



PROVISO MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE ACADEMY

"A CATALYST FOR GREATNESS"

8601 W. Roosevelt Road, Forest Park, IL 60130
708-338-4100 Phone 708-338-4199 Fax

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION (DUAL CREDIT) COURSE SYLLABUS

PROVISO MATH AND SCIENCE ACADEMY

MR. MARKUS – ROOM 308

Class Periods: 1, 3, 5 / Available for counsel 2, 4, 6, after school

Course Description:

At PMSA, AP English Language and Composition will focus on growth in the following areas: reading, writing, speaking, listening, self-advocacy, empathy and problem solving. Notice the particular emphasis on the word "growth" here. While AP has in mind college preparedness, and is considered a college level class, our goal is not simply to bring every student to a specific level of readiness but to grow every single student. If you struggle in these areas, we want to build up your abilities (and your confidence) so you can bridge any gaps. If you are already exceeding the "typical" standard, we want to push you to achieve more.

Our Preamble:

We the people of AP English Language and Composition, in order to form a more perfect classroom in which we have a fun, productive, interesting, engaging learning environment, must respect one another's goals, aspirations and learning experiences while maintaining classroom norms.

COURSE TEXTS AND MATERIALS

- TEXTBOOK: *Everything's an Argument*
- *They Say, I Say*
- *50 Essays*
- *Elements of Style* (Strunk and White)
- *Thank You for Arguing*
- *The Picture of Dorian Gray* (Oscar Wilde)
- *The Things They Carried* (Tim O'Brien)
- *In Cold Blood* (Truman Capote) (summer reading)
- Possible Other texts (such as Shakespeare)

In addition to the list above, students will be engaged in independent reading opportunities and research based non-fiction texts/documents. Additional required texts, including articles, speeches, poems, and short stories, will be provided by the instructor.

To be brought to Class EVERY DAY:

Required Materials: Medium-sized binder with 6 dividers (Overall, Multiple Choice, Analysis, Synthesis, Argument, and Notes/Handouts) and some loose leaf paper for the last category, 2 spiral notebooks of 100

pages EACH, assigned books and/or handouts, Agenda, planner, or calendar, pen and pencil, highlighter, and homework pocket folder.

Dual Credit: AP English Language and Composition is a dual credit class with Triton College for either Junior or Senior students that are eligible. If you didn't take the Compass or equivalent exam, the counselors will inform whether it is possible to enroll in AP Lang as a dual credit course. Also, in order to receive the Triton credit, all required assignments must be completed satisfactorily.

Grading Scale: AP Lang will follow the PMSA grading scale:

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|--------------------|-----------|------------|
| • 98-100 = A+ | 95-97 = A | 92-94 = A- |
| • 89-91 = B+ | 86-88 = B | 84-85 = B- |
| • 81-83 = C+ | 78-80 = C | 76-77 = C- |
| • 74-75 = D+ | 72-73 = D | 70-71 = D- |
| • 69 and lower = F | | |

Proviso District English department weighting percentages, as follows:

- | | |
|--|-----|
| • Summative Assessments (Papers/Projects): | 40% |
| • Formative Assessments (Quizzes) : | 30% |
| • Skills Practice (Class/Homework) : | 20% |
| • Participation: | 10% |

Communications: There will be several ways to communicate with me this year when you have questions or need assistance:

1. In Person - I am not teaching periods 2, 4, 6 and available for appointments. I am usually in the building right before and after school until at least 4:15pm. Feel free to schedule conference time with me to discuss any aspect of the class, rather than just hanging out at the end of the period.
Note: DO NOT ASK ME ABOUT YOUR GRADE DURING CLASS TIME. MAKE AN APPOINTMENT TO SEE ME OR SEND AN EMAIL. IT HELPS IF YOU PRINT OUT A GRADE REPORT AND HIGHLIGHT THE GRADE IN QUESTION SO I CAN CHECK IT FOR YOU.
2. Email – Feel free to send me an email at rmarkus@pths209.org up until 10pm every night. I usually have it open on my laptop unless I'm at DePaul or in a meeting or tutoring session. I try to answer very quickly, so please make sure to check for a response. Remember, there is not a landline phone in the classroom, so parents should use email as well to communicate with me.
3. Remind – I will sometimes send reminders to you via this system. Please try to use email for longer questions and grade issues.
4. Online Classroom – Soon, you will be given information on how to access the online class for AP Lang via Schoology.

