**Teacher**: Ms. De Bella

**Course:** APEnglish Literature and Composition

**Room:** 41

**Email:** debellal@mdusd.org

 debellal@mdusd.net

**Website:** http://northgatehighschoolenglish.weebly.com/

**Course Description:**

APEnglish Literature and Composition is designed to be a college/university level course, thus the “AP” designation on a transcript rather than “H” (Honors) or “CP” (College Prep). This course will provide you with the intellectual challenges and workload consistent with a typical undergraduate university English literature/ Humanities course. As a culmination of the course, you will take the AP English Literature and Composition Exam given in May (required). A grade of 4 or 5 on this exam is considered equivalent to a 3.3–4.0 for comparable courses at the college or university level. A student who earns a grade of 3 or above on the exam will be granted college credit at most colleges and universities throughout the United States.

**Course Goals:**

1. To carefully read and critically analyze literature.
2. To understand the way writers use language to provide meaning and pleasure.
3. To consider a work’s structure, style, and themes as well as such smaller scale elements as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone.
4. To study representative works from various genres and periods (from the sixteenth to the twentieth century) and to know a few works extremely well.
5. To understand a work’s complexity, to absorb richness of meaning, and to analyze how meaning is embodied in literary form.
6. To consider the social and historical values a work reflects and embodies.
7. To write, focusing on critical analysis of literature including expository, analytical, and argumentative essays as well as creative writing to sharpen understanding of writer's’ accomplishments and deepen appreciation of literary artistry.
8. To become aware of, through speaking, listening, reading, and, chiefly, writing, the resources of language: connotation, metaphor, irony, syntax, and tone.

**Required Texts:**

Preliminary list of novels, dramas, and anthologized material:

* *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*
* *Antigone*
* *Bluest Eye*
* *The Crucible*
* *Death of a Salesman*
* *Fences*
* *The Great Gatsby*
* *Invisible Man*
* *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*
* *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*
* *Nature*
* *Rip Van Winkle*
* *Self Reliance*
* *Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God*
* *A Streetcar Named Desire*
* *The Tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark*
* *Walden*
* *The Yellow Wallpaper*
* *Young Goodman Brown*

**Supplies Needed:**

* Four Subject Notebook
* Dividers
* Black/blue pens
* No. 2 lead pencils
* Highlighters
* Sticky notes (we will use these for every novel/play, please stock up)

**AP Exam:**

Cost: $94

Date: Wednesday, May 9th, 2018

On the day of the Exam Bring: Pencils and Pens (blue/black ONLY)

DO NOT BRING: any electronic device, books, scratch paper, watcher that beep, ear plugs, food, or clothing with subject related material

**Class Rules and Social Norms:**

It is the responsibility of both the teacher and students to maintain a classroom that is conductive to a positive learning environment; therefore, the rules are as follows:

1. Be Prompt.
* Arrive to class on time and with all necessary materials. Complete ALL assignments on time, read the assigned reading, ask questions when needed, and stay aware of deadlines. Be prepared for the start of class each day. Do what is right, regardless of what everyone else in class is doing. Take responsibility for getting and making up work when you are absent. .
1. Be Prepared.
* Be prepared to think, to work, to write. Understand that this is an AP level class and that you will be discussing and writing about subjects you may not have given much thought to previously. Be patient and know that if you put the effort forth, you will see results in your critical reading, critical thinking, and writing skills.
1. Be Positive
* Have fun and keep a positive attitude, even if the material is challenging. Perseverance and determination will pay off in the end.
1. Be Productive
* Be actively engaged in class. Simply attending class isn't enough if you want a qualifying score and college preparation. You must pay attention, take notes, listen to your teacher and classmates, keep your head up, stay on task, join the discussions, and participate to the fullest extent that you can.
1. Be Polite
* Treat everyone with proper consideration, regardless of whether he/she is in the classroom at the time and regardless of whether you are with them or not. Use respectful language, in writing as well as in discussions. Show respect for your environment by keeping the classroom clean and neat.

**Grading Scale:**

Grades will be assigned using the following scale:

90% - 100% …… A

80% - 89%……… B

70% - 79%……… C

60% - 69%……… D

59% or Below…...F

\*Students will a grade of C or lower will receive a “In Danger of Failing” on all progress reports and report cards.

**Grade Breakdown:**

1. Participation 25%
2. Quizzes/Tests 30%
3. Final 15%
4. Homework/Class Work 10%
5. Projects, Presentations, and Papers 20%

Total: 100%

**Makeup Work Policy:**

Responsibility for make-up work is left up to the student.

Check the "Make-up Work" bin for handouts the day you return and make sure to copy someone’s notes. Work must be made up as soon as you return to school.

If you are absent due to a school activity, you must make prior arrangements to get your makeup work. Such absences will be treated as though you were present in class, which means you are responsible for the material discussed in class as well as all in-class and homework assignments. If you do not have your homework the day you return, it will be treated as late work.

Timed writing must be made up within two days of returning to school.

**Late Work Policy:**

Late work is accepted for 50% of the total points.

**Makeup Tests:**

If you miss a test, you have ONE week to make it up. If you fail to schedule a makeup test day with me during that time, you will not be allowed to make up the test.

**Academic Integrity:**

Students are responsible for doing their own work, and academic dishonesty of any kind **will not be tolerated**. If you use someone else’s idea or writing, be sure the source is clearly documented. Plagiarism means presenting someone else's idea or writing as if it were your own. Violations of academic integrity include, but are not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, or misrepresentation of information in oral or written form.  Such violations will be dealt with severely by teachers and the administration.

Consequences:

* **First Offense:** Automatic zero on assignment and referral to administration
* **Second Offense:** Automatic zero on assignment, referral to administration, administration consequences, and parent conference.
* **Third Offense:** Automatic zero, possible failure of course, referral to administration, consequences resulting from administrative meeting.

**Turnitin.com:**

In support of Academic Integrity at Northgate, Turnitin Feedback Studio will be used to review the papers that you submit in this course. Turnitin does not determine whether plagiarism has taken place or not. Turnitin will also not be used as a punitive tool or measure. The instructor of this class will use the reports that Turnitin generates as a basis for the thorough evaluation of the authenticity and originality of your work and the work of your classmates.

**Cell Phone Policy:**

During class students may use phones to complete assignments or do readings; however they must be put away while the teacher is instructing or during class discussions. Students must use cell phones responsibly; failure to comply will result in loss of phone privileges. Students will be asked to put their phone in "phone day care" at the front of the room.

**Food Policy:**

No food or drink except for bottled water is allowed in the classroom.