

Dear Parents,

I am delighted to be your child's teacher. My email address is karenanthony@misdmail.org. Email is the most timely and efficient way to communicate with me. Please email should you need to contact me.

Introduction

An AP course in English Language and Composition engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of rhetorical contexts, and in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Both their writing and their reading should make students aware of the interactions among a writer's purposes, audience expectations, and subjects, as well as the way genre conventions and the resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing.

Goals

- to enable students to write effectively and confidently in their college courses across the curriculum and in their professional and personal lives
- to critically read and analyze the expository, analytical and argumentative writing that forms the basis of academic and professional communication
- to read primary and secondary sources carefully, to synthesize material from these texts in their own compositions, and to cite sources using conventions recommended by professional organizations such as the Modern Language Association (MLA),
- to place their emphasis on content, purpose and audience and to allow this focus to guide the organization of their writing.
- to raise students' awareness of their own composing processes: the way they explore ideas and draft and revise their work, and to encourage a global awareness of critical issues in historic selections, current readings and social, political, and controversial issues present in the media.

Class Information

Before this first week is up, our class will establish routines, organize, and determine important timelines for writing and major assignments for the first six weeks. A six week calendar will be posted in Google classroom for reference each six weeks. Please keep in mind that dates may be subject to change for instructional purposes. AP English III will be a challenging year for students, and it is imperative that they complete all their assignments in a timely manner. Late work should be the exception and will be accepted only at the teacher's discretion. Any work not completed when the student is present in class will not be accepted late.

Google Classroom

Students are required to join our class on Google Classroom. The student must access Google Classroom using their MISD email. Assignments will be posted there, and students will turn in electronic assignments on this site. In addition, students can view their graded assignments and comments for feedback and improvement. Tutorials may also be posted in video format or web based lessons. Students will download tutorials at the end of class for access at home to study or review should they need the additional help.

It is the students' responsibility to access Google Classroom each day for announcements and email reminders. Furthermore, parents and students should review their progress weekly on both Google Classroom and Skyward Parent Portal.

Advisory

- **All Students in cafeteria**
 - A-Days - Math and Science (in rooms and kids go there)
 - B-Days - English and Social Studies (in rooms and kids go there)
- Announcements in Cafeteria on Big TV during Advisory and then can play again during lunch
- Culinary or other Ben Barber classes that require students to work during advisory.
- Monday and Friday students **MUST** be in cafeteria for FHS Advisory....no exceptions! More days when Yearbook, etc are not meeting; when Bistro is not open.
- AP Tutoring - AP students must meet two times a six weeks during advisory for specifically focused AP tutoring. This will be mandatory for all AP students
- Friday after 6 weeks - reward (if eligible); students not passing stay in Advisory for tutoring

Cell Phones and IPADS

- Cell phones are **not seen - out of site!** This means in all FHS classes, no cell phones will be out
- Discipline
 - 1st offense - warning and parent contact
 - 2nd offense - teacher hold it for class period and parent contact
 - 3rd offense and beyond - teacher take up and turn phone into AP. Student pays \$15 fine. AP contact parent
- Student forgets iPad or laptop, they **cannot** use phone instead
- Each teacher will have 4 laptops - students can check out for class period
 - 1st time to forget their laptop and have to borrow one - warning
 - 2nd time to forget - parent contact
 - 3rd time and beyond to forget - referral

Retests

- Students who failed to pass a test with a grade lower than a 70 are eligible to retest.
 - Student must come to a minimum of 1 tutorial session with that teacher to be able to retest.
 - Tutoring can be after school or during Advisory.
 - Student has a 2 week window to retest.
 - **RETEST TAKEN AFTER SCHOOL ONLY.**

Attendance and Make-up Work

When students are absent, they miss a classroom experience that cannot be replaced by a worksheet or a short explanation. Any student who is absent must access the assignments posted in Google Classroom. Please remember that the student has one day for each day they are absent to complete the work. Late work will receive a reduction of 15 points for each day late. After two days the assignment will not longer be accepted. A zero will be assigned for work not completed within the time frame.

