

Welcome! This course is designed to satisfy a college freshman composition and literature class. With this in mind, reading and writing assignments are challenging and engaging. The AP exam may seem like our end goal, and it is important; however, the ultimate goal is to provide students with skills to read and write critically about literature which has defined the human experience. Similarly, students will need to understand general style and techniques various authors and artists use; as well as, specific literary methods authors implement in writing short stories, novels, plays, and poetry. The following year has been designed to allow the maximum exposure to great literary works from relevant historical periods and important cultural voices.

Senior students are allowed no more than 120 cumulative class period absences in order to participate in the Samohi graduation ceremony. This number is for both excused and unexcused absences and includes college visits.

FALL

The semester is broken up into three grading periods: GP1, GP2,, GP3.

Unit 1: Summer Reading, Bible Excerpts, *Candide* by Voltaire

Culminating Assignments: 2-3pp literary analysis, journal entries, reading quizzes, **College Essay**

Core Textbook: Perrine's Literature: Structure, Sound, and Sense (12th edition)

Bridge Unit: Poetry (continues into next semester)

Culminating Assignments: AP Poetry Free Response, Poetry Journal Workbook, Original Poem, Poetry Concept Circles Quiz

Unit 2: Comedy: *The School for Scandal* by Richard Brinsley Sheridan; *Pygmalion* by Bernard Shaw

Culminating Assignments: Glossary Entries, journal entries, AP Timed Practice, Graded Discussion

Unit 3: Tragedy: Excerpts from *The Poetics* by Aristotle, *Oedipus Rex* by Sophocles, *Hamlet* by William

Shakespeare; *Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller

Culminating Assignments: The Poetics Comprehension Quiz; Soliloquy Parody; journal entries, AP Timed Practice; Source Analysis; FINAL: Tragedy Monologue Performance and Written Explanation

Independent Reading (see blog link: Titles from Open Response Questions) Choose 1-2 titles, depending on length, and complete by the end of the semester. Expect monthly progress checks.

You must read

Poetry: one sonnet by Petrarch and one sonnet by Shakespeare

Comedy: *A Modest Proposal* by Jonathan Swift

Tragedy: see Titles from Open Response Questions

Consider sharing some portion of your independent choice. Surveys, lessons, discussions, reading journal entries, art and music are just some of the ways people like to share what they are reading.

ILLUMINATE

Please check Illuminate often to make sure that all of your assignments are up-to-date and graded. Turned in items are organized, graded, and filed until returned to the student. If you know you turned in an item, yet it is still missing, it is either still being graded or you neglected to put your name on the assignment --this happens often. Email me or stop by during lunch if you are at all concerned about your grade.

Homework is often practice or an extension of lessons introduced in class and require speaking and writing to a particular topic, or preparing for an assessment.

<u>Weighted Categories:</u>		<u>Grading Scale %</u>			
Reading Journal	15%	A+ 98-100	B+ 88-89	C+ 78-79	D+ 68-69
Class/HomeWork	15%	A 93-97	B 83-87	C 73-77	D 63-66
Tests/Quizzes	15%	A- 90-92	B- 80-82	C- 70-72	D- 60-62
Writing Element	55%				F 59-0

Grades are inputted into Illuminate 1-3x per week (or as often as assignments require). Disputed grades may be brought to my attention; grades may be improved as long as a student shows their work; some tests and quizzes may not be retaken. Weekly Illuminate checks are the best way to insure that grades have been entered properly.

>>Late work is reduced by 10% of total possible points if one day late and 50% of total possible points if more than one day late. Please speak to me to arrange deadlines if necessary.

Email is always welcomed:

Email Address	SUBJECT: Your full name, Assignment Title	BODY: Salutation, Formal text.
---------------	---	--------------------------------

Recommended Materials: Please hold onto all graded work until the end of the graded semester.

Please reserve a section in your school binder for notes and handouts.

Highlighters and a folder or pocket are useful. A composition or spiral note book is helpful for our Reading Journal. Index cards are useful for our literary term/rhetorical devices collection.

Plagiarism

Students who use sources for writing or speaking purposes are required to cite according to the MLA handbook. Any copying of texts other than one's own personal intellectual property will result in a fail of the assignment and a referral.

Tardies, Absences and Behavior

Daily class attendance is essential; Students with excused absences will be allowed to make up missing assignments. Students are expected to be on time, prepared, respectful, and responsible. Each member of our class is expected to contribute to a positive learning community, where all students feel welcome and safe. Please see the School Website and Parent/Student Handbook for policies regarding appropriate student behavior.

Low Grades

Students with grades of 65% or lower will be identified each grading period and recommended to come in during lunch to make up work. Contact will occur through email first, then a phone call home. Parents are encouraged to email and call whenever they have a concern.

Contact Information and Office Hours

Please contact me as often as you like regarding behavior, lessons, books, ideas, etc. I strongly believe in a group effort to support every student's success. EMAIL is best though and will guarantee a timely response. mstevens@smmusd.org . My room is open during lunch; before or after school meetings are by appointment only.

310.395.3204 x71296

For homework, agendas, and handouts:stevenslitcomp.blogspot.com

Sincerely,
Maria Stevens

_____ DO NOT CUT OUT _____

PLEASE SIGN AND DATE:

Student Name _____ PERIOD ____ DATE _____

Student Signature _____

Parent Name and Signature _____ DATE _____