ADVANCED PLACEMENT LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION

Description

The course provides students with a comprehensive experience in studying American literature and prepares them for the Advanced Placement Language and Composition exam. Students will read a wide variety of American prose styles from many disciplines and historical periods and consider how selections of American fiction and non-fiction highlight stylistic decisions. Students learn to understand and appreciate the diverse ways that American authors make meaning in oral, written, and visual texts. Students also identify elements of literary and rhetorical style and use them in their own writing. Through the process of reading, writing, and discussing texts, students become skilled in composing for different audiences and purposes. The course is designed to enable students to analyze complex American texts and to write highly effective and stylistically sophisticated expository writing. AP Language and Composition emphasizes the teaching of writing strategies and requires student to write essays that proceed through several stages or drafts, with revision aided by teacher and peers Students write in forms such as narrative, exploratory, expository, and argumentative and on a variety of subjects such as personal experiences, public policies, imaginative literature, and pop culture. As the course progresses, students become aware of their own composition process through self-assessment and evaluations by peers and the teacher. It is anticipated that all students will take the AP Language and Composition exam in the spring. Completion of assigned summer reading and writing is a course requirement.

Course Overview						
 Course Goals Students should: identify and analyze stylistic and rhetorical elements in notable American texts to understand how meaning is shaped and articulated. apply stylistic and rhetorical elements in their own expository and inventive writing. participate in and lead academically rigorous seminars. analyze a variety of texts, both classical and contemporary (fiction, non-fiction, and visual), as products of the American culture. analyze and evaluate the relationship of readers, raised with the assumptions of the American culture. choose voice, tone, and content of writing to suit a variety of audiences and purposes. 	 How do we write, speak and present effectively? How do we use the English language appropriately to speak and write? 	Assessments Common Assessments Skill Assessments				

•	learn conventions and methods of research and MLA citation. develop their own "voice" in response to the ideas of major American thinkers. prepare for the AP Language and Composition exam. write formal papers that go through the full steps of the writing process.		
			Grade Level Skills
I.	Unit 1 - Writing to Explore Assumptions:		Students will:
п	Locating Ourselves as Americans Unit 2 Voices from the Past: Locating	State of Connecticut English Language Arts Curriculum Frameworks	•
	Ourselves as Writers	Currentian Francoworks	
III.	U U	Connecticut State Standards are met in the	
	the Memoir	following areas:	
	<u>Unit 4</u> - Synthesis/Research <u>Unit 5</u> - Writing to Promote Social Change	Reading and Responding	
	<u>Unit 6</u> - Writing to Investigate Culture:	Students read, comprehend and respond in	
	Voices in Works of Fiction	individual, literal, critical and evaluative ways to	
		literary, informational and persuasive texts in	
		both print and multimedia formats.	
		Exploring and Responding to Literature	
		Students read and respond to classical and	
		contemporary texts from many cultures and	
		literary periods.	
		Communicating with Others	
		Students produce written, oral and visual texts	
		to express, develop and substantiate ideas and experiences.	
		caper relieves.	
		Applying English Language Conventions	
		Students apply the conventions of Standard	
		English in oral and written communication.	

	Pacing Guide							
1st Markin	ng Period	2nd Marking Pe	eriod	31	d Marking Period		4th Marking	Period
September	October Nover	nber December	January	February	/ March	April	May	June
Unit 1 <u>Writing to</u> <u>Explore</u> <u>Assumptions:</u> <u>Locating</u> <u>Ourselves as</u> <u>Americans</u>	Unit 2 <u>Voices from the</u> <u>Past: Locating</u> <u>Ourselves as</u> <u>Writers</u>	Unit 3 Ourselves Among Others: Writing the <u>Memoir</u>	Unit 4 <u>Synthesis</u> / <u>Research</u>		Unit 5 ing to Promote Soc	ial Change	Uni <u>Writing to Inves</u> <u>Voices in Wo</u>	stigate Culture:
4 weeks	4 weeks	5 weeks	4 weeks		8 weeks		6 we	eeks

Unit 1: Writing to Explore Assumptions: Locating Ourselves as Americans, 4 weeks top

Standards

Reading and Responding

Students interpret, analyze, and evaluate text in order to extend understanding and appreciation. Students will:

- interpret information that is implied in texts ٠
- communicate with others to create interpretations of written, oral, and visual texts. ٠
- respond to the ideas of others and recognize the validity of differing views. ٠

Exploring and Responding to Literature

Students recognize that readers and authors are influenced by individual, social, cultural, and historical contexts. Students will:

• analyze and evaluate the basic beliefs, perspectives, and assumptions underlying an author's work.

