**Syllabus**

**Sharyland Pioneer High School**

**English IV AP Literature and Composition**

**Course Description:**

Congratulations! You are to be commended. You have chosen to enroll in a highly rigorous course, which ultimately leads to the nationally recognized College Board Advanced Placement test this May. The curriculum and daily course of study for AP English Literature and Composition are designed to provide motivated students with the opportunity to succeed in a college-level course. The curriculum content for English IV AP is designed to include three tiers of content mastery:

1. the study of all skills and strategies associated with AP Literature and Composition objectives needed for AP exam mastery,
2. the study of key periods, authors, and selections from a chronological study of British literature, and
3. the study of state-mandated curriculum objectives.

**Course Focus:**

As a course in English Literature and Composition, based on the standards established by College Board, English IV AP is an accelerated 18-week course designed to emphasize students’ ability to:

* become acquainted with history, the literature, and the major writers of the English literary periods and paying special attention to literature from the 16th century to present day.
* read and analyze selected plays and novels outside the classroom setting.
* improve writing skills by developing a broader vocabulary, utilizing various organizational techniques and sentence structures as well as mastering effective use of rhetoric by writing various types of compositions, with special emphasis on the AP© essay.
* improve grammar skills such as sentence structure, organization as well as help students develop a balance between generalizations and details in their writing.
* compare and contrast the works and styles of selected poets and short story writers.
* participate in independent and group projects including peer editing and reviews.
* participate in oral presentations.
* demonstrate skill in research writing through short research projects.
* review literary terms and become acquainted with new ones.
* compare the Greek tragedy with the Shakespearean tragedy.
* become acquainted with critical strategies for reading.
* read selections from British, American and World literature paying special attention to literature from the 16th century to present day.
* practice AP strategies through released AP© tests and other AP© materials inclusive timed AP© practice exams and in-class timed AP© essays.
* prepare for the college application process and SAT examinations by writing college application essays and introducing SAT vocabulary.

**Pre-Course Reading:**

* *The Awakening* by Kate Chopin
* *The Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka,
* *“*I Am Vertical” by Sylvia Plath

**Other Required Outside Reading:**

* Brave New World by Aldous Huxley (1932)
* *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare (1623)
* *Station Eleven* by Emily St. John Mandel *(2014)*
* *Native Son* byRichard Wright *(1940)*
* Student choice of novel from assigned reading list: *Lord of the Flies, The Tragedy of Hamlet, Animal Farm, 1984, Fahrenheit 451, Bless Me Ultima, The Joy Luck Club, The Kite Runner, Heart of Darkness, Frankenstein*

**Materials:**

One 1” binder with pockets

Loose leaf paper

One 3-subject spiral notebook

Pens (black or blue ink only)

Highlighters

**Grading Policy (As per Sharyland ISD Grading Guidelines):**

-Minor grades, such as participation, classwork, quizzes, homework, etc. are worth 40% of the total grade, and major grades, such as tests, essays, projects, etc. are worth 60% of the total grade.

Some major grades may count as more than one test grade. The course work is rigorous, so time management is especially important; however, students will always be given plenty of time to complete all assignments.

-Parents and students may access for the online grade book (Skyward) to monitor class progress; students are especially encouraged to access their grades as grades are not always discussed in class. Any questions students may have regarding grades can be addressed before school, after school, by e-mail, or through the Remind app.

**Attendance/Late Work/Retests (As per Sharyland ISD Guidelines):**

Students with an excused absence from school will have the opportunity to make up missed work at the rate of one day for one day missed, with a maximum of five days. Students who are absent but had prior notice of a major or minor assignment must complete the assignment on the first day back to school. Students will receive a zero for any major or minor assignment not made up within the allotted time.

Students with an unexcused absence *may not* make up missed work; however, if the unexcused absence is determined to be caused by an extenuating circumstance, make-up work may be allowed. The grade for the make-up work will be no higher than a 70.

All students will be given up to 3 additional school days to redo a failing major assignment, but the grade will be no higher than a 70. The teacher has the option of assigning an alternative major assignment. The teacher will indicate in the grade book that the assignment was redone.

All students will be given 3 additional days to make up a major assignment if late (with a progressive grade penalty of 10 points a day).

**Statement for Academic Dishonesty:**

Academic integrity is fundamental to the activities and principles of our school. No student shall cheat or copy the work of another. Plagiarism, the use of another person’s original ideas or writings as one’s own without giving credit to the true author, will be considered cheating, and the student will be subject to academic discipline that may include loss of credit for the work in question

**Ms. Vazquez’s Classroom Expectations:**

ARRIVE PROMPTLY

Do not come late to class; the school’s tardy policy will be enforced. Make sure you are in your seat, with all necessary materials, as soon as the tardy bell rings. Note: Check the Smart Board as you arrive for required daily supplies.

COME TO CLASS PREPARED

All necessary materials must be brought to class each day. This includes your books, binder, notebooks, paper, writing utensils, homework assignments, and any other major projects or assignments due. Materials will not be provided for you.

MIND YOUR MANNERS

Please be respectful at all times; this also includes school property. Any rude or inappropriate behavior, in any form, will not be tolerated.

Consequences:

1.) Teacher/Student Conference

2.) Teacher/Parent Conference

3.) Office Referral

\* Any extreme offense will automatically result in an office referral.

ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE

Come to class with an open mind and a positive attitude. Our classroom will be a fun, learning environment where ideas can be shared. Never be afraid to ask questions or make mistakes; it’s all part of learning. Participation grades will be taken, so make sure to speak up and take an active interest in your learning.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOUR EDUCATION

Make sure to keep an eye on your grades; I will not be responsible for showing you your grades at all times. It is your responsibility to keep track of your progress in this class. In case of an absence, it is your responsibility to check out my website for missed assignments. Please ask questions and/or come to tutoring as often as possible. You may also e-mail me or send me a message through the Remind App with any questions or concerns you have. Do not wait until the last minute.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Electronic devices are ***only*** permitted for use with teacher permission. Students may not use any electronic device when the teacher is not present. The school’s electronic device policy will be strictly adhered to.

DISMISSAL

The bell does not dismiss you, I do. Make sure you leave the classroom exactly as you found it, clean and orderly, and make sure you are in your seats before the dismissal bell; you will not be allowed to leave until this is done. Make it a habit.

**Tutoring:**

Tutoring will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school from 4:00 – 5:00 and by appointment as needed.

**Contact Information:**

Ms. Angelica Vazquez

Rm. A-174

Phone: 271-1600 ext. 4128

Remind code: @d896hc