2	

Signature on course contract denotes parents and students have read and understood all class rules and course description. Students are to keep both the course description and rules in notebook for future reference. Thank you.