

AP ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION SYLLABUS

DOE Course Code 23.06500

Purpose: To provide a college-level classroom environment where students can analyze major themes and literary techniques employed by classic fiction, as well as add to their own writing skills.

Prerequisites: At least a B in two previous high-school-level English classes and the motivation to do college-level work.

Primary Text: Laurence Perrine's *Literature: Structure, Sound and Sense, Fifth Edition*, ISBN 0155511084. Perrine text includes excellent poetry as well as *Othello*, *Doll's House*, *Death of a Salesman*.

Others: *Cry, the Beloved Country*; *The Plague*; *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*; *Till We Have Faces*

Additional Resources/Materials: Guest teachers, teacher-provided handouts and media, College Board released AP exams and teaching materials

Extra credit reading: Students may begin reading in the summer and receive credit for up to 300 points per semester. List and directions may be found at MargaretShuman.com.

National AP Literature Exam in May: This exam is not required to complete the course. There are usually several testing locations available for our students.

General Course Objectives:

1. Students will explore basic world views found in selected works. These points of view are found in ground-breaking works in areas such as existentialism, feminism, absurdism, and expressionism.
2. Students will write their own short and longer fiction featuring a variety of literary techniques, and will finish the year in writing groups with similar genre interests.
3. Each student will analyze various types of literary questions/prompts and formulate responses.
4. Students will improve writing skills by revision and correction, and will practice using rubrics and MLA style.
5. Each student will work in both timed and non-timed environments.
6. Students will defend their stances orally and in writing, both in small groups as well as individually.
7. Each student will define and illustrate a variety of literary analysis terms.
8. Every student will practice all elements of the AP Literature exam, using actual questions from previous years.