

## AP LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION – Course Syllabus

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Course Website: <http://teachers.sduhsd.net/sfarris>

**Course Overview:** 12<sup>th</sup> grade Advanced Placement Literature and Composition is a college-level course in the reading and critical analysis of English literature and poetry. The course is designed not only to prepare students for the AP Literature and Composition Exam, but also to foster and enhance an appreciation for reading and literature while introducing students to the academic expectations of college.

It should be noted that this is a rigorous class, demanding exceptional self-discipline, diligence, and the ability and willingness to take intellectual risks. Students should carefully consider whether their academic, athletic, personal, and employment schedules will allow the time necessary to successfully complete this course.

Students in AP Literature should expect to read and respond to 40-50 pages of complex material between class meetings. Timed, in-class essays will be assigned monthly. While writing skills are taught and refined, competent dexterity in written expression is assumed. Regular oral participation is mandatory.

It is the policy of the San Dieguito Union High School District that “**Students who take Advanced Placement courses will be expected to take the designated Advanced Placement examination.**” (Instruction: 6141.5)

**Texts:** The following texts will be read in full or part during the school year. It is recommended that students purchase their own copies of the asterisked (\*) texts below, as extensive annotation is required for many of the readings.

*Dubliners* (selections) – James Joyce

\**A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* – James Joyce

\**Hamlet: Prince of Denmark* – William Shakespeare

\**The Tragedy of Macbeth* – William Shakespeare

*Sound and Sense: Poetry, 8<sup>th</sup> Ed.* – Laurence Perrine

\**Frankenstein* – Mary Shelley

\**Heart of Darkness* – Joseph Conrad

\**Nineteen Eighty-Four* – George Orwell

*The Canterbury Tales* (selections) – Geoffrey Chaucer

*England in Literature* (selections)

**Essays** are scored on a nine-point rubric consistent with the system used for the AP Literature and Composition Exam. A simple breakdown of the point structure is as follows:

### Semester One:

<u>Score</u>	<u>Pts.</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Qualities</u>
9	50	A+	Outstanding
8	48	A	Strong
7	46	A-	Good
6	44	B+	Competent
5	42	B	Adequate (Passing)
4	39	C+	Needs Improvement
3	37	C	Substandard
2	30	D-	Significantly Deficient
1	25	F	Unacceptable/Incomplete

### Semester Two:

<u>Score</u>	<u>Pts.</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Qualities</u>
9	50	A+	Outstanding
8	48	A	Strong
7	44	B+	Good
6	42	B	Competent
5	39	C+	Adequate (Passing)
4	36	C-	Needs Improvement
3	34	D+	Substandard
2	30	D-	Significantly Deficient
1	25	F	Unacceptable/Incomplete

**Grade Book:** Grade and attendance information can be accessed through the district’s Aeries Parent Portal at <http://parents.sduhsd.net>. Students and parents are strongly encouraged to check this website regularly.

**Extra Credit:** There may be opportunities for extra credit at various points in the school year. Opportunities will be announced in class. Students must not have any missing assignments in order to qualify for extra credit eligibility. If an assignment has been missed, a student may submit it for zero credit in order to restore eligibility.

**Attendance and Promptness:** Regular attendance is crucial to student success in this course. Excessive absences will likely result in a lowered class grade. The course website provides most of the homework assignments and links, but absent students should contact the teacher or a classmate to get information about any additional assignments, before the due date. Because tardies are both disruptive and disrespectful, they are considered a disciplinary issue and will be treated as such according to the LCC Tardy Policy (the full text of which can be found on the school's web site: <http://lc.sduhsd.net/>).

**Late Work / Make-Up Work:** All assignments are due by the beginning of the class session. Any work that is not completed and available at this time is considered late. Late homework assignments will receive no more than half-credit. Projects and major assignments will be lowered one full grade for each school day past the due date. Students who miss class must submit all previously due homework immediately upon return to class, or it will be considered late. Once a learning unit has been completed, no late work from that unit will be accepted. Students have one week in which to schedule and complete any make-up exams. Students who are absent on the day that a major assignment is due should make arrangements to submit their work on/by the due date, or it will be considered late.

**Academic Dishonesty:** Students who attempt to cheat or plagiarize will receive no credit for the assignment. A second offense will likely result in a failing grade for the course.

**Class Atmosphere:** AP Literature class sessions are frequently discussion-oriented. Students are encouraged to speak freely without fear of unwarranted criticism or inappropriate responses. When a speaker has the floor, please show your respect by listening quietly without interrupting, holding side-discussions, or engaging in off-topic activities.

#### **ESPs (Extended Study Periods)**

Unless otherwise specified ESPs are an extension of our English classes, occurring after the 90 minutes of regular instructional time on certain days of the week (see bell schedule). Attendance is compulsory – student absences from ESP are recorded as absences from their English class period on that day. The LCC English Department has collaborated to develop the following guidelines:

#### **Approved ESP Activities:**

1. Extension or continuation of daily lesson
2. Silent reading
3. Homework, classwork, or test preparation
4. Make-up quizzes or tests for AP Literature ONLY
5. One-on-one sessions with teacher

#### **ESP Restrictions:**

1. Students are NOT permitted to work in the Learning Commons during this time
2. Students are NOT permitted to “visit” other classes/ teachers or to make up tests in other classrooms.
3. Students are NOT permitted to leave class early to “go home.”

#### **Class Rules:**

Be **respectful** of your classmates, your classroom, your course, your teacher, and yourself.

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**PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN**

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**Students and Parents:**

When you have read and understood these rules and policies, **please sign and return this page**. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at: [speed.farris@sduhsd.net](mailto:speed.farris@sduhsd.net). A copy of this syllabus should be kept in each student's school binder. A digital version is available online at <http://teachers.sduhsd.net/sfarris>.  
*Thank you!*

**I have read and understand the course policies and syllabus for AP Literature and Composition.**

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Print **Student** Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Student** Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print **Parent** Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent** Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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**\*\*Parent\*\*** Email Address

**PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN**