

Mrs. Coreen Hartig:

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Class Website: <https://sites.google.com/jeffersonunion.net/english12ap>

AP English Language and Composition: Rhetoric and Culture

The focus of AP English Language and Composition is the critical reading, analyzing, and creation of rhetorical works. Rhetoric is the art of creating effective and persuasive texts (verbal and visual); you will learn to discern how rhetoric is being used by different rhetors, and you will develop your own writing and speaking abilities to become effective and moving rhetors in your own right. We will be exploring a variety of different texts (essays, letters, articles, speeches, visuals, etc.) to develop rhetorical analysis; in addition to analyzing texts, you will be active creators of text (essays, visuals, speeches, etc.). As we read and create a variety of texts, we will be exploring these three essential questions:

Essential Questions:

1. How does rhetoric reflect and shape the world?
2. How can we use rhetoric to shape our world and ourselves?
3. What are the essential features, benefits, and problems of the modern world?

Course Skills and Concepts:

- Critical reading
- Rhetoric and rhetorical analysis
- Research skills
- Writing (style, organization, diction, etc.)
- Presentation skills (public speaking, visual communication, and digital media)
- Vocabulary
- Collaboration
- Metacognition

Thinking about your accomplishments and struggles over the last three years in different Humanities courses, list at least 3 specific goals for yourself for your work in AP English Language.

Goals:

Senior Exhibition:

Throughout this year, we will collaborate as a class, as teacher to students, and as mentors to mentees, on completing the Senior Exhibition. Although you will have time in class to work on your project, you must devote substantial time to this work outside of class in order to complete this project successfully.

Individual Presentations:

Each semester, each student will give a rhetorical analysis presentation to the class.

1. **Fall Semester Visual Analysis:** Rhetorical and visual analysis of an image (not a video). You will present the image to the class and then provide a thorough explanation identifying the different rhetorical devices and their effectiveness.
2. **Spring Semester Speech and Current Event Analysis:** You will select a short clip of a speech (2-5 minutes) that responds/ discusses a current event. You will research the context for that current event, the speaker and the speech, and finally give a rhetorical analysis of the speech. You will need to provide a link to the speech for the class to hear.

Writing Assignments: You will write frequently in our class to analyze texts and create your own texts. The following is a list of some of the types of writing we will do this year:

- Rhetorical Analysis
- Argumentative
- Synthesis
- Reflective Writing
- Quick Writes
- Journalism: We will be creating an **on-line policy journal** this year for our class to publish once a semester.

Grading:

- Senior Exhibition: 20%
- Writing (Non-Senior Exhibition): 20%
- Reading: 25%
- Speaking and Listening: 15%
- Tests/ Quizzes: 15%
- Responsibility: 5%

In this class, assignments will be graded on a blended model of SBG, the AP essay rubric, and points.

SBG Percent Equivalents

4.0 = 100%	3.0 = 85%	2.0 = 75%	1.0 = 65%
3.5 = 90%	2.5 = 80%	1.5 = 70%	.5 = 60%

AP Essay Rubric Percent Equivalents

6 = 100%	4 = 80%	2 = 65%
5 = 90%	3 = 75%	1 = 55%

Materials:

- 3 Ring binder
- Dividers (Foundation/ Keep Forever, Vocabulary, Grammar/Style, Current Unit, Writing/Returned Work)
- Pens and highlighters
- Binder Paper

Late Work and Meeting Deadlines:

- Senior Exhibition deadlines and **all** classroom presentations are **hard deadlines**.
- Late homework will be accepted up to the end of each grading period (every 6 weeks). After that point, the work is **not accepted**.

If Absent:

It is the responsibility of students to find out what they have missed (class notes, handouts, homework, etc.). Students should consult the class website and Google Classroom or contact me. Being absent prior to the date of a presentation, major project, essay, quiz/test will **not** excuse students from the work due that day.

Cheating and Plagiarism:

Cheating and plagiarism will NOT be tolerated in this classroom. Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive an automatic 0 for the assignment. Other consequences, including contacting administration and family, may result from repeat offenses or a high value assignment (test, for example).

Rules of Conduct:

Respect: This means we must respect each other and ourselves. Respect the minds (ideas), hearts (feelings), and bodies of others and yourselves. Respect means being polite, kind, and considerate at all times to all people. Respect also means listening attentively, being on task, coming prepared to class, contributing positively to the classroom and groups, and respecting everyone's right to learn.

Student Signature:

Date:

Parent/ Guardian Signature:

Date:
