**AP Language and Composition, 2019-2020**

**Mrs. Pasillas**

**pasillas@damien-hs.edu**

**Course Description**

The AP English Language and Composition course focuses on rhetorical analysis of nonfiction texts and development and revision of well-reasoned, evidence-centered analytic and argumentative writing. This course requires that student become skilled readers of prose written in a variety of rhetorical contexts and skilled writers who compose for various purposes. Both reading and writing will make students aware of the interaction among the writer’s purposes, reader expectations, and an author’s proposition content, as well as the genre conventions and the resources of language that contribute to effectiveness in writing. While writing represents a significant component of this course, the core skill required is the ability to read well. In reading another writer’s work, students must be able to address four fundamental questions about composition:

* What is being said?
* To whom is it being said?
* How is it being said?
* Why is it being said

**Learning Objectives**

* Analyze and utilize the rhetorical triangle
* Analyze and interpret samples of purposeful writing, identifying, and explaining an author’s use of rhetorical strategies
* Analyze images and other multimodal texts for rhetorical features
* Write for various purposes
* Respond to different writing tasks according to their unique rhetorical and composition demands, and translate that rhetorical assessment into a plan for writing
* Create and sustain original arguments based on information synthesized from readings, research, and or personal observations and experiences
* Evaluate and incorporate sources into research arguments
* Demonstrate understanding of the conventions of citing
* Gain control over various reading and writing processes with careful attention to inquiry, rhetorical analysis and synthesis of sources, drafting, revising/proofreading, editing, and review
* Revise a work to make it suitable for different audiences

**Guidelines For Reading**

As stated in the AP syllabus guide, outcomes are best achieved through:

* The use of nonfiction texts instead of imaginative/fiction literature
* Reading twentieth and pre-twentieth texts in clear rhetorical situations
* Analyzing genres across multiple texts
* Placing texts in conversation to one another
* Read at a introductory composition class reading level
* 8 hours per week of reading and writing inside and outside the class - minimum

**Writing Types**

Over several stages students will complete the following types of writing:

* Expository
* Narrative
* Analytical
* Research Writing
* Argument/Persuasive

**Reading Types**

* Essays
* Journalism
* Science writing
* Nature writing
* Autobiographies
* Diaries
* History
* Criticism
* Advertisements
* Poetry
* Fiction
* Graphic Novels
* Satire

**What texts and materials will I need?**

1. *The Bedford Handbook*. Eighth Edition. Diana Hacker, Nancy Sommers
2. Moodle login
3. Chromebook
4. Daily: Pens, pencil, paper, whiteout, 4 different color highlighters, and a binder –You will primarily be handwriting your essays and work
5. **Novels for the year – ALL novels must be paperbacks; do not get digital versions**

Reading lists will be handed out on Monday, Aug. 19

All essays, speeches, excerpts, AP testing materials, etc., will be provided by hard copy or digitally.

**Moodle and Remind 101**

I use Moodle to post all assignments and the weekly schedule. Make sure you check it weekly. Your enrollment key is the period you are in, e.g. period1. You must use an enrollment key with the class you are in to join the Moodle course. I also use Remind 101 to send you texts to remind you of important information. To join the class, please text 81010 with the message @Pas-APLang

**Academic Honesty**

Academic honesty is every student’s responsibility in order to get the best education. Cheating, plagiarism, and dishonest behavior will not be tolerated. Plagiarism is defined as the act of using another person’s words or ideas without giving credit to that person (Merriam-Webster, 10thedition). This class will focus heavily on writing. If you plagiarize or cheat on an assignment, you will automatically receive a zero for the assignment, your parents will contacted, Aeries will reflect the incident, and the Dean of Curriculum will be notified (this could negate any academic awards). If you plagiarize a second assignment, per school rules, you will receive an F for the semester. Copying homework assignments is plagiarism. Any plagiarized assignment cannot be made up, and I will not give a make-up assignment.

**Makeup/Late work policy:**

* If you are absent, you have as many days as you were absent to turn in assignments, if you don’t turn in the assignment by that date, it is late. It is your responsibility to keep track of your assignments. Late homework will be accepted up to the day of a unit exam for half credit. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to check Moodle for the day’s work. I will not remind you or track you down.
* If your absence is unexcused for more than 2 days, per the handbook, you will receive a zero for the assignment and not be allowed to make it up.
* If you miss a previously announced test or quiz, you are required to make it up the day you return – you will not be given extra time.
* Some essays will be on-demand to mimic an AP essay. If you are absent the day we complete the assignment, it is your responsibility to schedule a time to make it up. All other essays are announced in advance and will be turned in online. **There will be no extensions** – plan ahead and expect the unexpected – failure to turn them in means they are late and are only worth half credit. Since essays often mark the end of a unit, I will only accept late essays 3 days after they are due.