Communicating with Others

Students use descriptive, narrative, expository, persuasive, and poetic modes.

Students will:

• use appropriate features of persuasive, narrative, expository, and poetic writing.

Students prepare, publish, and/or present work appropriate to audience, purpose, and task. Students will:

research information from multiple sources for a specific purpose. ٠

Applying English Language Conventions

Students use Standard English for composing and revising written texts. Students will:

demonstrate proficient use of proper mechanics, usage, and spelling skills. •

Unit Objectives	Essential Questions	Assessments
 Students will be able to: read and discuss a variety of nonfiction texts that address aspects of American culture. conduct an interview to collect material for a descriptive essay. 	 How do we understand what we read? How does literature enrich our lives? How do we write, speak, and present effectively? How do we use the English language appropriately to speak and write? 	 Graded seminar discussions based on the summer reading texts Profile essay – descriptive and analytical essay in which students interview a person who has been

 actively participate in seminar discussions. write in a narrative voice to engage in metacognition. identify and analyze a cultural artifact. set writing goals for the first quarter based on the summer reading work. independently read book-length text and apply reading strategies developed in Grade 9 and 10 English classes as they read (e.g. asking interpretive and evaluative questions, making personal connections and connections to other texts, analyzing key lines, analyzing the use of literary conventions to construct meaning). respond in their journals to non-fiction texts by either demonstrating a analysis of style and structure through a close reading of the text or by imitating the style and structure of non-fiction texts. 	 How can writing be used to analyze and explore the origins of my cultural assumptions? How can published texts challenge or reinforce my assumptions? What makes my voice in writing unique and effective? 	 influential in shaping his/her own view of American society; final product will profile an individual and implicitly or explicitly reveal the author's view of American society Metacognitive/ Narrative of Thought essay – Students will identify a cultural assumption that they hold. Through discussion and analysis of American cultural artifacts, students will write the story of how they came to hold these assumptions in the form of a narrative essay. Additionally, students will weave in analysis of a cultural artifact to support or question the validity of what they have assumed to be true about American culture. Minimum of four 1/1/2-2 page journal responses to non-fiction texts
Lesson Planning Resources		 Skill Objectives Students will: identify individual grammar and usage problems, based on their writing about summer reading. review grammar and usage conventions as needed. revise writing to address identified grammar and usage concerns.
Technology Resources	Differentiated Instruction	Enrichment/ELL

Unit 2: Voices from the Past: Locating Ourselves as Writers, 4 weeks top

Standards

Exploring and Responding to Literature

Students will recognize how literary devices and conventions engage the reader.

Students will:

- identify and analyze the differences between structures of fiction and nonfiction. •
- analyze literary conventions and devices an author uses and how they contribute to meaning and appeal.
- compare/contrast and evaluate ideas, themes, and/or issues across classical and contemporary texts. •

Students recognize that readers and authors are influenced by individual, social, cultural, and historical contexts. Students will:

- - evaluate the effectiveness of the choices of authors, illustrators, and film makers make to express political and social issues.

Communicating with Others

Students use descriptive, narrative, expository, persuasive, or poetic modes.

Students will:

- listen to or read a variety of genres to use as models for writing in different modes. •
- use appropriate features of persuasive, narrative, expository, or poetic writing. •

Students prepare, publish, and/or present work appropriate to audience, purpose, and task. Students will:

• revise texts for organization, elaboration, fluency, and clarity.

Applying English Language Conventions

Students speak and write using standard language structures and diction appropriate to audience and task. Students will:

• evaluate the impact of language as related to audience and purpose.

Students use Standard English for composing and revising written texts.

Students will:

demonstrate proficient use of proper mechanics, usage, and spelling skills. •

Unit Objectives	Essential Questions	Assessments
 Students will be able to: correctly identify and demonstrate understanding of specified rhetorical and stylistic elements. complete and discuss sample multiple- 	 How does literature enrich our lives? How do we write, speak and present effectively? How do we use the English language appropriately to speak and write? 	• "Cloud of Dust" model book review Students will critique the book they read for the Summer Reading Book Chat in the form of a <i>New Yorker</i> -style book review for which they have

