

MVLA
2019-2020
COURSE INFORMATION SHEET

Course Title: Advanced Placement Literature and Composition

School: Mountain View High School

UC/CSU requirement: Yes, 10 units, Subject B (English)

Textbook and/or other learning resources: Various pre- and post-20th century novels, plays, and poems including *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Song of Solomon*, *King Lear*, a selection of 19th Century British novels, 20th and 21st century multicultural literary texts, and a self-selected body of scholarly journal articles and informational texts for senior thesis

Student Learning Outcomes:

The goal of the course is to prepare seniors seeking a challenging learning experience for the literacy demands of higher education. Through a sequence of rigorous instructional units, students in this year-long course develop proficiencies in college-level narrative, expository, and argumentative reading, speaking and listening, writing, and academic language. The course presents a process for helping students read, comprehend, and respond to informational and literary texts which culminates in a self-directed research project (senior thesis). It also prepares them to take the Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition Exam in May. To facilitate these learning outcomes, group work and ongoing self-assessment of student work will play a significant role in the learning process as outlined by the Common Core Standards for 11th and 12th grade.

Assessment and Grading ([BP 5121](#) / [AR 5121](#)): To ensure that every student has an equal opportunity to demonstrate their learning, the course instructors implement aligned grading practices and common assessments with the same frequency.

1. Grading categories and their percentage weights:

Fall Semester

Reading	25%
Writing	25%
Speaking	15%
Listening	20%
Academic Language	5%
Work Habits/Homework	10%

Spring Semester

Reading: Senior Thesis	20%
Writing: Senior Thesis	30%
Speaking and Listening	15%
Literary Analysis	25%
Academic Language	5%
Work Habits/Homework	10%

2. Achievement evidence collected within each grading category:

Fall Semester

- For each unit, students will have multiple opportunities to demonstrate proficiency on all core standards. All units are recursive in that essential skills are scaffolded, applied, and revisited multiple times to advance learning. Units build on one another.
- Multiple formative assessments drawing upon different ways of learning, e.g. visual, auditory, kinesthetic, musical, etc. will be used in preparation for all summative assessments.
- For reading, students will conduct literary analysis on passages of literary merit.
- For speaking, students will participate in a variety of discussions (e.g. student-led, teacher-led, informal, formal, small group, large group).
- For listening, students will evaluate multiple literary discussions for their content and process collaboratively in small groups and whole class.

- For writing, students will write thematic arguments in response to literature in preparation for the AP Literature exam.
- For academic language, students will demonstrate their proficiency in following the conventions of academic English through a wide sample of written work.
- For homework, students will be expected to complete homework on-time daily and will be assessed accordingly.

Spring Semester

Senior thesis--both its process and product--constitutes the bulk of second semester. Daily research, discussion and evaluation of sources will culminate in a 3000-3500 word original research paper synthesizing all sources selected for final argument. Formative assessments will be administered giving feedback on a student's progress. The final reading grade will be based on the Annotated Bibliography and the final writing grade will be based on Senior Thesis itself. Academic language will also be based on a student's Annotated Bibliography and Senior Thesis. Speaking and listening will draw upon weekly discussions in a student's peer learning community research group and outline presentations. The final grading category--Literary Analysis--will be completed after the conclusion of the senior thesis unit in preparation for the AP Literature examination in May. It will review all core skills learned in the fall semester with students completing a full AP exam completed over time with multiple choice, poetry, prose, and open question practice. It will also culminate in a study of Shakespeare's plays. For homework, students will be expected to complete homework on-time daily and will be assessed accordingly. This is especially important for the successful completion of senior thesis and AP exam preparation.

3. Grading scales:

90% - 100%	A
80% - 89.99%	B
70% - 79.99%	C
60% - 69.99%	D
50% - 59.99%	F

Final Semester Grade

The calculation of a student's overall semester grade by Aeries Student Information System is final. Final grades are not manually rounded or curved. The minimum overall average required for each letter mark is listed above. For example, an 89.99% is a B+. A 90.00% is required for an A-.

4. Homework/outside of class practices ([AR 6154](#)):

During fall semester, students will read three major literary texts divided into smaller chunks for daily reading. During spring semester, students will read self-selected scholarly research journals for senior thesis. Homework will follow our district homework policy for Advanced Placement classes.

5. Excused absence make up practices ([Education Code 48205\(b\)](#)):

Students should communicate all absences to the teacher as soon as possible. Students will be informed of the classwork and assessments they will miss or have missed. Deadlines for assessments will be adjusted to provide the student with adequate time to complete their work per district policy. Students are expected to complete all missing classwork and homework in a timely manner.

6. Academic integrity violation practices ([LAHS Academic Integrity Policy](#) / [MVHS Academic Integrity Policy](#)):

For all assignments and assessments including homework and classwork, students are expected to maintain academic integrity which means submitting work that includes only their own original ideas written in their own words. Students will not cheat, lie, plagiarize or commit other acts of academic dishonesty. Examples of cheating include: copying another's work or turning in someone else's ideas as his or her own, collaboration with others when students are expected to complete an assignment independently, copying homework, allowing someone else to copy your work, plagiarism, copying or allowing others to copy from another's exam, improperly obtaining and/or using tests, questions, or answer keys, using unauthorized notes/materials from the internet or other electronic equipment (e.g. calculators, cell phones, etc.). Students will submit work to Turnitin.com to confirm originality. Maintaining academic integrity is especially vital for long process essay. Violations will be addressed in accordance with the MVHS Academic Integrity Policy.

7. Late work practices:

For daily homework assignments, students will have one additional class day to submit late work for partial credit. For

all major assignments, late work will not be accepted without previous arrangement with the instructor.

8. Revision practices:

Students receive multiple opportunities throughout the semester to demonstrate their proficiency level on the core standards for English. The most current, consistently demonstrated score for that standard is updated after each learning cycle. A student's overall skill level is determined by a careful consideration of all student work and the progress a student has made during the semester. Revisions are offered for select assessments when appropriate.

9. Extra credit practices:

Because the assessment and revision practices of this course ensure that students will have multiple opportunities to reflect their best work, no extra credit will be offered for any assessments.

10. Additional grading practices:

Senior Thesis

On-time submission of a student's Annotated Bibliography and Senior Thesis are required to receive a final grade for AP Literature spring semester and graduation status of good standing. No late papers will be accepted unless previously arranged with the instructor. Additionally, no revisions will be offered for Senior Thesis; however, revisions for the Annotated Bibliography will be accepted only if the original submission was complete.

Instructors' email addresses:

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Additional information: