

AP LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION

a rhetoric option

WHAT You're Getting Yourself Into:

If you contract for AP Language and Composition, you are opting for rigor in reading and writing and college-level assessment.

WHAT You Need in Order to Be in the Class

- A grade of C or better in your last year's English class
- Current enrollment in Rhetoric
- A passing score on a **reading comprehension/analysis test**.
 - The **TEST** will take place in the fifth week of school after students have had a chance to acclimate to their other classes as well as rhetoric.
- Completion of a signed contract—see attachment.

WHAT You Need to Do Now

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Text: @w210 to 424-800-4149 to sign up for Williamson's <i>Remind101</i> account. She will proceed to nag you about reading over the summer and keep you in the loop about other rhetorical announcements. |
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- Talk to students who have taken AP Language and Comp (some may call it AP Rhetoric—same thing). Ask them how difficult it was—they will be honest!
 - Consider carefully your course load for this year. If you're already shouldering a heavy load, it's best to lighten it now rather than suffocate under its crushing weight.
 - Listen to yourself. It's possible, the reading assessment test will be very difficult for you, or that composing a timed essay. Listen to that frustration. It's telling you that you should probably not pursue the AP option. Not to worry, you will still enjoy the thrill and rigor of regular rhetoric.

WHAT You Need to Do Between Now and May

In addition to doing what we're doing in Rhetoric, read. Read what you want, but read a lot; then read some more. If you've never read a newspaper, start. Subscribe to a weekly magazine on a topic of your choice and read it. You don't have to read Aristotle in your spare time but you should keep the reading gears between your ears lubricated.

WHAT You Need to Do if You Decide to Become an APe

If you contract for the class you'll need to register for the AP exam in Language and Composition. The test is offered in May and costs approx. \$90.00 (less than the cost of most college textbooks). If passed, the test provides you with college credit in English.



**Advanced Placement Language & Composition
Course Application
[DO NOT submit until 5th week of the 2014-15 school year]**

Student Name: _____

Date: _____

Course Requested: _____

I understand and agree to the following conditions listed below:

- I am committing to perform at a college level of performance.
- I will take the end of course Advanced Placement test in May.
- I will not be allowed to drop the course unless I contact my counselor or administrator to explain extenuating circumstances out of my control that prohibit me for taking the course.

Student's Name (please print): _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Deadline for Return: _____

***** Return to current AP teacher of selected course for final approval *****

Teacher/Office Approval

Teacher Approval: _____

Counselor Approval: _____

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1ST AUXILARY ASSIGNMENT

All readings can be found in *A World of Ideas, essential readings for college writers, fifth edition*

Read Frederick Douglas from *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglas, an American Slave*

- Read pages 107-120 and take notes on everything, including his rhetoric
- Answer questions 1-5 under “Critical Reading”
- Answer questions 3, 5, & 6 under “Suggestions for Writing”

Read Henry David Thoreau’s “Civil Disobedience”

- Read pages 123-146 and take notes on everything, including his rhetoric
- Answer questions 1-7 under “Critical Reading”
- Answer questions 1, 3, & 9 under “Suggestions for Writing”

THREATS & CONCERNS

- Your written work will be worth 100 pts. If there are any “echoes” detected in your responses, you will only receive 1 pt total—for your name. Resist the urge to collaborate.
- Succinct responses to questions are encouraged.
- You will be graded on how well you SPECIFY & JUSTIFY in your answers.
- ALL written work must be in handwritten in ink. NO TYPED WORK will be accepted.
- You will be taking a reading comprehension quiz and writing a timed essay during class on **Tuesday, October 8th or Wednesday, October 9th**. If you miss both of the test dates, you may still contract, but you will have 0% on this portion of the assignment—don’t be dodgy!

GRADING

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|---|-----|
| • Thorough notes on readings | /20 |
| • Succinct, thoughtful responses to the questions | /80 |
| • (SPECIFY & JUSTIFY) | |
| • Reading Comprehension Quiz | /40 |
| • Timed Essay | /60 |

1 st AP Assignment total	/200
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NOTE: If you attempt this assignment or quiz, are unhappy with your grade/ score, then you simply withdraw your application for AP—no harm, no foul.