

English 7-8 AP: Course Outline

Burke/Caret, 2005-06

jburke@englishcompanion.com

www.englishcompanion.com/apenglish

Course

Description “Students will engage in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. Through this close reading of selected texts, students should deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As they read, students should consider a work’s structure, style, and themes as well as smaller-scale elements as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone” (College Board 2004).

Office Hours Mr. Burke arrives each day around 7 a.m. and leaves after fourth period. You can arrange to meet with Mr. Burke for help on assignments or consult him via email.

Primary Text *Perrine’s Literature: Structure, Sound, and Sense*, 9th Edition (Thomas R. Arp & Greg Johnson, eds.)

First Semester Texts

- Summer Reading texts
- Selected poetry
- *Oedipus*, by Sophocles
- *Antigone*, by Sophocles
- *Hamlet*, by William Shakespeare
- *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*, by Tom Stoppard
- *Crime and Punishment*, by Fyodor Dostoyevsky
- *Independent Reading (required)*
- *Style: The Basics of Clarity and Grace*, Joseph Williams.

Note: We strongly recommend that you buy your own copy of each book. Visit local booksellers or order through the class website where the books are hotlinked to Amazon.com.

Writing We will write in a variety of ways, for a variety of purposes:

- Reader’s Notebook/Logs
- Expository essays
- Formal literary essays
- Practice AP essays

Note: All written assignments done outside of class must be typed (with the exception of the Reader’s Notebook) using the formats provided.

Materials Please have the following materials by tomorrow:

- Composition notebook
- Binder
- Binder paper
- Highlighter
- Pens, pencils, paper, binder
- Highly recommended by not required:
 - Good collegiate dictionary (I favor the *American Heritage* fourth edition)
 - Personal copy of all books we read so you can annotate them and otherwise mark them up. The first three titles are:
 - *Oedipus the King* and *Antigone* by Sophocles (Roche edition)
 - *Hamlet*, by Shakespeare (Folger Shakespeare edition)
 - *Crime and Punishment* by Fyodor Dostoevsky (Bantam Books, Constance Garnett translation)

Independent Reading

All students must read *at least* five books from the “Independent Reading” list (three during the fall, two during the spring semester) by early May, 2006. Students must read one book and write the required paper *each* grading period prior to taking the AP test in May.

Academic Honesty

Burlingame High School considers cheating or academic dishonesty to be a serious violation of school rules and has adopted procedures to deal with students who:

1. Receive or provide information during a test.
2. Receive or provide information on tests given during an earlier period.
3. Use unauthorized material on tests.
4. Use ideas or written material from other sources—students, professional writers, internet notes/study guides—without acknowledging the source in their own writing.
5. Use or copy another student's homework when not authorized by the teacher to do so.
6. Allow other students to use their work on assignments.

Consequences (Student Handbook)

The official school consequences are listed below. In addition to those, I will refuse to write any letters of recommendation and will, if necessary, notify the university if the incident should happen later in the year.

First Offense

- Student is given a zero on the compromised work.
- Student is referred to administration for disciplinary action
- Parent and student sign a contract that notifies a second offense will lead to
- student being dropped from course with an F.

Second Offense

- Student fails the course.
- Student is referred to administration for disciplinary action.

Habits of Mind

The University of California and California State University released a joint report in 2003 listing those “habits of mind” that lead to university success:

Broad Intellectual Practices:

- Exhibit curiosity
- Experiment with new ideas
- See other points of view
- Challenge one’s own beliefs
- Engage in intellectual discussions
- Ask provocative questions
- Generate hypotheses
- Exhibit respect for other viewpoints
- Read with awareness of self and others

Classroom Behaviors

- Ask questions
- Be attentive in class
- Come to class prepared

- Complete assignments on time
- Contribute to class discussions
- Attend class regularly and on time

Additional College Expectations

- Respect facts and information in situations where feelings and intuitions often prevail
- Be aware that the rhetoric of argumentation and interrogation relate to varied academic disciplines, purposes, and audiences
- Embrace the value of research to explore new ideas through reading and writing
- Develop a capacity to work hard and to expect high standards
- Show initiative and develop ownership of one's education

Grading

Extra credit is not available in this course.

- 25%: In-class, timed essays (based on AP 1-9 rubric)
- 30%: Essays, projects completed outside of class
- 15%: In-class response writing, reading notes, etc.
- 10%: Participation/Habits of Mind/Attendance
- 20%: Final examination

Missing/Late Assignments

All missed assignments can be submitted within two days of an excused absence. No missed assignments will be accepted if you are present but have not completed the work. If you have a planned absence, any pending assignments must be submitted before you leave. Should you be absent the day a major assignment is due, *you must email the completed assignment to me by the time our class meets*. Failure to do so will be the equivalent of not doing the assignment. Check School Loop for information on that day's or past assignments.

Attendance

Follow school policies outlined in the planner. Vacations are *not* automatically excused absences.

Inconsistent attendance invariably leads to increased stress: too much make up work, loss of continuity with class activities, and inability to participate fully in discussions. Senior year is a time when many of you are overwhelmed by the demands of several AP classes and college visits. Also, many of you hold leadership positions in the school or participate in athletics, band or drama. Learning to manage yourself is essential to your success at home, in school, and at work.

In addition, you should not assume it is okay to miss class just because a teacher or advisor asks you to. Presenting a note from a teacher or advisor after the fact will not be acceptable behavior. I will count such absences as unexcused; I will not accept late work under such circumstances. Please tell your teacher or advisor that you cannot miss a class unless you have been excused beforehand for an approved school activity (e.g. a tournament, special concert, leadership workshop, etc.)

Ten absences in a semester and more than three tardies in a grading period will lower your grade. Use good judgment and demonstrate responsible decision-making to ensure your success in this class and your adult life.