



## **TAKOMA ACADEMY**

### **AP English Literature and Composition**

**2020-2021**

<b>Teacher Name:</b> <b>Ms. Ziegler</b>	<b>Check –in Times:</b> <b>Tuesday &amp; Thursday 10-11am</b>
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#### **Course Description:**

Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition is a grade 12 course with an emphasis on literary analysis. It is a rigorous, college level course, in which students study the art of reading and writing about great literature. Throughout the course, students will be assessed on their ability to effectively and cogently communicate their ideas about what they read, both orally and in writing. Students will be given multiple opportunities to practice these skills before they take their AP Exam in May. Students who take this course are

required to take both the AP Exam and the AP Practice Exam. Most highly competitive college and universities will award college credit for your successful completion of the examination. To help you accomplish your goal, we will cover a significant number of works thoroughly rather than a great number of works superficially and sharpen your skills in analysis, synthesis, and evaluation.

This course is designed to comply with the curricular requirements described in the AP English Course Description. The AP Literature course will emphasize sophisticated analytical writing and speaking skills. In addition, all English 12 standards will be addressed, arming students with skills necessary for success in both college and the workplace. The primary objective of this course, however, is that students will become lifelong lovers and critics of literature. Through reading and writing, students get a chance to explore worlds and

ideas outside of their own, enabling them to develop empathy for other genders, ethnicities, generations, nationalities, religions and cultures. Literature is intimately involved in our quest to understand humanity and the societies we create. In AP Lit., students are given multiple opportunities to discover and confront issues and questions that exercise their minds

and intellects. The course will focus on two overarching questions: Why do authors write?

(Author's purpose) and what is the "art" in their writing? (Author's craft). The texts for the course are selected for their broad themes and international literary merit.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

- Students will apply their knowledge of word meaning strategies to determine the meaning of new words encountered in reading materials and will use those words accurately.
- Students will read and understand material ranging from simple to complex. They will analyze the organizational patterns, arguments and positions advanced.
- Students will read and respond to historically or culturally significant works of literature that reflects and enhance their studies of history and social science.
- Students will write coherent and focused texts that convey a well defined perspective and tightly reasoned argument
- Students will combine the rhetorical strategies of narration, exposition, persuasion, and description to produce texts of at least 1,500 words each. Writing will demonstrate a command of standard American English and research, organizational and drafting strategies.
- Students will write and speak with a command of Standard English conventions.
- Students will formulate adroit judgments about oral communication. They will deliver focused and coherent presentations that convey clear and distinct perspectives and demonstrate solid reasoning.

**Textbooks:**

**(Two-week notice will be given for novels that must be purchased)**

**Required Materials:**

**Journal, folder, note-cards, pens, highlighters, 1-pack of lined paper**

**\*Daily Journal**

You will be required to keep a daily journal. The journal will count as a test grade for each grading period, as well as part of a classwork grade every Thursday. Students will find the daily topic (or picture, painting, etc., which will serve as a prompt) at the beginning of each class period. Journal writing will take place during the first 5-10 minutes of class, so please ensure you are logging into class on time. On Thursday's students will be required to submit both journals for the week via Google classroom by 11:59pm.

**Standard – Based Teaching/Grading:**

Takoma Academy teachers use activities and lessons to ensure that students master a predetermined set of requirements or standards. When viewing progress reports families will be able to see the standards that students are expected to master.

**Attendance 5%**

**Writing 25%**

**Reading 25%**

**Speaking and listening 20%**

**Attendance/Tardy Policy:**

Takoma Academy believes strongly that daily attendance is an integral part of the educational process. Every student is expected to be present and on time every day of the school year.

Please see TA 2020-2021 Re-Opening Plan for more details.

**Assignment/Make Up Policy:**

Homework/Late Papers

Students with excused absences will have as many school days as they were absent to make up assignments. Work missed from a pre-arranged absence is due on the first day back in class. It is the student's responsibility to see his/her teachers to obtain the work and help, if needed.

Work not completed within the allowed length of time will be penalized a letter grade for each day late. Any work 4 days late, or more, will result in a zero for that assignment.

Tests that are missed due to excused absences must be made up within the same number of days as the absence (e.g., absent two days, two school days to make up the test). However, if a student is absent just the day before the test or the day of the test, the test must be made up the day he returns. When a student is given a suspension, all missed work must be made up. Teachers will accept work for credit and reschedule any tests and quizzes missed if the completed homework is turned in on the first day back from a suspension.

**Academic Integrity:**

Takoma Academy is a place where academic excellence is a reality. Everyone in our community is responsible for maintaining an environment that is conducive to learning. Each student is expected to submit all assignments on time and guarantee that the work he submits is his own or is properly cited. Academic dishonesty is the antithesis of

education; it will not be tolerated at Takoma Academy. Academic dishonesty is a breach of the academic integrity policy and involves one or more, but not limited to the following actions:

- Copying or file sharing the work of another person, whether homework, papers, quizzes, reports, tests or exams;
- Allowing another student to copy work;
- Using or close imitation of someone else's language or thoughts and the representation of them as one's own original work;
- All forms of plagiarism; reading plot summaries, such as Spark/CliffsNotes, or watching videos instead of reading the assigned material;
- Obtaining copies of tests, quizzes or exams by any means; asking other students about the content of the test, quiz or exam via calculator, cell phone, smart watch, paper or any other means, whether or not that information is used;
- Missing a class to postpone a test or other assignment;
- Pressuring another student to respond in a manner that is dishonest;
- Failing to report incidents of academic dishonesty; or not being truthful about academic matters.

Academic dishonesty is simple to avoid. Each student should do their own work to the best of their ability. If a teacher has specifically assigned collaborative work and a student is in doubt about the limits of working with others, she/he should ask the teacher for clarification. If a student is unsure what constitutes plagiarism or how to appropriately cite works, he/she should consult his teacher.

If it has been satisfactorily determined that an act of academic dishonesty has occurred, the violation will be reported to the Principal who will take appropriate disciplinary action. The teacher or proctor will personally present the case to the Principal in a meeting with the student present.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read the course syllabus for AP Literature and Composition, and I understand the content and my responsibilities.

\_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian Signature