



VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
CHARTING THE COURSE

Department of Teaching & Learning
Parent/Student Course Information

Advanced Placement English Language Composition Grade 11

(LA1197)

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 Language and Composition is a college-level course in composition and critical reading. This course is designed for students who already understand and use standard English grammar and composition. This course involves intensive study of and use of rhetorical modes in writing. Extensive composition and discussion require students to demonstrate sensitivity to the language and the structure of a piece of writing as well as to refine their own power and precision in organizing and expressing thoughts.

The course is divided into eight units: Autobiography, Letters, Persuasion and Argumentation, Critical Review, Scientific Writing, Political Discourse, Synthesis and Description. These units represent many of the types of writing that students may explore in preparation for the Advanced Placement (AP) test. Each unit examines writing as an organic process, puts a great emphasis on revision, and requires that students write in each of the genres and rhetorical modes. Also, each unit contains challenging reading selections where students look to authors as a model, where they will analyze and dissect the text looking for features from each unit. 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.

Students will take two Standards of Learning Tests for English: Writing and Reading/Literature and Research or a substitute test approved by the State Board of Education. Specific dates for the spring or summer SOL test will be announced by the school. Students will also have the option to take the College Board Advanced Placement Language and Composition test offered in May. Details for this test will be released by the school at a later date.

PREREQUISITE

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

REQUIRED STUDENT TEXTBOOK

Elements of Literature, Fifth course

The Language of Composition: Reading, Writing, Rhetoric. First Edition, Renee H. Shea, Lawrence Scanlon, Robin D. Aufses

MAJOR LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- AP 1 Analyze and interpret samples of good writing, identifying and explaining an author's use of rhetorical strategies and techniques.
- AP 2 Apply effective strategies and techniques in their own writing.
- AP 3 Create and sustain arguments based on readings, research, and/or personal experience.
- AP 4 Demonstrate understanding and mastery of standard written English as well as stylistic maturity in their own writings.
- AP 5 Write in a variety of genres and contexts, both formal and informal, employing appropriate conventions.
- AP 6 Produce expository and argumentative compositions that introduce a complex central idea and develop it with appropriate, specific evidence, cogent explanations, and clear transitions.
- AP 7 Move effectively through the stages of the writing process, with careful attention to inquiry and research, drafting, revising, editing, and review.

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

Virginia Beach City Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation/gender identity, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, disability, marital status, age, genetic information or veteran status in its programs, activities, employment, or enrollment, and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. School Board policies and regulations (including, but not limited to, Policies 2-33, 4-4, 5-7, 5-19, 5-20, 5-44, 6-33, 6-7, 7-48, 7-49, 7-57 and Regulations 4-4.1, 4-4.2, 5-44.1, 7-11.1, 7-17.1 and 7-57.1) provide equal access to courses, programs, enrollment, counseling services, physical education and athletic, vocational education, instructional materials, extracurricular activities and employment.

*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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