Field Trips – There will be opportunities to go on field trips this year. The first one is on September 11thth to the American Writers Museum in Chicago. It will cost \$5.00 for a ticket, plus the cost of lunch. More information will be coming. I am also hopeful that we will tour a college campus at some point, as well as attend a play.

Educational Diligence: It is important to understand that we are all here for one reason: TO PREPARE FOR COLLEGE. It is imperative that you realize that you are expected to complete all assigned work on time and to

the best of your ability. Many students complain that the work is too easy or not challenging, but then they don't do it. Understand that it is important to maintain Rigor, Relevance, and Responsibility at all times!

Remember...

I am an understanding teacher. I know that while it's important for you to develop responsibility and organizational skills, your life consists of more than just the 50 minutes you spend in my classroom each day. If there are other things in or outside of school that are affecting your performance in my class, please come talk to me. I am always willing to *consider* working out special accommodations. BUT.... If you take advantage of these adaptations too often you will not be given them in the future.

I want you to leave this class having really learned something. I look forward to working with and getting to know each and every one of you this year.

2016-17 Course Guidelines and Expectations

CLASS EXPECTATIONS:

- Be on time! Bring all your supplies/books to class, or I will instruct you to go and get your supplies and a tardy will be issued.
- Excessive tardies and/or absences will lead to detentions, decreased grades, and are subject to the school discipline procedures starting with the escalating consequences for 3 tardies or unexcused absences
- All school rules are to be followed in the classroom
 - No phones unless permitted by the teacher for research. If you are caught on your phone more than once it will be taken and held until the end of the day. On the third infraction, it will be given to the office.
 - Wear your IDs at all time
 - Wear the required clothing per the Proviso Dress Code

SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS:

- Assignments must be submitted by placing the completed work in the designated inbox (bin).
- Also, if a hardcopy of typed work has been requested to be handed in at the beginning of class, showing me a flash drive and insisting that your paper is on the flash drive, but your printer broke, or you ran out of paper is not acceptable. Do not just simply email me documents to print for you unless we've made previous arrangements. Do not send me your paper in a Facebook inbox message. Do not text it, tweet it, or snapchat it to me.
- As last resort, **it is possible** to use the computer in the back of the room to print, but please email me to let me know that you will be doing so. You will probably be required to come at lunch or after school to print your document. Class time cannot be taken up with printing.

Absences and Missing or Late Work (for excused absences):

- Class Activities will be posted on the "Daily Activities" Bulletin Board each day. If you need to obtain the work or readings that were given out, then you need to either ask a friend or look in the "Past Handouts" Folders on the front table. Do not do so during class time. If you are absent, you can look in these folders prior to class (in other words – be early).

- You will have as many days to make up the work as you have been “excused” for your absence plus one day. (For example, if you are absent from school on a Tuesday, the assignment that was given on that day will be due on Friday of that week.)
- Students excused for school-sponsored activities or suspensions will be expected to complete work before the absence for that activity, if it is made available. (You must contact me ahead of time).
- For Tests, quizzes, or In-class essays - the student must arrange to complete this work during an off-period (lunch) or after school during the week of return.

Late Work:

- In general, Late work is NOT accepted for every day assignments (journaling, short worksheets/organizers, reading assignments, etc)
- However, you will be given THREE late work passes for each semester. The late work passes can ONLY be used for major assignments (papers, essays, projects). The late work passes are only good for one day late after the assignments are due, and late assignments are placed in the bin on the side credenza – NOT at the front of the room – with the pass stapled to the top. If not used, they may become EC.
- Of course, if you have greatly extenuating circumstances, for major assignments only, you may see me for an Extension, but you must ask several DAYS prior.

