

# Language Arts 11 and English Language and Composition (AP)

## Course Overview:

This course aims to deepen critical awareness, understanding, and appreciation of American and other related literature of merit, including a range of short stories, poetry, biographies, dramas, essays, and novels. This course is also designed to develop and strengthen effective composition and rhetorical skills through several formal multi-draft essays, particularly focusing on areas of mechanics, usage, grammar, and vocabulary knowledge according to student need. Fostering more sophisticated critical thinking, logical reasoning, and communication skills (both oral and written) will be an essential goal of the course as a whole. Purchase of a workbook and / or paperback book may be required. This course meets NCAA eligibility requirements. .

AP English Language and Composition course engage in extensive study of major nonfiction writers. Students will analyze through reading and writing the various components of the rhetorical situation and the ways in which the rhetorical situation influences writers' stylistic choices. A mastery of skills in this course is the determining factor in the final grade. The course is designed to prepare students for the AP English Language and Composition exam administered in the spring. Students must have completed all of the prerequisites listed above in order to join the course. This course meets NCAA eligibility requirements. A weighted grading scale will be used. Participation in the AP exam is a requirement of the course and an exam cost of approximately \$95.00 is the responsibility of each enrolled student. Free and reduced lunch students may apply for fee waivers for the AP exam. See your counselor for more information.

## Textbook:

- My Perspectives- Savvas
- The Norton Reader: 13th Edition

## Novels/Plays:

- The Great Gatsby
- The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn
- The Crucible

- American short stories from American Literature (11th grade edition), or the collection of American Short Stories
- The Catcher in the Rye
- Death of a Salesman
- A Streetcar Named Desire
- A Raisin in the Sun
- The Color Purple
- The Things They Carried
- Relevant articles from The New York Times, Washington Post, Ted Talks, The Atlantic, NPR
- "Body Ritual of the Nacirema"
- "A Soldier for the Crown"
- "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God"
- Henry's Speech to the Virginia Convention
- The Declaration of Independence
- U.S. Constitution (Preamble / Bill of Rights / Excerpts)
- Excerpts from Nature, Self-Reliance, Civil Disobedience, and Walden
- Poetry of Walt Whitman and Emily Dickinson
- Emancipation Proclamation
- Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address
- Douglass's "What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?"
- President George Bush's 9/11 Address
- President Barack Obama's 2004 DNC Speech
- "The Yellow Wallpaper"
- "The Story of an Hour"
- Poetry of Robert Frost, Langston Hughes, Countee Cullen, Jean Toomer, Nikki Giovanni, Tristram P. Coffin
- "Winter Dreams"
- "A Rose for Emily"
- "Hills Like White Elephants"
- "The Jilting of Granny Weatherall"
- "The Life You Save May Be Your Own" / "A Good Man is Hard to Find"
- Tinker v Des Moines ICSD Opinions / Dissents
- "A Perfect Day for Bananafish"
- "Ambush" / *The Things They Carried*
- Any poetry, short stories, plays, novels from the American Literature canon

## Nonfiction AP Language

- “Under the Influence” (Scott Russell Sanders)
- “Surprised by Death” (James Van Tholen)
- The Allegory of the Cave (Plato)
- The Declaration of Independence (Thomas Jefferson)
- “A Modest Proposal” (Jonathan Swift)
- “Thank God for the Atomic Bomb” (Paul Fussell)
- “Kill’Em! Cush ‘Em! Eat ‘Em Raw!” (John McMurtry)
- “Behind the Formaldehyde Curtain” (Jessica Mitford)
- “Pearls Before Breakfast” (Gene Weingarten)
- “Dumpster Diving” (Lars Eighner)
- “The Singer Solution to World Poverty” (Peter Singer)
- “Consider the Lobster” (David Foster Wallace)

### **Assessments:**

Written and objective tests/quizzes

Final exam

AP Language: The Synthesis Essay, The Rhetorical Analysis Essay, The Argumentative Essay, The Research Paper (Visual Analysis)

[CLICK HERE for 11th Grade Standards and Learning Goals](#)