

AP English Language and Composition, Part 1 (APLANG-061-300-002)

AP Language, Part 1 Syllabus

Course Description

The goal of this AP English Language and Composition course is to, first, convince you that you want to become a better writer, and then second, teach you how to do that.

Essential Questions:

- Why should I improve as a writer?
- What makes effective rhetoric?
- How can I improve my writing by imitating the rhetorical choices routinely used by professional writers?
- How does analysis of all types of rhetoric improve my quality of life?

Structure of the Course

There are 15 modules. Each module includes three-four related lessons. Since this is an advanced, AP course, you will notice a lack of grammar and punctuation lessons, the expectation being that you have a solid foundation in these areas. Instead, you will be taught to construct sentences following the constructs and habits of successful professional writers, with the intent to impact an audience. You may notice recurring assignments that ask you to practice the same skills repeatedly. This is purposeful. If we want to improve any skill, we must practice it and writing is the most important academic skill. Each module will include an overview page which will describe the desired learning outcomes as well as how those outcomes will ultimately improve your writing.

Time Commitment

Each module is designed to take anywhere from 7-10 hours, including reading and writing time. There are several writing applications in each module and a substantial amount of reading due in each module. Students who desire the biggest gains as writers will take even simple, listing assignments seriously and construct thoughtful, thorough responses. If you need extra help or have questions, please contact your very capable instructor.

Prerequisites

It is recommended, but not required, that students take Tenth-grade English, Parts 1 and 2 OR Eleventh-grade English, Parts 1 and 2 prior to taking this course.

Course Materials and Technology

Students must buy these materials and technology to complete the course:

- A webcam for the proctored final exam.

Each student will read the following novels during the course:

- *Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell
- *Peace Like A River* by Leif Enger

Students are required to read ONE information book of their choice, from the list provided below. This informational text must be completed at the end of module 4, lesson 3. By that point, students will be required to demonstrate to a parent or guardian that they have completed the entire book. Now is the time to start thinking about it.

[Here is a list of titles and descriptions.](#)

Visit the [IS Course Catalog](#) and search for AP Language and Composition. Click the Textbooks drop-down to see purchasing options.

Due Dates

The due dates in the course are only suggestions to help the students pace themselves. You do *not* need to complete writing applications, written essay assignments, quizzes, and exams by the due date set in the course.

Course Outcomes

As students complete the course assignments, they will increase their knowledge and skill for writing. This course is a preparatory course for the National Advanced Placement Writing Exam. Students will be able to define and apply the following principles to informational text and literature:

- Define rhetoric.
- Write effective sentences.
- Identify phrases and clauses: the building blocks of all writing.
- Identify and define Ethos, Pathos, Logos, and Exigence.
- Write RICE paragraphs.
- Describe and apply the 5 Pro Tips for Sentence Construction.
- Compose a Rhetorical Analysis Paper.
- Imitate professional writing, diction, syntax, and style.
- Write quickly and efficiently.
- Compose a biographical narrative.
- Read *Outliers*.
- Read *Peace Like a River*.
- Analyze tone, voice, diction, characterization, theme, and symbolism in Literature.
- Compose a Literary Analysis Paper.

Grading and Assignments

The letter grade in this course will be based on these assignments and exams.

Assignment or Exam	Grading	Percent of Total Grade
Module Assignments and Writing Applications	Teacher-Graded	50%
3 Major Papers	Teacher-Graded	30%
Quizzes (Open Note)	Computer-Graded	5%
Final Exam (Proctored and timed for practice like the AP Exam.)	Computer-Graded	15%

*Students must pass the final exam with a 60% or higher to earn credit for the course.

They may retake the final exam once for a fee.

Writing Applications

There are several writing applications in each lesson. They will be submitted at the end of each module. The purpose of these writing assignments is for students to APPLY what they have just learned in their lesson. Every writing application is worth 5 points. But completing each application will add up to improved skills and confidence in writing. Each application builds skills and prepares students for the depth of writing they will need to be successful on the Advanced Placement Exam.

Major Writing Papers

- Module 5: Rhetorical Analysis Paper Final Draft (100 points)

- Module 10: What have you learned about Writing? Biographical Narrative (100 points)
- Module 15: Peace Like a River Literary Analysis Paper (100 points)

Reading Quizzes

There are short reading quizzes to assess students' comprehension of the novels they read. These quizzes are open book. They are also computer graded.

Final Exam

The final exam is proctored and timed, to mirror the National AP Exam. Students must pass the final exam to earn credit for the course; they may retake it once, for a fee, upon request.

Resubmissions and Retakes

Unless otherwise stated, students may resubmit assignments, quizzes, and the final exam (instructor-graded or computer-graded) once for a fee. Please see [Resubmissions and Retakes Links to an external site](#).in the BYU Independent Study course policies for more information.

If students would like an additional attempt, they may request a resubmission for a fee through the link provided on the assignment page. Files that are resubmitted in any other way, including attaching files to the comments portion of the assignment, will not be considered for grading.

Course Grade

The letter grade will be calculated according to these percentages.

Percent to Letter Grade Calculation

A	100%–93%
A–	<93%–90%
B+	<90%–87%
B	<87%–83%
B–	<83%–80%
C+	<80%–77%
C	<77%–73%
C–	<73%–70%
D+	<70%–67%
D	<67%–63%
D–	<63%–60%
F (fail)	<60%–0%