PARTICIPATION, LISTENING, AND NOTE TAKING

Participation is not a significant portion of your grade. Overall, participation points will be assigned subjectively each quarter based on engagement in discussions and questions. Violation of classroom rules and protocol will result in a class participation grade deduction. That means if you are talking, sleeping, drooling, on your phones, not paying attention, or eating distractingly, you could lose points. Excessive tardies and/or unexcused absences will also result in deductions. Ignoring the school dress code will result in deductions and detentions. You will be expected to take notes on the lectures and readings in class and for homework, and during presentations or videos.

All class handouts and other materials must be kept in your binders – we will check them on Fridays for part of your participation grade.

EXTRA CREDIT

As a rule, do not expect nor ask for extra credit in this class. Don’t even ask. The only exception is the Class Officer positions.

OTHER REMINDERS/ PET PEEVES

- Students who are not IN THEIR SEATS when the bell rings may receive deductions to their bellringer grade or their participation grade.
- **IF you do not put your name on an assignment you will get a 0 for that assignment.**
- All work on your own paper must also include the title of the assignment. If you do not know the title, look at the board or ask. It only needs to contain the main words.
- Please do not use pencil on written tests, quizzes, or essays, if it makes it hard to read. Doing so is at your own risk. If I cannot read an assignment, test, or quiz, it will get a grade of 0.
- If you need to use the bathroom, raise your hand at an opportune time (NOT when I am giving instruction or a student is presenting)

PLAGIARISM & ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

ANYONE CAUGHT PLAGIARIZING (CHEATING) FROM A PUBLISHED TEXT, THE INTERNET OR A PEER WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE GIVEN A FAILING GRADE FOR THE ASSIGNMENT. THIS PENALTY WILL ALSO BE GIVEN IF IT IS DETERMINED THAT A STUDENT ALLOWED HIS/HER WORK TO BE PLAGIARIZED OR COPIED. I WILL NOT ACCEPT CHEATING IN THIS CLASSROOM. DISCIPLINARY ACTION WILL BE FOLLOWED ACCORDING TO SCHOOL POLICY.

THE AP COURSE AND EXAM:

While this is not specifically an exam prep course, students will be prepared and required to take the AP English and Composition Exam in May. The exam consists of 2 parts: multiple choice (1 hour) and three essays (2 hours and 15 minutes). The format of the three essays (synthesis, rhetorical analysis, and argument) aligns with the writing styles taught and assessed in this course

SEMESTER 1:

Unit 1 – ARGUMENTATION AND CLOSE READING

Unit 2 - RHETORICAL BOOT CAMP

Unit 3 - RHETORICAL AWARENESS:

SEMESTER 2:

Unit 4 – IN-DEPTH RHETORICAL STUDY and ARGUMENTATION:

Unit 5 - SYNTHESIS and SAT PREP

Unit 6 - ARGUMENT DEVELOPMENT

Unit 7 - TEST PREPARATION

AP EXAM – Mid-May

fStudents and Parents/Guardians will need to sign the letter and checklist below, stating that they understand and will abide by all policies within this document and return last page to Mr. Markus to receive 10 points toward their grade. Students will keep the remainder of the document in their Course Binder to refer to as necessary during the course of the year.

SIGNATURES AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Please sign below after you have read the above guidelines.

Student Name _____ Period _____

Student Signature _____

Student Email Address _____

Parent/Guardian1

Name _____

Signature_____

BEST Phone Number_____

Email Address _____

Parent/Guardian 2

Name _____

Signature_____

BEST Phone Number_____

Email Address _____

Student: Please tear off this page and hand it in by Tuesday, August 29, 2017 in order to receive 10 points toward your grade. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE AT LEAST ONE PARENT EMAIL ADDRESS, THIS SHEET WILL NOT COUNT TOWARD YOUR GRADE AND WILL BE RETURNED.

MAKE SURE THAT YOUR EMAIL ADDRESSES AND INFORMATION ARE LEGIBLE! If not, this sheet will be returned to you and you will lose points!

Also make sure that you have signed up for REMIND. It is necessary to sign up in order to receive the points for this assignment.