

# **AP English Literature and Composition Course Syllabus**

L'Anse Creuse High School – North 2020 - 2021 Mrs. Kitty Reifert reifeka@lc-ps.org 586.493.5270 ext. 2621

# **Course Description:**

- The Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition course is designed to teach beginningcollege writing through the fundamentals of rhetorical theory and follows the curricular requirements described in the AP English Literature and Composition Course Description
- The school year is divided into four 10-week quarters. Each quarter will require students to write essays outside of class while completing numerous in-class essays/assignments and complete a variety of quizzes and tests. Essays will be timed and extended for a variety of purposes and in a variety of forms. Students are expected to pay close attention to the conventions of standard written English. Each essay will require students to develop voice, elevate vocabulary, and improve on grammar/style
- Students will read novels, plays, and poetry ranging from the 16<sup>th</sup> Century to the present. Reading assignments both short and long term are vital to the course. Classroom discussions and active participation are important as they give students an opportunity to test ideas
- Students and instructor will talk essentially every day about some vital aspects of writing, structure, and style. This course will focus on the skills of persuasive/analytical writing and critical reading as opposed to teaching to the AP Test
- Students will be prepared for the AP English Literature and Composition Exam, which they are expected to take. Students who do not take the AP English Literature and Composition Exam will take a final exam in class

## **Course Objectives:**

Students should be able to:

- Develop accurate, perceptive reading through close study of major selections, representing various literary genres and time periods
- Acquire a fluent, precise writing style through the preparation of analytical and rhetorical essays about the selections of literature
- Improve the ability to discover and explain (through discussion and writing) what is of value in prose and poetry
- Understand the techniques of poetry as they impact and enhance the meaning in a poem
- Generate independent, thoughtful, and analytical discourse during class discussions
- Deliver successful oral presentations of varying sorts

#### **Teacher's Educational Philosophy:**

My personal philosophy is that each student comes to class with a willingness to be exposed to the wonderful world of AP English Literature and Composition. My hope is that my personal philosophy regarding the value and wealth found in prose and poetry will expose each and every student to the beauty found in the written and spoken words. It will be my privilege to be part of your senior year at Crusader Nation.

#### **Homework Policy:**

#### **Attendance and Late Work Policies**

- Students are encouraged to have an "assignment buddy," who will take notes, gather assignments, etc. for when a student is not present in class
- The student who is not is class is fully responsible to gather the work

- Students who have an EXCUSED absence will be allowed to make up tests, quizzes, and assignments
- Students who have an UNEXCUSED absence on the day a test, quiz, or assignment is due will earn a 0% on these assignments
- If a student is in the building, but not in the class, the assignment must still be turned in
- Due dates and test/quiz dates are announced in advance. An absence the day before a test or
  prior to the date for any assignment does not excuse students from taking test, quizzes, turning
  in assigned work, or participating in class discussions
- Students who are absent are responsible for making up assignments on their time, not class time. Students should make every attempt to get notes from peers in class. It is the student's responsibility to make arrangements to make up quizzes and tests.
- Late work is not accepted for credit
- Deadlines for reading assignments are strictly followed

## **Grading Policy:**

Points are assigned for every assignment. At the end of the marking period the grade will be determined by dividing the total number of points earned by the total number of possible points.

The grading system is pursuant to the policy established by the Board of Education.

\*\*\*It is beneficial to record and save each assignment until a final grade is posted. Any grade in dispute will be acknowledged if student presents the graded assignment. If not, the record book will stand.

#### **Student Attendance:**

Attendance is a critical component to be successful in this course. Please see above under "Homework Policy: Attendance and Late Work Policies" for detailed information. Also, each student will be accountable to complete the "Student Absence Summary" sheet. This teacher is available before and after school to additional help.

#### **Contact Information:**

The best way to contact is through email, which is checked several times throughout the day. Also, a voicemail account is set up. The contact information is listed on the top of the syllabus or can be found on LCN's webpage.

## **Required Text:**

Arp, Thomas R. and Greg Johnson. <u>Perrine's Literature: Structure, Sound and Sense</u>. 8<sup>th</sup> ed. Fort Worth: Harcourt Brace, 2002.

A wide range of prose, non-fiction, and poetry will be covered throughout the school year

# **Classroom Expectations:**

Perseverance – consistent effort brings success

**R**espect – treat others politely and with dignity

Integrity – work and actions reflect honesty and promote trust

**D**edication – be in class, be prepared, and get involved

Excellence – always give your personal best

#### **Class Rules:**

- Students are expected to be respectful at all times
- Students are expected to come to class on time, which means seated at desk and ready to work
- Students are expected to come to class prepared (including all books, assignments, and supplies)
- Students are expected to follow all school rules
- The instructor will communicate the electronic communication device policy

## **Plagiarism:**

Plagiarism is taking someone's words or ideas and either intentionally or accidentally passing it off as your own. The following are examples of plagiarism (plagiarism.org):

- Turning in someone else's work as your own OR giving someone else your work
- Copying words or ideas from someone else without giving credit
- Giving incorrect information about the source of a quotation
- Changing words but copying the sentence structure of a source without giving credit
- Copying so many words or ideas from a source that it makes up the majority of your work, whether you give credit or not

When a student is caught plagiarizing, the student will receive a zero (0) for the assignment with no opportunity to make it up. Also, the student will be issued a discipline referral, which will be handled by the Dean of Students. The referral will be documented in the student's file. The teacher will notify parents/guardians of the situation. Further disciplinary action will result upon the second or subsequent offenses. Note – plagiarism may result in failure of the course.

#### **Due to COVID-19:**

- Students are required to properly wear face masks at all times in the classroom
- All classes will utilize Schoology on a regular basis
- Please check Schoology for any announcements and/or assignments, etc.
- If and only if, the district moves to remote learning, Schoology, Remind, and Video Conferencing will be used to conduct class