**AP English Literature and Composition 2022-2023**

**Mr. Frederick**

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**Course Description:** Though our literary endeavors will certainly be diverse, this course is designed with one primary and rather practical goal in mind: earning a score of “3” or better on the AP Exam in English Literature and Composition. According to the official AP course description, “In the AP English Literature and Composition Course, students devote themselves to the study of literary works written in–or translated into–English. Careful reading and critical analysis of such works of fiction, drama and poetry, selected locally by responsible educators, provide rich opportunities for students to develop an appreciation of ways literature reflects and comments on a range of experiences, institutions, and social structures. Students will examine the choices literary writers make and the techniques they utilize to achieve purposes and generate meanings.”

**Big Ideas and Enduring Understandings:**

1) Characters in literature allow readers to study and explore a range of values, beliefs, assumptions, biases, and cultural norms represented by those characters.

2) Setting and the details associated with it not only depict a time and place, but also convey values associated with that setting.

3) The arrangement of the parts and sections of a text, the relationship of the parts to each other, and the sequence in which the text reveals information are all structural choices made by a writer that contribute to the reader’s interpretation of a text.

4) A narrator’s or speaker’s perspective controls the details and emphases that affect how readers experience and interpret a text.

5) Comparisons, representations, and associations shift meaning from the literal to the figurative and invite readers to interpret a text.

6) Readers establish and communicate their interpretations of literature through arguments supported by textual evidence.

**Major Texts:**

*The Norton Introduction to Literature*

*Macbeth,* Shakespeare

*The Piano Lesson*, August Wilson

*Death of a Salesman*, Arthur Miller

*A Raisin in the Sun*, Lorraine Hansberry

*Henry IV Part I*, Shakespeare

*1984,* George Orwell

*The Great Gatsby*, F. Scott Fitzgerald

*A Tale of Two Cities*, Charles Dickens

*The Stranger*, Albert Camus

*Obasan*, Joy Kogawa

*Cry, the Beloved Country*, Alan Paton

The Remains of the Day, Kazuo Ishiguro

*The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail*, Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee

One novel as an independent project

**Assessment Policy:** Your desire to be in this course says much about your dedication as a student. Additionally, you have undoubtedly experienced much success in your schooling. In light of these factors, it is my hope that this course can be one in which the importance of grades (and the discussion of grades) is subordinate to a profound academic and intellectual classroom discourse. Still, it is my professional obligation to you to communicate your level of achievement and your readiness for the AP Exam in May. To these ends, the following formula will be used to determine your course grade:

10% = Class Activities

25% = Compositions

25% = Quizzes

40% = Tests

Per school policy, one test per quarter is eligible for a second attempt—a retake. Also per school policy, you may have your grade reduced up to 30% for work turned in late—10% per day, to a maximum of three days. Note: This class will be conducted with the expectation that all students will take the AP Exam in May in place of a comprehensive final exam. If you do not take the AP Exam, you must attend the scheduled exam session for this course and take a final exam.

**Late Work:** It is important that you complete all readings, compositions, and assignments by the given due dates so that you can participate thoughtfully in class activities and receive descriptive feedback that will grow your reading, writing, and speaking skills. A course of this magnitude will become even more difficult if you fall behind. Therefore, I will subtract 10% from the grade for the first day an assignment or composition is late, 10% for the second day, and 10% for the third day. After three days, the assignment will be scored as a zero.

**Academic Integrity:** Intellectual honesty is paramount in academic endeavors, and this course is no exception. If an idea is yours, you may of course present it as such. If it is not, you must cite the source. Misrepresenting someone else’s words or ideas as your own is plagiarism, and will result in no credit for the work submitted.

**Conclusion:** This course is for students who seek and are qualified to seek a challenge exceeding that posed by the Honors curriculum. It is expected that you will read the literature with enthusiasm and close attention, and that you will work diligently on the writing. It is also imperative that you are *timely* in your work--faithful to the schedules that will be announced. Among other considerations, you must be dependable, independent, curious, and you must also be mature and classy in your *demeanor*. This is a tall order. You must know this as you enter the process. Finally, though the workload is heavy and there are high expectations for your performance, the course is designed to help you develop your language skills in ways and to a degree you cannot foresee at this point. This is exciting indeed. I welcome all of you as we begin this journey together.