

Our Lady of Lourdes High School

COURSE TITLE: Introduction to AP English Language and Composition **Syllabus: Summer 2020**

Teacher: Mrs. Lauren Katz
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COURSE TEXTS:

A collection of non-fiction essays, speeches, SAT Skill building materials, and PowerPoint presentations will be provided for student use during the course.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will build the necessary skills for students to bridge between 10th grade English and AP English Language and Composition. It will introduce the essential terms and concepts which will be developed throughout the AP English Language and Composition course. Through a variety of nonfiction texts, students will examine the purpose of rhetoric, the relationship between speaker, text, and audience, as well as an author's choices to achieve a purpose. As students develop their analytical skills in preparation for the AP Language and Composition course, they will also build key skills for the SAT exam.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The purpose of the course is to introduce students to the concept of rhetoric and analysis. Students will engage with persuasive texts and evaluate the rhetorical situation in each. With an understanding of the rhetorical situation, students will evaluate choices made by authors to achieve a purpose with a given audience. Students will also build the basic writing skills necessary for rhetorical analysis, as well as build critical grammatical skills to help prepare them for the SAT exam. Students will consider the purpose of persuasive texts and apply persuasive techniques in their own argument essays.

PRIMARY LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of this course students will:

By the end of this course, each student will be able to:

- Examine and explain the power of persuasion in various contexts
- Examine and explain how a speaker's choice of strategies affects varying audiences
- Identify and explain the relationship between speaker, audience, and purpose
- Explain how purpose affects an author's choices
- Critically evaluate the form and organization of a persuasive text
- Construct and develop a well-written analysis of a rhetorical text.
- Construct and develop a well-written argument essay

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- Apply rhetorical choices to argument essays to increase effectiveness
- Avoid logical fallacies

COURSE POLICIES:

A contract outlining summer course policies and procedures will be provided to the students and parents. All parties must agree to and sign this contract before the course begins

COURSE OUTLINE AND MAPPING:

Week 1: Evaluating and Applying the Rhetorical Situation

- Evaluating media types and purpose of general media
- Considering and evaluating the power of persuasion in varied media forms
- Identifying speaker, audience, purpose
- Examining the effects of the relationships within the Aristotelian Triangle
- Examining the need for varied forms of persuasion and rhetoric

Week 2: Examining Authors' Choices and Strategies

- Evaluating the relationship between purpose and tone
- Defining and analyzing rhetorical appeals
- Examining how use of appeals can further author's purpose
- Examining power of logical structures when constructing an argument
- Analyzing an author's use of organization as a rhetorical strategy
- Reading critically for AP and the SAT

Week 3: Writing Analytically for AP and the SAT

- Structuring an effective analysis essay
- Writing strong introductions and conclusions
- Developing a strong thesis
- Incorporating strong evidence to support claims
- Building strong transitions to strengthen essays

Week 4: Building an Effective Argument Essay

- Establishing a strong persuasive claim
- Considering counter arguments
- Organizing evidence and claims for logical transitions
- Incorporating persuasive evidence to support claims
- Avoiding logical fallacies