Major assignments that are due on a day a student is absent must be turned in the next calendar day the student returns. Students who leave before the school day is over should turn in major assignments

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Room B205

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before they leave for the day. In addition, students who will be on field trips for the day are required to turn in major assignments before they leave campus. Students who have an *unexcused* absence on the day a major assignment is due may receive a late grade at the teacher's discretion.

Please note that a zero will be recorded in the grade book when a student is absent for an assignment. Once the student turns in the assignment, the zero will be replaced by the grade they earned. It is essential that students work to make-up the assignments they missed as soon as possible.

Late Work

LATE WORK Students may be assessed a penalty of no more than 30 points per day for up to one class period before a zero may be given for work not turned in on time. (Student handbook, p. 106.)

Tardies

Students are expected to be in their desk ready to begin work by the time the tardy bell rings. All other, cell phones, iPods, earphones, and electronic devices must be turned off and stowed in their bag or backpack. This is best for the student and the classroom environment. Passes from other teachers in the building will not be accepted without my prior approval.

Parents will be notified of their student's tardies at the 2nd and 3rd tardy. Referral to the principal will begin at the 4th tardy.

Participation

Students are required to participate in class discussion, peer revision, partner activities and group work. When grades are assigned for these activities, they will be reflected in the appropriate categories below. Sometimes, the participation is intended for learning new concepts or reviews. Usually these will be assigned a value of a daily grade. Any major grades assigned in relation to group work will be evaluated on an individual basis only.

Grade Categories

Compositions	40%	Daily Work/Quizzes	25%
Tests	35%		

Semester Exam: *Semester exams count 20% of the semester grade*

Student grades will be posted in Skyward parent portal within five business days for daily grades and major grades. Special consideration is given to major projects, including lengthy writing assignments.

UIL ELIGIBILITY ("No Pass/No Play")

- Semester grades are computed by averaging the numerical grades recorded for each of the three six week reporting periods.
- Each six week grading period will stand alone for eligibility purposes.

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- A student who is declared academically ineligible after a six week grading period will be able to regain eligibility if all of the student's grade averages are 70% or higher at the subsequent 3 week grade reporting period.
- See MISD Board Policy FM (LOCAL) – Exempt Courses.

Class Supplies

Required daily

Notebook paper- *not spirals* :)
Black and red pens
Highlighters
Pencil for Scantron tests.

5 x 7" Index cards
Assigned textbooks, novels, readings
iPad-charged nightly
Also required-one box of tissue

Academic Dishonesty

It is my job and part of our curriculum to teach my students how to recognize and avoid plagiarism.

It is my ethical duty to ensure that my students learn and receive a grade that reflects what THEY have learned. Should an incident of academic dishonesty occur, I will talk privately and respectfully to the student and to the parent if it is warranted. Students need to be aware that serious consequences arise from plagiarism and academic dishonesty. Please see the student handbook for details.

Texts, Readings, Materials

The primary textbook for the class is **The Language of Composition**. Each student will check out a copy to keep at home. Students will need copies of the assigned novels to read outside of class throughout the year. Copies of most titles are available in the classroom or electronically. Students will be required to read most reading assignments outside of class. Students should have their copies of these texts in class daily.

Supplemental Readings

Parents will find additional help for their child by referring to the textbook issued to their student. The following websites are also sources of information.

1. Writing Topics and Research Information - www.owl.english.purdue.edu
2. Reading and Literacy- <http://www.readwritethink.org/parent-afterschool-resources/grade/9-10/>
3. SAT and College Board information-<http://www.collegeboard.org>

PLEASE WATCH FOR ADDITIONAL LINKS TO BE POSTED THROUGH THE YEAR in Google Classroom. .

Extra Credit

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Extra Credit will not be given for the purpose of replacing low grades on assignments, tests, major assignments or compositions. All graded assignments are a reflection of the skills and content students must know in order to be successful in this course. Extra Credit is offered occasionally at the teacher's discretion and must be completed on the student's time outside of the school day. Extra Credit assignments are due on time and will not be accepted later than the due date.

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Please sign this form to verify that you have received and read the syllabus for this class.

Student Name

_____ (please print) Block # _____

Parent/Guardian Name #1

_____ (please print)

Phone contact

Email

_____ @ _____

Parent/Guardian Name #2

_____ (please print)

Phone contact

Email

_____ @ _____

Parent Signature
