



ENGLISH 11 HONORS

2021-2022 SYLLABUS

INSTRUCTOR: Catherine Lee

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COURSE OVERVIEW

Andrea Lundsford says, “Rhetoric is the art, practice, and study of human communication.” We will study the art of rhetoric through representative novels of American and British literature, as well as an extensive selection of non-fiction. This course is reading and writing intensive. By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- Identify audience, purpose, and rhetorical strategies in texts of various modes
- Understand their own writing process and craft compelling written and verbal rhetorical arguments
- Synthesize ideas and information from various complex sources
- *Have something to say. Say it clearly. Say it thoroughly.*

AP EXAM

Students in this course will be automatically registered in the fall for the AP English Language Exam in May. Passing scores can earn college credit. The test is about \$90 (your school account will be charged). If you wish to opt out of the exam, please let me know. While we do many things to prepare for the exam, this is not an official AP course, and will be skill-focused rather than test-focused.

TEXTS

- Independent Non-Fiction Book (summer)
- *Fahrenheit 451*, Ray Bradbury (summer)
- *The Scarlet Letter*, Nathaniel Hawthorne
- *Frankenstein*, Mary Shelley
- *The Great Gatsby*, F. Scott Fitzgerald
- *Of Mice and Men*, John Steinbeck
- *Night*, Elie Wiesel
- *Romeo and Juliet*, William Shakespeare
- Various selections of essays, short stories, and poetry
- *The Language of Composition*, 3rd Edition

N.B. Literature has a unique way of reflecting the human condition. Works are selected for literary merit and college readiness, and may occasionally contain mature content or language. The texts are taught prayerfully from a Biblical worldview and with historical and cultural context in mind.

FILMS Films are treated as texts as they foster discussions on intertextuality, revisionism, and tropes.

- *Fahrenheit 451* (1966)
- *Of Mice and Men* (1992)
- *The Great Gatsby* (2013)
- *Romeo and Juliet* (various adaptations)

SPEECHES

On numerous occasions, students are expected to speak in front of the class in both informal and formal presentations. There will also be 1 memorized recitation per semester.

CLASSROOM CIVILITY “Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.” *Colossians. 3:12*

There will be many opportunities for class discussions and debates. You are encouraged to speak your mind in a manner that is Christ-like and respectful of others with differing perspectives

GRADE DISTRIBUTION

- Participation, Engagement, & Preparedness (P.E.P) 10%
- Homework 20%
- Quizzes 30%
- Tests (including major papers and projects) 40%

Unless otherwise noted, assignments should be turned into the tray *at the beginning of class*. Work placed in the wrong tray will be considered late. There are at least three test grades per quarter and a final exam at the end of the semester. A research paper is assigned in the 2nd semester.

P.E.P. GRADE – Reflects student engagement in class and preparedness (bring materials to class, participate in discussions, completes bellwork, etc.).

RETURNED WORK – Shorter essays will be graded and returned to students approximately 1 week from the due date. Longer essays will take approximately 2 weeks.

MAKE UP WORK POLICY

You have one day for each excused absence to make up work. If unexcused, missed hw is due the day you return. If you know you will be absent, contact me ahead of time, NOT the day something is due. Late work is not accepted (school policy). Refer to the BCS handbook for details. If you miss an appointment to make up a test or quiz, you will receive a zero.

GUIDELINES & PROCEDURES

- Academic dishonesty, including plagiarism and cheating, will result in a zero and a referral.
- All formal writing will follow MLA guidelines. This is consistent with college English courses.
- During tests and quizzes, place your backpacks and all other belongings against the wall.
- You will write and sign the honor code at the bottom of every test.
- Use a blue or black pen for all homework, quizzes, and tests. No pencils, please.
- No spoilers! If you have already read a book or watched a film adaptation, don't spoil the plot.
- Write clearly and legibly. Illegible assignments will be marked *Incomplete* and you may be required to rewrite or type your work. Feel free to type any take-home assignments.

COMMUNICATION

RENWEB – Daily homework assignments, lesson plans, attendance, and grades

LEECLASSROOM.COM – Class notes, rubrics, and resources

GOOGLE CLASSROOM – Used during in-person learning for occasional online assignments and discussion boards. If we move to online learning, it will be our primary platform (Class code: gjnxc6q)

REMIND – Text announcements and reminders (Text @bcs11h to the number 81010)

TURNITIN.COM – Essay originality and plagiarism reports (Class ID: 30264106 / Enrollment key: gatsby)

*“There is always the danger that we may just do the work for the sake of the work. This is where the **respect** and the **love** and the devotion come in – that we do it to God, to Christ, and that’s why we try to do it as beautifully as possible.” ~Mother Teresa*