

Canyon Crest Academy: AP English Literature & Composition

Level of Difficulty	Estimated Homework	Prerequisites
<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> Difficult <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Very Difficult	60-90 minutes	District none Department Students should have earned no lower than a "B" in Honors English 9, and 10 or no lower than an "A" in College Prep English 9 and 10; no lower than a "B" in AP English Language or no lower than an "A" in College Prep English 11. Students who earned lower grades are strongly recommended to spend extracurricular time on skill improvement before and during AP English Literature.

Course Description

AP English Literature and Composition is a one-term course. This is a freshman level college course in Literature, which skips over the final year of high school English, providing a survey of the major literary periods and the significant works of important authors. Students will read many critical essays and learn the art of technical poetry analysis. Through the close reading of selected texts, students deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes as well as such smaller-scale elements as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Students must be able to read actively. Additionally, students will prepare for the AP Literature Exam via timed writing, sample tests, and lecture. Because the AP test is a freshman college level, national test, it allows students to enter college at the sophomore level; in effect, AP 12 students are skipping 12th grade English.

Necessary skills: Upon entering the course, students should possess the following skills:

- Complex comprehension & critical analysis of grade-level text
- Critical understanding and ability to analyze non-fiction, expository text
- Thorough understanding of MLA format and research process
- Well-developed argumentative thesis / multi-faceted thesis
- Writing a process paper (multi paragraph)
- Develop main ideas with supporting evidence
- Evaluate articulately the credibility of an author's argument
- Blend quotations & textual evidence artfully
- Support deeper perspectives & insightful judgments with convincing evidence
- Deliver well-planned presentations
- Contributes actively to class discussions by asking questions & takes discussion into new realms
- Mastery of standard written English
- Mastery and sophistication in syntax, vocabulary, and emphasis techniques
- Strong time-management skills
- Ability to work independently

Description of an AP Literature student:

- Curricular area is his/her gift or passion – strong, experienced, avid reader
- Interests lie in careers related to curricular area
- Able to keep a well-organized notebook and take notes
- Exceptional work ethic, self-motivated
- Masters concepts quickly; requires fast-paced, rigorous curriculum
- Loves the challenges of complex, critical-thinking problems; can solve them without assistance and can often take them to a higher level without being asked; thrives on “non-routine” problems
- Is inquiry-driven in particular curricular area; asks “Why?” and “What if...?”; wants to know or figure out the theory behind the concept
- Divergent thinker may come up with own problem-solving methods in subject area
- Seeks competitive classroom environment as a medium for critical reading, intensive writing, and thought-provoking discussion of literature

Performance Objectives: Students will be able to demonstrate mastery in the following areas:

- Comprehension & analysis of grade-level text (fiction and non-fiction material)
- Creating clear and coherent writing (clearly stated thesis, presentation of argument, develop of main ideas with appropriate evidence, synthetic conclusion) in an academic tone
- Evaluating the credibility of an author's argument
- Blending quotations & textual evidence within their work
- Timed Writing of On-Demand essays
- Creating multi-media presentations, using a wide variety of technology

Workload Expectations for an AP LITERATURE student:

(NOTE: Individual work depends on the length and involvement of the assignment, project, essay, group project, etc.)

- 6-8 major literary works (i.e. novels, autobiographies, plays, etc.) or units (i.e. short stories, essays, poetry, etc.) – being assigned 30-70 pages of reading per class period
- 3-4 pages of critical response to the literary works/units.
- 1 college essay – a reflective essay (can be used as an entrance essay on a college application)
- 4-6 multi-draft essays – research, process pieces, and in-class / take home drafts.
- 10-20 AP Style timed writings (including essay tests and practice for the other college entrance essays)
- Extensive AP test preparation—including multiple choice techniques; strong emphasis on critical reading, thinking, and analysis
- 1-2 projects (group or individual)

Works Typically Read:

Anthology (short stories / poetry)

1984

Frankenstein

The Dubliners

The Handmaid's Tale

Macbeth

Pygmalion

The Sound and the Fury

The Sun Also Rises

Invisible Man

Grading

Syllabus Link

http://teachers.sduhsd.net/kleal/documents/APLiteratureandCompositionssyllabus_001.doc

Supplemental Information

10 credits

Meets high school graduation requirement for English

Meets UC/CSU subject area "b" requirement

Weighted grade