 Composition exam (with a focus on stylistic, rhetorical, and literary devices). identify and analyze rhetorical and stylistic devices in texts read as a class and in a text read independently. demonstrate innovation with rhetorical and stylistic devices in their own writing. demonstrate "voice" in their writing. acquire and use a sophisticated vocabulary for discussion of rhetorical elements. read and analyze an exemplary book review in order to create an assessment list for the book review assignment. participate in class discussion, either in class or online, discussing affordances of texts, in terms of the questions they pose and the themes they address, as well as the style of texts and the craft of authors. respond in their journals to non-fiction texts by either demonstrating a analysis of style and structure through a close reading of the text or by imitating the style and structure of non-fiction texts. analyze theme and style of film in order to make connections in discussions and in their writing. 	 Focus Questions How has the American essay evolved in style and function over time? How does critical reading and response to traditional and contemporary non-fiction texts contribute to our sophistication as readers and writers? How do authors use style to develop important ideas in their work? How are rhetorical devices used to shape meaning within American texts and within student-generated texts? How can one write and speak about intellectual ideas using a distinct voice? How are philosophical, political, and social trends in American society evident in the American literary landscape? How can the study of model essays inform my awareness and development of my own writing? 	
Lesson Planning Resources		 Skill Objectives Students will: review sentence structure (simple, compound, complex, compound-complex). revise for sentence variety. avoid sentence sprawl. correctly punctuate compound and complex sentences.

Technology Resources	Differentiated Instruction	Enrichment/ELL

Unit 3 - Ourselves Among Others: Writing the Memoir, 5 weeks top

<u>Standards</u>

Reading and Responding

Students communicate with others to create interpretations of written, oral, and visual texts. Students will:

• respond to the ideas of others and recognize the validity of differing views.

Exploring and Responding to Literature

Students recognize how literary devices and conventions engage the reader.

Students will:

• analyze literary conventions and devices an author uses and how they contribute to meaning and appeal.

Students recognize that readers and authors are influenced by individual, social, cultural, and historical contexts. Students will:

• interpret, analyze, and evaluate the influence of culture, history and ethnicity on themes and issues in literature.

Communicating with Others

Students use descriptive, narrative, expository, persuasive, or poetic modes.

Students will:

• use appropriate features of persuasive, narrative, expository, or poetic writing.

Students prepare, publish, and/or present work appropriate to audience, purpose, and task.

Students will:

• revise texts for organization, elaboration, fluency, and clarity.

Applying English Language Conventions

Students speak and write using standard language structures and diction appropriate to audience and task. Students will:

• evaluate the impact of language as related to audience and purpose.

Students use Standard English for composing and revising written texts.

Students will:

• demonstrate proficient use of proper mechanics, usage, and spelling skills

<u>Unit Objectives</u>	Essential Questions	Assessments
 Students will be able to: use a variety of stylistic devices to craft an effective memoir. 	 How do we understand what we read? How does literature enrich our lives? How do we write, speak and present effectively? 	• Memoir: Students will craft a memoir using an innovative and effective organizational technique. The memoir should be an

 sessions by submitting a memoir for peer review and by offering constructive written and oral criticism to peers. write and assess a timed essay in response to an AP style prompt by analyzing anchor sets, and completing self and peer assessments. independently read book-length text and apply reading strategies developed in Grade 9 and 10 English classes as they read (e.g. asking interpretive and evaluative questions, making personal connections and connections to other texts, analyzing key lines, analyzing the use of literary conventions to construct meaning). participate in class discussion, either in class or online, discussing affordances of texts, in terms of the questions they pose and the themes they address, as well as the style of texts and the craft of authors. 		 exploration of how personal identity is shaped by membership in or exclusion from parts of American culture. For example, students may write about feeling marginalized or the significance of recognizing that they are part of "the mainstream." Timed AP prompt Book review of independent reading
Lesson Planning Resources		Skill Objectives Students will:
		• recognize and effectively use participles and gerunds to enliven their writing.
		• use parallel structure with participles, phrases, and clauses to diversify their uniting stude
		 writing style. correctly punctuate introductory participial phrases.
Technology Resources	Differentiated Instruction	Enrichment/ELL

Unit 4 - Synthesis/Research, 4 weeks top

Standards

Reading and Responding

Students communicate with others to create interpretations of written, oral, and visual texts. Students will:

• respond to the ideas of others and recognize the validity of differing views.

Communicating with Others

Students prepare, publish, and/or present work appropriate to audience, purpose, and task. Students will:

- revise texts for organization, elaboration, fluency, and clarity.
- research information from multiple sources for a specific purpose.
- evaluate the validity of primary and secondary sources of information to authenticate research.

Applying English Language Conventions

Students speak and write using standard language structures and diction appropriate to audience and task. Students will:

• demonstrate proficient use of proper mechanics, usage, and spelling skills.

<u>Unit Objectives</u>	Essential Questions	<u>Assessments</u>
 Students will be able to: collect a variety of types of information about their community from sources such as interviews, observation, local media, and their own reading. write an annotated bibliography, 	 How do we understand what we read? How do we write, speak, and present effectively? How do we use the English language appropriately to speak and write? Focus Questions What are the cultural assumptions and beliefs underlying my community in Fairfield? How can critical examination of data and physical surroundings reveal the cultural foundations of the community? To what extent does my own ideology match the beliefs of others in my community? 	 Annotated bibliography of research findings in which students offer critical analysis of no fewer than five sources. Sources come from a variety of types of research, including interviews, reading, observation, and local media. Presentation in which students share their research findings with the class Synthesis essay in which students use both their own research and the research of their peers to support a written argument about some aspect of the aulture of their community.

make connections in discussions and in their writing.	cultural assumptions?How do authors use different types of data and research effectively?	
Lesson Planning Resources		 Skill Objective Students will: use MLA citations and guidelines accurately.
Technology Resources	Differentiated Instruction	Enrichment/ELL

Unit 5 - Writing to Promote Social Change, 8 weeks <u>top</u>

<u>Standards</u>

Exploring and Responding to Literature

Students will recognize how literary devices and conventions engage the reader.

Students will:

• analyze literary conventions and devices an author uses and how they contribute meaning and appeal.

Students recognize that readers and authors are influenced by individual, social, cultural, and historical contexts. Students will:

- analyze and evaluate the basic beliefs, perspectives, and assumptions underlying an author's work.
- interpret, analyze, and evaluate the influence of culture, history, and ethnicity on themes and issued in literature.
- evaluate the effectiveness of the choices of authors, illustrators, and film makers make to express political and social issues.

Communicating with Others

Students use descriptive, narrative, expository, persuasive, or poetic modes.

Students will:

- listen to or read a variety of genres to use as models for writing in different modes.
- use appropriate features of persuasive, narrative, expository, or poetic writing.

Applying English Language Conventions

Students speak and write using standard language structures and diction appropriate to audience and task. Students will:

• evaluate the impact of language as related to audience and purpose.

Students use Standard English for composing and revising written texts.

Students will:

• demonstrate proficient use of proper mechanics, usage, and spelling skills

<u>Unit Objectives</u>	Essential Questions	Assessments
 Students will be able to: recognize and analyze the characteristics that motivate us to act independently through a close reading of major texts of the unit. identify and model the stylistic and polemical elements present in different types of writing and media. 	 How does literature enrich our lives? How do we write, speak and present effectively? How do we use the English language appropriately to speak and write? Focus Questions What is progress? How is it typically defined? How should it be defined? 	 Arguments in various genres Students will select a contemporary American social issue (local, regional, or national) and present an argument about that issue, writing in at least two distinct genres (satire, letters, poetry,

•	demonstrate an understanding of the	
	features of effective argumentation by	
	taking a position on a social issue and	
	experimenting with making the same	
	argument in varied genres.	

- write persuasively for different audiences.
- analyze sample argument prompts from the AP Lang and Comp exam.
- write a timed essay in response to an AP argument prompt.
- recognize and evaluate the effective features of argument development in a selected *New Yorker*-style article.
- write, in order to emulate an argument style, a *New Yorker*-style piece of social commentary.
- independently read book-length text and apply reading strategies developed in Grade 9 and 10 English classes as they read (e.g. asking interpretive and evaluative questions, making personal connections and connections to other texts, analyzing key lines, analyzing the use of literary conventions to construct meaning)
- participate in class discussion, either in class or online, discussing affordances of texts, in terms of the questions they pose and the themes they address, as well as the style of texts and the craft of authors.
- analyze theme and style of film in order to make connections in discussions and in their writing.
- analyze theme and style of film in order to make connections in discussions and in their writing.

- What are the most pressing problems facing the United States today? What cultural factors led to the creation of these problems? What cultural strengths can lead to genuine solutions?
- How do you, as an individual, contribute to America's troubles? What individual qualities do you possess to help contribute solving America's problems?
- How can literacy and critical thinking be effective tools for progress for this country?
- As we create new visions for our own and our nation's future, what changes do we need to imagine in order to create healthy and sustainable America?

slogans, etc.) in order to experiment with rhetoric, style, and audience

- Timed AP Argument Question Support, refute, or qualify prompt
- Original piece of social commentary modeled on *New Yorker*-style article
- Book review of independent reading text

Skill Objectives

AP Lang

Suggested Materials/Resources

		 Students will: recognize and avoid exaggeration, hyperbolically empty language, over- generalizations, platitudes, clichés, jargon, slang, and colloquialisms. use adverbial connectives for emphasis and transition. punctuate adverbial connectives, using semi-colon and comma with transitions such as therefore, for example, and however.
<u>Technology Resources</u>	Differentiated Instruction	Enrichment/ELL

Unit 6 - Writing to Investigate Culture: Voices in Works of Fiction, 6 weeks top

<u>Standards</u>

Reading and Responding

Students communicate with others to create interpretations of written, oral, and visual texts. Students will:

• respond to the ideas of others and recognize the validity of differing views.

Exploring and Responding to Literature

Students will recognize and appreciate that contemporary and classical literature has shaped human thought. Students will:

• compare / contrast and evaluate ideas, themes, and/or issues across classical and contemporary texts.

Students recognize that readers and authors are influenced by individual, social, cultural, and historical contexts. Students will:

- analyze and evaluate the basic beliefs, perspectives, and assumptions underlying an author's work.
- evaluate the effectiveness of the choices of authors, illustrators, and film makers make to express political and social issues.

Communicating with Others

Students use descriptive, narrative, expository, persuasive, or poetic modes.

Students will:

• use appropriate features of persuasive, narrative, expository, or poetic writing.

Students prepare, publish and/or present work appropriate to audience, purpose and task. Students will:

• revise texts for organization, elaboration, fluency, and clarity.

Applying English Language Conventions

Students use Standard English for composing and revising written texts.

Students will:

• demonstrate proficient use of proper mechanics, usage, and spelling skills.

Unit Objectives	Essential Questions	<u>Assessments</u>
 Students will be able to: discuss unit texts in relation to concepts and characteristics of American culture and American literature. interact with texts through written 	 How do we understand what we read? How does literature enrich our lives? How do we write, speak and present effectively? How do we use the English language appropriately to speak and write? 	• Literary analysis paper: This paper should be 4-5 pages in length. Students should engage in close analysis of a novel to support some larger interpretation about how ideas or themes in the novel are relevant in
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responses, seminars, and finalized written contemporary American thought. MLA response work. Focus Ouestions conventions should be used. How do critical reading and responding to conduct insightful analysis of two novels, Graded seminar discussions: Students • • one from the traditional literary canon and fiction and non-fiction contribute to our should lead seminar discussions about sophistication as readers and writers? one contemporary text. the texts studied. Students will write a read and analyze supplementary poems, How have philosophical, political, and social 2-3 paragraph abstract to introduce and ٠ excerpts of literary criticism, essays, and trends in American society shaped the American propose the particular focus for the discussion they lead. short fiction to deepen examination of the literary landscape? two unit novels. What aspects of past literary traditions are still Personal Manifesto: Students will write • evident in contemporary American literature? a 5-10 page statement of belief in which make connections between the novels and ٠ cultural trends discussed previously in the they speak from their own experience to What effect does social environment play in take a stand about some aspect of shaping a piece of literature? vear. American culture. The manifesto should write with voice and conviction about How are contemporary texts a vehicle for rich • be an honest attempt to "speak for their personal ideology in relation to American examinations of literary, philosophical, and generation." Stylistic experimentation culture. cultural trends in American past and present? should be encouraged. Teachers may independently read book-length text and What do members of the current generation ٠ choose to incorporate this assignment apply reading strategies developed in have to say about America today? into the final exam. Grade 9 and 10 English classes as they Book review of independent reading read (e.g. asking interpretive and evaluative questions, making personal connections and connections to other texts, analyzing key lines, analyzing the use of literary conventions to construct meaning). participate in class discussion, either in ٠ class or online, discussing affordances of texts, in terms of the questions they pose and the themes they address, as well as the style of texts and the craft of authors. analyze theme and style of film in order to ٠ make connections in discussions and in their writing. Skill Objective Suggested Materials/Resources Lesson Planning Resources Students will: consider stylistic choices which • challenge the conventions such as beginning a sentence with a conjunction

		and using sentence fragments for emphasis.
Technology Resources	Differentiated Instruction	Enrichment/ELL