



Mrs. Winn, AP English Language & ELD Teacher

La Costa Canyon High School
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English Department, RM #413

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Google Classroom Codes:

- P2 Code: lbxtvup
- P7 Code: rkzhz5cq

General Course Description

AP Language allows students to experience the rigor of a college-level course while still in high school. Specifically, the class focuses on the study of rhetoric, the art of effective communication. Students will have numerous opportunities to analyze the strategies of accomplished writers so that they can improve their own ability to communicate effectively. Additionally, the course offers students the opportunity to earn college credit. College credit is granted based upon earning a passing score on the AP Language exam in May, and all students are expected to take this exam. Like college preparatory courses at the high-school level, this class will also emphasize the refinement of reading and writing skills.

Composition

According to The College Board, the non-profit organization that nationally organizes advanced placement courses, AP Language aims to “engage students in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes.” Additionally, College Board intends that the course “make students aware of the interactions among a writer’s purposes, audience expectations, and subjects as well as the way generic conventions and the resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing.” AP Language students will develop an understanding of writing as a process, and during this school year students will be asked to write numerous in-class and polished essays. Since this is a composition course, please expect and be prepared to write or type essays. This course is designed to refine your ability to write effectively using appropriate diction, a variety of sentence structures, illustrative detail, logical organization, and an appropriate tone.

Critical Reading

Since there is an inherent connection between reading and writing, this AP course will also develop the ability to read critically and analyze fine nuances of meanings. The College Board purposes that students become “skilled readers of prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts.” Furthermore, students are expected to read “a wide variety of prose styles from many disciplines and historical time periods to gain understanding of the connections between interpretative skill in reading and writing.” Readings will also include teacher-selected, non-fiction pieces. Additionally, students will be expected to read on their own; this can include novels, nonfiction books, or articles.

Course Assignments

Students are expected to take notes on all course lectures and class discussions. Course assignments will include but are not limited to the following: the reading of nonfiction, plays, novels, essays and other prose; reading quizzes; close-reading questions; practice AP exams; vocabulary development; group projects; essays; group work; group essays; daily warm-ups; and class discussions. Additionally, students may be expected to conduct research and read a nonfiction book.

Recommended Daily Supplies

Students need a 1.5 or 2 inch (at least) 3-ring binder for this class. During the course, you will receive important handouts that you will add to your binder. You should also have plenty of college-ruled, lined paper. An APEL student should also come prepared to class daily with the following: APEL binder, planner/calendar, lined paper, highlighters, post-it notes, pencils and ink pens in various colors, including red.

Communicating with Ms. Winn is best in person. Please don't hesitate to talk to me if you have any problems, questions, or concerns. You can email me if you are not able to see me in person (for example, in the instance of a sickness or long absence). The best way for your parents to communicate with me is via email: chritina.winn@sduhsd.net.

Submitting Work

All work must include your name, my name, course title and class period and due date. Homework will always be due *at a designated time as indicated in class*. Typed assignments must follow all MLA guidelines:

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| <p>ASSIGNMENTS: Please identify each assignment with the following MLA Header:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Name <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher Name <input type="checkbox"/> Class, Period <input type="checkbox"/> Due Date: D/M/Y | <p>EXAMPLE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Luke Skywalker <input type="checkbox"/> Jedi Master Yoda <input type="checkbox"/> English 12, Per. 6 <input type="checkbox"/> 25 May 1985 |
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If you experience computer or technology problems for assignments that must be typed, or turned in electronically, email me to let me know what is happening and complete a written draft in ink by the deadline to avoid a "late penalty" (explained below). This handwritten assignment will be held for one day until you replace it with the typed version. All assignments should reflect each student's own ideas, words and work; students should not collaborate on assignments unless specific instructions to do so have been given.

Late and Make-up Work

- Please make every effort to submit all work on time. Generally, I do NOT accept late work without a penalty. If you find that a deadline is impossible or extremely difficult to keep, please see me in advance to discuss a *possible* extension. Late work will be penalized with a "late fee," usually 20% per day. Late work will be tracked so that you, your parents and I can monitor the quality and frequency of your late-work. I will not accept late work after 1 week of its original due date (unless prior arrangements have been made).
- Any work missed due to an excused absence should be made up within one week of the absence unless specific accommodations have been made. I will always expect your work to reflect your best effort and your impressive sense of responsibility. It is my priority to treat every student with fairness and respect.
- When turning in late/absent work, please identify whether the assignment is **LATE** or if you were **ABSENT** so that you do not get penalized for absent work.
- Technology failure does not constitute an excuse for not completing and turning in work. Find a way to complete the assignment (handwritten) without the technology, and then turn it in once your technology is working. When you turn in an assignment late, even if it was due to technological issues, you may still be held accountable to my late policy and may face a deduction in points for that assignment, depending on the circumstances.
- **"Rule of thumb" for any technical issues:** email me immediately or as soon as you can to let me know about the problem; even if you cannot email me to let me know about the problem, find a way to do the work (complete the assignment using pen and paper), and then take a picture of your work and submit it to me via phone or electronically as soon as you are able to.

Grading

Assignments are weighted by category. Writing is a huge part of this class and therefore a huge part of your grade. Essentially, writing will amount to about 60 percent of your grade because much of your homework will include writing.

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| Major Writing Assignments | 40% |
| Homework, Class Work & Participation | 30% |
| Assessments (tests and quizzes) | 30% |

To earn the maximum points possible, it is extremely important that you complete all assignments on time and to the best of your ability. It is important that you keep all of your work. Keeping all work will protect you from any possible recording errors and ensure that you have the proper materials to study for assessments. Please note that grades will be

updated on Aeries as soon as I can; keep in mind that you will be completing a lot of work, and I have a lot of students. Please see me in person with the assignment in question if you have any problems or there is a recording error.

- An A grade does not mean adequate, average or acceptable; it means that you completely mastered the skill or completed the assignment above and beyond the expectations, and the quality of the work is academically exceptional. Just because you have completed your work, it does not guarantee you an A.
- Students who want to earn an A in this class need to complete A-quality work consistently and put forth 100% effort at all times.
- Turn in your best work. It should be written neatly or typed with minimal errors in grammar, punctuation or style (you must follow MLA format for all of your work).
- All assignments should always represent your own work in your own ideas and words.
- Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Any assignments that are plagiarized will result in a score of zero, and, depending on the circumstances, could have further consequences. See *SDUHSD handbook* on Plagiarism

Daily CLASS PROCEDURES:

- **Before the designated start time for our class period:**
 - Before class is scheduled to start, make sure you are in your seat ready to begin class with the needed materials and with your phone placed in your assigned, numbered pocket.
 - Make sure you check the posted daily agenda on the screen and start the warm-up or discussion assignment.
 - Make sure you have all the needed materials and texts for the day.
 - If you have been absent and need to review what was missed before you can begin the warm-up/discussion assignment, you can raise your hand so that I can help you get started.
- **Once the bell rings and class starts:**
 - You need to be working on the warm-up or discussion assignment and ready for class with all the necessary materials on your desk.
 - If you have not started the warm-up or discussion task or assignment by the start time of class, you may be marked tardy, and you may lose points for that assignment.
 - Once I have taken attendance and have given all students enough time to complete most of the warm-up/discussion assignment, I will start class. At this point, you will be expected to participate actively and verbally in the class as needed.

Daily CLASS EXPECTATIONS: Students will...

- be in their assigned seats when the bell rings and ready to work;
- consult the screen in the front of the room for instructions as they enter the classroom;
- keep cell phones during the entire class time in the “charging station” (unless instructed to use them);
- no earbuds in your ears or dangling around you;
- treat everyone with respect;
- turn in all work on time;
- be prepared everyday with the required materials and attitude;
- see me with any questions and or problems.

PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES:

Your participation is an important element of this course, and there are many ways in which you can demonstrate your level of participation and engagement. Participation will be earned for doing any number of things within class discussions and or during class time in general.

- Be prepared to actively participate in this class every day, whether with groups or with the whole class.
- The more you all participate, the better our class will be, and the more out of this course you will get.

NOTE: the materials, curriculum and content of this course will be provided in person during our scheduled class time. I will provide daily agendas in Google Classroom (GC). However, if you are absent, you will still need to talk to me in person to make arrangements on how you get the information that you missed during class. Most of your assignments for

this class will be turned in during class and in-person, not electronically. There will be some assignments that you complete on College Board's website and or submitted to Google Classroom, and in that case those will be completed electronically.

TECHNOLOGY/WEBSITES:

1. **Website:** <https://sites.google.com/sduhsd.net/mrs-winn>
 - Students and guardians can review general information about the course and about Mrs. Winn.
2. **Google Classroom:**
 - Will be used daily for students to access the day's work, especially when absent.
3. **Aeries** is where you can access all grades.
 - Aeries is used for items that have been graded.
 - It can take time to grade essays/major writing assignments, so Aeries will not reflect what is currently being worked on in the classroom.
 - It also does not reflect upcoming assignments.
 - Please refer to Mrs. Winn's Google Classroom for the current work schedule.

Citizenship

Citizenship in this class calls for the highest possible standards of respect for yourself, others, property and the learning process. All school and district policies, including the academic-honesty policy, will be strictly enforced.

- **RESPECT!**
- **READINESS!**
- **RESPONSIBILITY!**

- What you say and type are still a representation of you as a person.
 - Digital citizenship will be considered in your Participation Grading Category, therefore, it is important to respect all others, be ready to learn, and take responsibility for your actions!
- To guarantee all students a safe and inclusive learning environment derogatory sentiments or behavior **will not be tolerated**.
- It is important to be vocal against biased remarks and support those who speak out against such behaviors.
- Treat others the way you wish to be treated → *GOLDEN RULE!*
- Basically, come prepared to learn, and allow others to learn as well.
- *Please contact me if there are any concerns or questions. I am here to help you succeed!*

SIGNATURE & AGREEMENT:

1. Read this syllabus thoroughly and discuss the contents with your guardians.
2. A **Syllabus Signature Agreement** and **Plagiarism Contract** for both students and guardians to sign will be assigned as a separate HW assignment in the coming week.