



VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
CHARTING THE COURSE

Department of Teaching & Learning
Parent/Student Course Information

Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition Grade 12
(LA1196)

Counselors are available to assist parents and students with course selections and career planning. Parents may arrange to meet with the counselor by calling the school's guidance department.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition is a college level course in composition and literary analysis. The course involves intensive study of numerous authors, genres, and historical periods.

The course has five units that are organized by genre: poetry, short fiction, drama, the essay, and the novel. The unit on poetry involves students in analyzing poetic techniques such as imagery, figurative language, tone, musical devices, meter and form. By the end of the unit, students should be able to demonstrate an understanding of how these elements combine to create and enhance the meaning of a poem. The unit on short fiction contains works that range from the medieval to the modern, and students analyze through discussion and writing the characteristics of the short story and the techniques used by the authors. In the drama unit, students identify elements unique to drama such as theme, characterization, dramatic structure, staging, and production. In the essay and nonfiction unit, students examine the diction, syntax, tone, imagery, and organization used by authors. During this unit, class sessions and assignments will be focused on analyzing a variety of structures, themes, styles, and philosophies. The works contained in the unit on the novel are drawn from various periods from the sixteenth century to the present. The focus in this unit is on the writer's craft, and students analyze the techniques the authors have used to develop character, plot, and theme.

The pace of this course is very rapid: summer reading is required, and research in college libraries is sometimes necessary. At least one in-class timed essay is assigned weekly, with many additional in-depth analyses required as homework. By the completion of this course, the students should develop critical standards for the independent analysis of any literary work; be able to use language effectively; and organize ideas in a clear, coherent, and persuasive manner. All pieces of a student's writing are stored in a Works in Progress folder from which each student selects pieces of writing for his or her writing portfolio. The contents of the portfolio illustrate how each student has grown and improved as a writer throughout the year.

PREREQUISITE

Enrollment for this course should be based on student performance, teacher recommendation, and parent input.

REQUIRED STUDENT TEXTBOOK

Literature: Structure, Sound, and Sense, Ninth Edition

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

The teacher may choose supplementary materials to extend and enrich the students' knowledge of course standards. These materials may be drawn from: supplementary novels, visual media, primary source documents, simulations, computer programs and other online educational resources.

MAJOR LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- AP 1 The student will interpret a variety of imaginative literature through discussion and oral presentations.
- AP 2 The student will analyze through class study, discussion, and writing how a poet's techniques convey meaning, purpose, and effect.
- AP 3 The student will analyze through class study, discussion, and writing the characteristics and techniques used by authors of short fiction.
- AP 4 The student will analyze through class study, discussion, and writing the characteristics and techniques used by playwrights.
- AP 5 The student will analyze through class study, discussion, and writing the characteristics and techniques used by novelists.

Aaron C. Spence, Ed.D., Superintendent
Virginia Beach City Public Schools
2512 George Mason Drive, Virginia Beach, VA 23456-0038

Produced by the Department of Teaching and Learning. For further information, please call (757) 263-1070.

Notice of Non-Discrimination Policy

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*Title IX Notice: Complaints or concerns regarding discrimination on the basis of sex or sexual harassment should be addressed to the Title IX Coordinator, at the VBCPS Office of Student Leadership, 641 Carriage Hill Road, Suite 200, Virginia Beach, 23452, (757) 263-2020, Mary.Dees@vbschools.com (student complaints) or the VBCPS Department of School Leadership, 2512 George Mason Drive, Municipal Center, Building 6, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23456 (757) 263-1088, Elizabeth.Bryant@vbschools.com (employee complaints). Additional information regarding Virginia Beach City Public Schools' policies regarding discrimination on the basis of sex and sexual harassment, as well as the procedures for filing a formal complaint and related grievance processes, can be found in School Board Policy 5-44 and School Board Regulations 5-44.1 (students), School Board Policy 4-4 and School Board Regulation 4-4.3 (employees), and on the School Division's website at **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion/Title IX**. Concerns about the application of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act should be addressed to the Section 504 Coordinator/Executive Director of Student Support Services at (757) 263-1980, 2512 George Mason Drive, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23456 or the Section 504 Coordinator at the student's school. For students who are eligible or suspected of being eligible for special education or related services under IDEA, please contact the Office of Programs for Exceptional Children at (757) 263-2400, Plaza Annex/Family and Community Engagement Center, 641 Carriage Hill Road, Suite 200, Virginia Beach, VA 23452.*

The School Division is committed to providing educational environments that are free of discrimination, harassment, and bullying. Students, staff, parents/guardians who have concerns about discrimination, harassment, or bullying should contact the school administration at their school. Promptly reporting concerns will allow the school to take appropriate actions to investigate and resolve issues. School Board Policy 5-7 addresses non-discrimination and anti-harassment, Policy 5-44 addresses sexual harassment and discrimination based on sex or gender. Policy 5-36 and its supporting regulations address other forms of harassment.

Alternative formats of this publication which may include taped, Braille, or large print materials are available upon request for individuals with disabilities. Call or write The Department of Teaching and Learning, Virginia Beach City Public Schools, 2512 George Mason Drive, P.O. Box 6038, Virginia Beach, VA 23456-0038. Telephone 263-1070 (voice); fax 263-1424; 263-1240 (TDD) or email her at Cameron.Vadersen@vbschools.com.

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August 9, 2021