

RHS Enrollment Guide

AP Literature & Composition

The AP English Literature and Composition course focuses on reading, analyzing, and writing about imaginative literature (fiction, poetry, 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, and themes, as well as its use of figurative language, imagery, and symbolism. Writing assignments include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays that require students to analyze and interpret literary works.

Course Skills

- Critical Thinking
- Analytical writing
- Unique challenges and academic experiences that can foster compassionate responses from the students as they interact with literature and one another
- hone analytical skills
- develop cogent, in-depth analyses
- practice strong organizational skills
- Use detailed, specific evidence drawn from text to support ideas

The AP Exam

1 Hour: 55 Multiple Choice Questions

2 Hours: 3 free-response prompts -

- A literary analysis of a given poem
- A literary analysis of a given passage of prose fiction (this may include drama)
- An analysis that examines a specific concept, issue, or element in a work of literary merit selected by the student

Questions? See Ms. Lee,
Ms. Kelly, or Ms. Sato

Expectations & Workload

- Outside class reading (two texts per quarter)
- Timed and revised essays
- Regular class discussion (informal and Socratic Seminar)
- Class projects (individual and group)
- Turn in work by due date
- Multiple Choice Practice
- Seek help if needed
- Get work in advance of absences and make up work in a timely fashion

Topics of Study

Major Units Include:

- War & Peace
- Home & Family
- Conformity & Rebellion
- Identity & Culture
- Tradition & Progress

Major Topics of Study Include:

- Analysis of Author's Choice (figurative language, diction, symbol, comparison, etc.)
- Writer's Craft
- Character & Use of Narrator
- Plot & Structure
- Setting

Sample Texts

- *Fences*, by August Wilson
- *Hamlet*, by William Shakespeare
- *The Stranger*, by Albert Camus
- *The Handmaid's Tale*, by Margaret Atwood
- Selected Short Stories
- Selected Poetry
- ...and more!

AP English Literature and Composition is an introductory college-level literary analysis course. Students cultivate their understanding of literature through reading and analyzing texts as they explore concepts like character, setting, structure, perspective, figurative language, and literary analysis in the context of literary works.