**Tutoring:**

I am available for tutoring Monday-Thursday after school for additional help, questions, or makeup tests. I will also make myself available before school or at lunch if you make arrangements with me ahead of time. Please email me to set up a time and what you need assistance you need.

**Technology:**

* You must bring your Chromebook to class daily. It must be charged and ready for you to do work. If you do not bring your Chromebook to class and an assignment is due, you will not be allowed to make it up. Be prepared. Your Chromebook is a tool for completing work; if you play games, listen to music, or visit websites that are not related to the class, I will give you a zero for the assignment we are working on, and you will not be allowed to make it up.
* Cell phones are not permitted for any reason in class. They will be collected at the beginning of the period. If you fail to turn in your phone or attempt to use it in class, I will confiscate it for the day (you can pick it up after 7th period), and you will serve detention or it will be given to the deans.

**Grading breakdown:**

1. **Test/Quizzes (35% of overall grade):** Test and quizzes consist of unit tests, vocabulary quizzes, and quizzes on stories, poems, rhetoric, and writing breakdowns.
2. **Essays/Projects (35% of overall grade)**: Essays consist of expository, reflective, descriptive, and research writing assignments. Essays will be written both in class and at home during the year. Projects will revolve around readings done in and out of class. Some projects may be digital.
3. **Foundational work: (15% of overall grade):** Foundational work will include homework, classwork, and participation (including bringing your books and supplies).
4. **Semester Final (15% of overall grade):** The final will cover **all** of the material that we have gone over during the semester. It will consist of various question formats.

**Grading Scale:**

90-100 =A

80-89 = B

70-79= C

60-69= D

59 >= F

**Grading Policy:**

Students and parents have access to the grades through Aeries, which is updated on a weekly basis. **If an activity or assignment is missed, students may make it up for full credit provided it is done in the timeframe of their absence, but I do not give replacement assignments**. I will occasionally offer extra credit questions on exams, but I do not offer extra credit for the overall class – do the work throughout the semester; do not wait until the week before finals to find out what you can do to bring your grade up – I do not offer additional assignments to bring a grade higher. No exceptions.

**Classroom rules:**

1. **RESPECT is expected**. Treat others the way you want to be treated. If you disrespect me or another classmate, you will face disciplinary action.
2. **Be in dress code**. I expect my students to lead by example. You will receive detention for showing up to my class out of dress code (including grooming), and it will be noted in your Aeries account, and your class Dean will be notified. Uniform checks will happen daily.
3. **Be prepared and on time.** Come to class with homework, class materials, Chromebook, and texts and be ready to work. Do not be tardy! If you habitually come to class unprepared, you will lose foundational work credit, and you are subject to disciplinary action.
4. **NO cellphones, iPods, MP3 players, or video games in class**. NO EXCEPTIONS!
5. **No food or drinks are allowed in class.** You may bring water to class. If you bring food into my class, I will make you throw it away and then serve a detention. My class has recently been remodeled and should remain looking spectacular at all times.
6. **Bathroom breaks.** Leaving class is a privilege; if you abuse this privilege, such as visiting other classrooms or attempting to buy food, you will not be allowed out of class for the remainder of the quarter.
7. **All rules listed in the Damien Parent-Student handbook**

**If any of the above rules are violated:** All violations will be noted in your Aeries account.

1st occurrence: Verbal Warning, or based or the offense, detention

2nd occurrence: Detention with the deans and parents are notified

3rd occurrence: Student will receive a Saturday detention or removal from class

**If you have questions at anytime, the best way to contact me is via email**

**pasillas@damien-hs.edu**

**AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE SYLLABUS AGREEMENT**

**\*\*\* NOTE TO PARENTS: It is best to contact me by email pasillas@damien-hs.edu. I check email daily and will be able to get back to you quickly.**

I have read and understand the rules and academic requirements of this class. I also understand the detention and referral procedures. I agree to complete the coursework designed for the AP English Language and Composition class and conduct myself appropriately and with integrity.

Student’s Name (Printed): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/ Guardian Name (Printed): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Student: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/ Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent / Guardian Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/ Guardian Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_