

**AP English Language and Composition**  
**11<sup>th</sup> grade**

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| <b>Texts:</b> | Peterson & Brereton (2004) <i>The Norton Reader: An Anthology of Nonfiction</i> , 11 <sup>th</sup> Edition. W.W. Norton & Company: New York and London;<br>Goldenburg (2005) <i>Writing a Research Paper</i> . Sadlier-Oxford: New York;<br>Selected works (primarily nonfiction) from the literary canon<br><i>Warriner's Handbook: Sixth Course</i> . Holt, Rinehart & Winston: Austin |
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| <b>Supplemental Materials:</b> | old AP Language exams, questions, and practice samples issued by College Board |
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| <b>Course Description:</b> | AP Language and Composition “engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts, and in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes and audiences. Both their writing and their reading should make students aware of the interactions among a writer’s purposes, audience expectations, and subjects as well as the way generic conventions and the resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing.” (Course description from <a href="http://apcentral.collegeboard.com">apcentral.collegeboard.com</a> ) |
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| <b>Methods of Evaluation:</b> | Students are evaluated through objective tests and quizzes as well as the composition and rewriting of paragraphs and essays. Students also take a comprehensive exam at the end of both semesters. |
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| <b>Pace of Instruction:</b> | <p>First Semester: Identification of rhetorical modes and how to construct them; critical reading of selected nonfiction works, reflecting on them through extensive class discussion, identification and review of standard English’s most common grammar and usage errors; vocabulary study and review</p> <p>Second Semester: Identification of style, including syntax, diction, tone, point of view, figures of speech and imagery; reading of selected nonfiction works with intensive class and small-group discussion; vocabulary study and review; instruction in writing a rhetorical précis; instruction in and preparation for writing the new synthesis question on the AP exam, which includes incorporation of selected outside sources; how to document sources and where to place them; and instruction in differences in research manuscript styles of documentation (MLA, APA, etc.)</p> |
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| <b>Course Objectives:</b> | <p>At the end of this course students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Analyze and interpret samples of good writing, identifying and explaining an author's use of rhetorical modes and techniques</li><li>• Write an analytical, an expository, and an argumentative/persuasive essay based on careful, critical reading and not solely on personal experience or observation</li><li>• Read primary and secondary source material carefully and with understanding, synthesizing material and citing source material in recognized professional formats such as MLA and APA</li><li>• Use reflection and analysis to enter into conversations and discussions of assigned reading with other writers and thinkers</li><li>• Write rich and complex prose with emphasis on content, purpose, and audience</li><li>• Exhibit an improvement in personal writing style with wide-ranging vocabulary used appropriately and effectively, with a variety of sentence structures, and with specific illustrative detail</li><li>• Write essays and manuscripts that proceed through several stages or drafts, with revision aided by the teacher and occasionally by peers</li></ul> |
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