

AHS Contract for AP English Lit/Comp

AP English Lit/Comp is a challenging, goal-oriented, two-semester, course for highly self-motivated seniors who have a strong desire to engage in college-level skills of concise scholastic writing and close analytical reading of mature imaginative works of recognized literary merit. The course includes intensive study of literary structure, style, syntax, theme, and a host of other literary devices and techniques including imagery, figurative language, symbolism, and tone.

Students will examine representative works of fiction, poetry, and drama from several historical periods while reflecting on and enlarging their critical understanding of the experience of literature, the interpretation of literature, and the evaluation of literature.

All AP English Lit/Comp students are required to take the Advanced Placement English Literature & Composition examination during the second semester. Students with high AP exam scores may receive college credit as well as high school credit.

Enrollment in AP English Lit/Comp is recommended only for students who have achieved the "Advanced" level of CST scoring and a grade of A for all prior accelerated and honors English courses or a grade of A+ in all prior regular English courses taken in high school. A student must obtain a signed recommendation from his or her current English teacher prior to enrollment.

A stellar attendance record is essential for success in AP English. Four or more unexcused absences or tardies will automatically trigger a student/parent/teacher conference to re-evaluate the student's suitability to continue in the course.

The sheer volume and challenging nature of the AP English reading and writing requirements, including the multi-book summer reading requirement below, means that students are expected to complete 1-2 hours of homework per night—including holidays.

Be forewarned of the mature nature of many literature selections in AP English Lit. Many works, such as Greek plays and Shakespeare's *Othello*, contain sexual references, both humorous and degrading, to underscore inferior treatment of women, and some, such as *Oedipus the King*, deal with incest.

Required Summer Reading—students must read and annotate the following works prior to the first day of the fall semester: *Invisible Man* by Ralph Ellison, *Grendel* by John Gardner, "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock" by T. S. Eliot, and *Hamlet* by William Shakespeare. (See AP Eng. teacher for instructions.) A critical essay writing assignment based on these works will begin the first day of class. Failure to complete summer reading requirements may disqualify a student from enrollment in AP English.

The student named below is: recommended not recommended for AP English Lit.

Comments:

Current Eng. teacher _____ Signature _____ Date _____

I agree to complete all assignments with my best effort, including the summer reading, and adhere to the homework and attendance requirements during the entire school year.

Student Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

I have read this contract carefully and herewith give my assent.

List below all high school English classes you have completed, with semester grades.
(Note: courses and grades to be verified by counselor prior to enrollment)