



JIM NED High School

AP English IV Syllabus

2025-2026

Teacher: Brandee Hart

Email: bhart@jimned.esc14.net

Tutoring Hours: M-F, 7:45-8:05; as needed

Conference Hours: M-F, 1:05-1:54

Course Description: The AP English Literature and Composition course is designed and taught thematically with an emphasis on core readings along with modern and contemporary selections that illuminate and expand upon a variety of themes. AP English Literature and Composition closely follows the requirements described in the AP English Literature and Composition Course and Exam Description (CED), including the fundamentals of literary analysis and introductory college composition. Each week students discuss and engage in a variety of writing activities focusing on argumentation, interpretation, analysis, rhetorical strategies, exposition, structure, and style. Students read and study a variety of novels, plays, poems, and short stories from the 16th century to the present. In addition to district-approved novels, students read shorter works and drama from *Mirrors & Windows: Connection with Literature-British edition*. The course focuses on the experience of literature, the interpretation of literature, the evaluation of literature, and writing to develop stylistic maturity and sophistication. Students practice their writing via numerous timed essays, which are revised several times, as well as longer essays that require outside research and MLA formatting. Students also practice oral communication skills, through poetry presentations, regular classroom discussions, and acting as discussion facilitators.

Course Goals/Objectives: This course provides students with the intellectual challenges and workload consistent with a typical undergraduate college English literature/humanities course. At the completion of this course, students should be able to

- Critically read and analyze literature in several genres from the 16th century to contemporary times.
- Write, revise, and edit an interpretation of a piece of literature that is based on a careful observation of textual details, considering the work's structure, style, and themes; the social and historical values it reflects and embodies; and such elements as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone.
- Write, revise, and edit formal, extended analyses and timed, in-class responses; and outside of class
- Write to understand through informal, exploratory writing activities that enable students to reflect upon their reading and their thinking, within the process of writing



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- Write to explain through expository or analytical essays in which students draw upon textual details to develop and extend explanation/interpretation of the meanings of a literary text.
- Write to evaluate through analytical or argumentative essays in which students draw upon textual details to make and explain judgments about a work's artistry and quality and its social and cultural values
- Draft, revise, and edit essays reflecting a wide-ranging vocabulary used appropriately and effectively and employing a variety of structures
- Draft, revise, and edit essays using a logical organization scheme, enhanced by specific techniques to increase coherence and which balance between generalization and specific, illustrative detail
- Draft, revise, and edit essays which Draft, revise, and edit essays that effectively utilize rhetoric

Required Supplies: Have the following supplies available daily: folder to hold papers, package of wide-ruled paper, one-subject spiral notebook, blue & black pens, chromebook

Grading Policy: Grade calculation will be determined by the following weighting convention:

Major Projects and Tests	50%
Daily Work	50%

Criteria to enter and/or remain in advanced courses: students must maintain a 75 average (not including the 10%). A student may be moved from an advanced to a regular course if deemed beneficial to the student by the teacher and their grades fall below advanced level expectations.

Attendance Policy:

In the case of excused absences, the student will receive one day for each day absent to complete any missed work. In the case of unexcused absences, the assignment/acceptance of make-up work will be at the teacher's discretion.

Late Grade Policy: Late papers will be accepted for two days only, but 20 points will be deducted per day.



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Academic Integrity: Any student caught cheating will receive a grade of zero on the assignment, without opportunity to resubmit. Additional administrative disciplinary action may occur, per school policy.

Student Conduct: Be responsible. Be respectful. NO food or drinks allowed.

Student Technology Use in Classroom: No cell phones or smart watches etc. You may only use the chrome book issued by the school. No personal laptops.

AP Exam: The AP Exam will be on May 6, 2026. It is a three-hour test consisting of approximately 55 multiple choice questions (one hour) and three timed-writings (two hours). Whether students took an AP exam last year or not, whether students were happy with their AP exam score or not, this AP English exam will be challenging! I want you to do well on this exam. Most importantly, I want you to feel confident going into the exam. We are going to work hard to achieve our goals.

Google Classroom: You are already invited to our Google Classroom, where you will be able to retrieve information and assignments as needed.

Topics Covered: The course content is organized into units that have been arranged in a logical sequence. These units scaffold skills and knowledge through three genre-based, recurring units.

Unit 1: Short Fiction I

Unit 2: Poetry I

Unit 3: Longer Fiction and Drama I

Unit 4: Short Fiction II

Unit 5: Poetry II

Unit 6: Longer Fiction or Drama II

Unit 7: Short Fiction III

Unit 8: Poetry III

Unit 9: Longer Fiction or Drama III



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AP English Literature and Composition Contract (2025-2026)

I, _____, promise to put forth 100% of my effort into AP English Literature class. I understand and agree to the following.

1. I know that this is a college level course with college level assignments. I understand that the focus of this course is analytical reading of and writing about literature.
2. I understand that a major requirement of the course is that I will volunteer in discussions on a daily basis.
3. I understand that this class requires a great deal of reading, most of which is done outside of the classroom.
4. I understand that I will be required to write essays.
5. I understand that any late work will receive a reduced grade, except for extenuating circumstances.

I have read through this syllabus and fully understand what will be expected of me during my senior year in AP English class. By signing, I plan to fulfill my part by completing all the necessary work to be successful in this course.

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____



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