

**2018 AP English Literature and Composition Course Description**  
**Ms. Reid**

**Course Description**

This course will engage students in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. Because the course is sequenced chronologically, students will consider each text within its historical and cultural contexts. Through close reading and careful analysis, students will deepen their understandings of how writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure to their readers, as well as to consider the evolution of literary structure, style, tone, and themes.

**Required Summer Reading**

*How to Read Literature like a Professor*, Thomas C. Foster  
*Death of a Salesman*, Arthur Miller  
*Invisible Man*, Ralph Ellison  
20 Selected Poems

**Required Texts**

*Literature and Composition*, Carol Jago Et al.  
Selected novels and plays as delineated above in the summer reading and below in the course overview

**Course Overview**

| Fall Semester  | Spring Semester  |
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| <i>Pride and Prejudice</i> , Jane Austen 1812<br><i>Crime and Punishment</i> , Fyodor Dostoyevsky 1866<br><i>Heart of Darkness</i> , Joseph Conrad 1899<br><i>Ethan Frome</i> , George Eliot 1911<br><i>The Great Gatsby</i> , F. Scott Fitzgerald 1925<br><i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i> , Zora Neale Hurston 1937 | <i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i> , Tennessee Williams 1947<br><i>East of Eden</i> , John Steinbeck 1952<br><i>The Crucible</i> , Arthur Miller 1953<br><i>The Bluest Eye</i> , Toni Morrison 1970<br><i>One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest</i> , Ken Kesey 1975<br><i>Fences</i> , August Wilson 1983<br><i>The Joy Luck Club</i> , Amy Tan 1989<br><i>The Things They Carried</i> , Tim O'Brien 1990<br><i>Ruined</i> , Lynn Nottage 2009 |

**Assignments**

- I. Reading Quizzes – Can be daily; form and length vary; all are unannounced
- II. Writing to Learn – Daily annotations and written responses to assigned prompts and excerpts from the previous night's reading; frequent longer close reading "one-pagers"
- III. Graded Class Discussions – Periodically; students will prepare discussion points (questions, passages, controversial claims) for a formal academic discussion of a designated text
- IV. Writing Workshops – Students will continue refining their writing skills in terms of sentence structure, coherence, transitions, common errors, balancing generalizations and specific details, audience awareness, and general tips for more effective writing through writing mini-lessons
- V. Timed Writes – Periodically; students will respond to AP Lit-style prompts on texts they have been assigned or on texts *similar* to those they have been assigned
- VI. Full Process Essays – Five pages; four per year
- VII. Creative Responses – Students will periodically prepare non-print, artistic, or performance-based responses to texts
- VIII. Participation Points – Relevant and earnest participation will be tallied daily and will be reflected in a monthly participation grade

## Behavioral Expectations

A. Academic Integrity—Students who commit a breach of academic integrity will receive a 0 on that assignment. Some breaches of academic integrity include:

- Visiting sparknotes, shmoop, or any other online lit guides unless deemed appropriate for a particular assignment by the teacher
- Searching for quotes online to use in a written response
- Copying anything word for word without proper citation
- Copying ideas without proper citation
- Excessive help from parents, tutors, or friends
- Discussing or overhearing information about a test or quiz and then taking that test or quiz
- Claiming you did something you didn't do but were assigned to do

B. Absences/Make-up Work—Students must clear all absences in the main office. They will receive a 0 for assignments, quizzes, and exams that occur during an unexcused absence. In the case of excused absences, work is due when the student returns to school. If the student is not able to complete the work by that time, they need to email the teacher or talk to her immediately.

D. Late Work—Work can be turned in late at a penalty of 50% off for up to one week from the due date. **Discussion prep and rough drafts cannot be turned in late.**

E. Field Trips/Extracurricular Activities—If students miss class to participate in a school-sponsored activity (sporting event, rally, etc.), they must see the teacher **before their absence** to take any quizzes or exams, turn in any homework that is due, and/or pick up the day's assignments. If they fail to do so, they will not be allowed to make up the work. Stopping by to tell the teacher that they are leaving right before or in the middle of class is not sufficient notice.

F. Punctuality—Students must be in class on time. Every third tardy will result in a detention.

G. Bathroom Passes—Students may go to the bathroom during class a few times a semester as long as they go when we are doing independent work and they don't abuse the privilege.

H. Eating in Class—Food can only be eaten in class when there is enough to share with everyone and there is a curricular connection.

I. Students will need to set up the following accounts immediately: Google Classroom, which I will use to send out information, and turnitin.com, through which students will submit all written assignments (unless otherwise noted).

- **Google Classroom:** go to [classroom.google.com](https://classroom.google.com), click on the plus sign in the upper right hand corner, and join the class using the code: ws5609
- **turnitin.com:** go to [www.turnitin.com](https://www.turnitin.com), click on "create account" in the upper right hand corner, enter your school address and a password you will remember, click student, and follow the prompts, using Class ID 18682222 and password "macaroni"

## Grading

Grades are determined on a point system. Grades will not be rounded up. Grades are not negotiable.

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| A | 90-100 |
| B | 80-89  |
| C | 70-79  |
| D | 60-69  |
| F | 0-59   |

Note: If you receive a 5 on the AP Lit test, your second semester grade will be changed retroactively to an "A". This policy is meant to disincentivize shortcuts and short-term grade-saving measures and keep you focused on long-term reading and writing excellence.

**AP English Course Description**  
**Ms. Reid ♦ reidr@mdusd.org ♦ Room 23**

***Student Information***

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read Ms. Reid's Course Description. I have the following questions:  
(Print Student Name)

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Something you should know about me is:

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(Optional) My preferred gender pronouns are: (circle one)    he/him/his    she/her/hers    they/their/theirs

(Optional) My racial and/or ethnic background(s) is/are: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Best contact info: \_\_\_\_\_

***Parent Information***

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read Ms. Reid's Course Description. I have the following questions:  
(Print Parent Name)

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Something I would like to share about my child is:

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Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Best contact info: \_\_\_\_\_