

AP English Literature and Composition

S2

Description

This course includes intensive study of representative works from both American and British authors in various genres and time periods, concentrating on works of recognized literary merit. Students will learn the structure of the AP Literature exam, literary analysis writing, literary time periods, the history of the English language, poetry, and class and individual novel exploration. They will write using AP Literature Exam prompts, practice sample multiple-choice questions, and discuss major themes and ideas in literature.

Materials/Textbook/Technical Requirements

This course does have required materials, which are listed below. Students will need to obtain the following texts:

- *My Antonia* by Willa Cather (Any version)
- *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini
- *5 Steps to a 5: McGraw-Hill's 500 AP English Literature Questions to Know by Test Day*, 2nd Edition (ISBN-10: 1259836630) OR 3rd Edition (ISBN-10: 1260474739). This book will be used for assigned practice tests.
- One self-selected dramatic play (choose from [list](#))

Novels are available for purchase from local bookstores, through online sellers such as Amazon.com, or can be borrowed through your local library.

You will also read various selections of poetry, short stories, and plays listed in the study and assignments guides. These are provided within the course content.

Unit 1 Introduction to AP, Poetry, and Satire

Welcome to AP Literature and Composition! This will be a challenging yet rewarding course. The goal for you is twofold: first, to improve your reading, writing, and thinking skills; second, to gain familiarity and practice with the format and rigor of the AP exam. Beginning an AP course requires getting acquainted with a potentially demanding schedule. In addition, beginning a course online requires becoming familiar with a variety of tools. There are many resources associated with this course. It is helpful to get them out of the way so that you can focus on the deeper material and to prepare for the exam. Be sure to review the course syllabus, schedule,

and the College Board's information about AP Lit and Comp, and ask now if you have any questions! Then, review the information in this lesson & unit to help prepare for the upcoming course.

As we review during this unit, please start to look for a copy of *My Antonia* by Willa Cather. This is the novel we will be studying next unit, and you may want to start that novel as you are working through this introductory unit. You will want to start answering questions from the provided study guide you will be required to turn in at the end of Unit 2.

By the end of this unit, you will be able to:

- review the basic purpose and set up of an AP course.
- review basic poetry explication and learn about satire.

Lesson 1 - Fundamentals of AP Literature and Composition

Lesson 2 - Ansel Adams Overview

Lesson 3 - Poetry Essentials

Lesson 4 - Elements of Humor: Satire, Parody, and Farce

Review

Test

Unit 2: My Antonia by Willa Carter

Up until this point, this course has dealt with a lot of reading and writing. Reading can be a fun and exciting journey, but it can also be time-consuming and arduous. Close reading for analysis will help to strengthen reading and writing skills. In addition, the times working through complex texts and challenging material allow students to practice critical thinking skills. Learning these skills now, will help in future contexts like the workforce and college.

By the end of this unit, you will be able to:

- examine the lives of American pioneers to connect to Willa Cather's novel *My Antonia*.
- connect the pioneer experience to Cather's novel.
- identify the use of setting and landscapes to create a tone and message.
- evaluate written texts for their settings.
- determine the tone and character created through written settings.
- compare and contrast two pieces of writing for their settings and character, explaining these through a written response.

Lesson 1 - Willa Cather: Exploring the Author

Lesson 2 - My Antonia

Lesson 3 - Willa Cather Comparison

Review

Test

Unit 3: Hamlet Act I-II

Most of us have heard the now trite phrase, not everything is always as it appears. This may be true of our social lives. It may be true of our family relationships. It may be true of how we choose to see the world. One of the most commonly repeated themes in literature is appearance versus reality. Writers often explore the idea that life is uncertain; that we never know what others are truly thinking, feeling, or doing; that we cannot always be sure of the right decision; and that we cannot know the outcomes of our decisions. The works of literature you will study in this unit present the idea that what we see on the surface is not always the truth.

By the end of this unit, you will be able to:

- identify key culture impacting Shakespeare's plays.
- determine modes of address through pronouns used in speeches.
- determine the basic background, setting, and characters in the play.
- read Shakespeare's play and put it into a context that you understand.
- read interactions between characters for their mode of address and how that affects what we know of their relationship(s).
- infer additional meanings to lines and actions by characters in Hamlet.
- write about yourself from the third person narrator point of view.

Lesson 1 - Background on Shakespeare

Lesson 2 - Hamlet: Act I

Lesson 3 - Hamlet Act II

Review

Test

Unit 4: Hamlet Act III-V

In the second half of the play *Hamlet*, we follow the paths our main character Hamlet chooses to follow in his desire for revenge. Pay careful attention to Hamlet's behavior. How have all of these events changed Hamlet? Also, what does the ending of the play say about revenge and death?

By the end of this unit, you will be able to:

- rewrite Hamlet's famous "To be or not to be" soliloquy from your own experience.
- act out the relationship between Hamlet and Ophelia to determine what might be going on between them.
- determine Hamlet's mental state from the "Mousetrap" scene--the play within the play.

- summarize Hamlet's barbed comments to Rosencrantz, Guildenstern, and Claudius, which lead them to all believe him mad and dangerous.
- connect famous art to the character Ophelia to determine her actions and behavior.
- determine Hamlet's continued attitude toward death and revenge.
- discuss Hamlet's mental state to determine the validity of his actions.
- compare & contrast various approaches to the final duel scene for their portrayal of Hamlet and the denouement to the play.

Lesson 1 - Hamlet Act III

Lesson 2 - Hamlet Act IV & V

Review Test

Unit 5: Allusion and Symbols

In this unit we will explore the use of allusion as a way to determine additional meaning in a text. We will do this by not only practicing with a variety of classic text, but we will also examine how certain stories become the allusion in another text.

*****Make sure to check if/when your school is having you sign up for the AP exam. Please check to make sure you get registered and pay for the AP exam at some point during this unit.**

By the end of this unit, you will be able to:

- identify three biblical and three mythological stories and their allusions.
- consider and match symbols that are frequently used from these biblical and mythological texts.
- read and annotate "To His Coy Mistress"
- determine meaning and analyze the poem using the TP-CASTT graphic organizer.
- find and analyze the allusions and symbols used in the poem.
- research the background behind Dante and his influences.
- read four Cantos for an overview of Dante's tale.
- respond to questions that will help you understand the text better.
- take notes on the use of Allusions in "The Hollow Men."
- organize the poem by: tone, word choice, imagery, style, theme, and allusion.
- graphically represent the poem and its meanings.

Lesson 1 - Allusions and Symbols

Lesson 2 - To His Coy Mistress - Close Reading

Lesson 3 - Dante's Inferno

Lesson 4 - Allusions in "The Hollow Men"

Review Test

Unit 6: The Kite Runner Ch. 1-3

In this unit we will read *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini. This novel has been an important example of a contemporary novel that deals with issues of our modern world. Many of Hosseini's works appear as options for the essay portion of the AP Exam. Together we will read and examine the themes, background, and characters of this novel to determine its place among other famous classics.

***For this unit, please read chapters 1-13 to work through the assignments provided. Please note that you should also ensure that you have signed up to take the AP exam through your school. You might talk to a counselor, your site coordinator, or the AP English Literature teacher at your school. You should pay for the exam and make sure you are signed up/registered for this course (make sure not to sign up for AP English Language).

By the end of this unit, you will be able to:

- list characteristics of the Contemporary Period present in the novel.
- begin reading the novel, watching for its characters, setting, and foreshadowing.
- identify significant events from Afghanistan's history that are central to the novel.
- determine the meaning of aesthetic distance and how we apply it to literature.
- define the differences between book banning and challenged books.
- consider why books get banned and your own feelings and thoughts about banning.
- analyze the symbolic and metaphorical connection between the kite in the title and what we see in the novel.
- determine the difference between emigration and immigration.
- consider how our main characters change or shift after immigration.

Lesson 1 - Contemporary Novel Foundations - Afghanistan of the Past and Present

Lesson 2 - *The Kite Runner*: The 70's in Afghanistan (Ch. 1-9)

Lesson 3 - *The Kite Runner*: (Ch. 10-13)

Review

Test

Unit 7: AP Exam Prep & The Kite Runner

In this Unit, we will finish reading *The Kite Runner*, but first we will practice for the AP test by taking a full-length AP exam to better help you prepare for your test date.

By the end of this unit, you will be able to:

- practice identifying figurative language from lines in the novel.
- create your own abstract poem.

- identify major themes and movements in the novel.
- identify areas of the AP exam that you are stronger or weaker in.
- evaluate the time needed to take the AP exam and ways to improve on that time.
- set study goals to help prepare for the exam.

Lesson 1 - AP Exam Prep & The Kite Runner

Lesson 2 - Finishing the Kite Runner

Review

Test

Unit 8: Self Selected Drama

This unit will explore additional facets of drama. Using the list previously provided, you will be exploring the drama you selected.

Some argue that Shakespeare is the only playwright worth studying. There are many other dramatists and plays to consider and explore. In this unit you will work with the drama you selected, which might be from authors such as Arthur Miller and Henrick Ibsen. You will need to consider the author and the historical context. There may be underlying political or cultural reactions manifesting in the dramatic text. Once you are finished reading your play, you will compose a formal response. You will find that there are many authors who have created a literary masterpiece beyond William Shakespeare.

By the end of this unit, you will be able to:

- determine the play you will read for this final unit.
- share the play and its historical context.
- analyze the opening scene of the play for its purpose and tone.
- respond to essential devices used by the playwright that might help us understand the play better.
- determine themes and devices used in the play that are shared by other texts.
- analyze how two texts use literary and figurative devices to develop the same themes.

Lesson 1 - Drama of Choice

Lesson 2 - Reading and Responding to Drama of Choice

Lesson 3 - Text Comparisons

Review

Test

Final Exam Review and Final Exam