**Ms. McKenny’s AP Senior English Syllabus: WELCOME TO COLLEGE!!**

Dear AP Students and Parents,

I am very excited that you have chosen to take AP Senior English and I look forward to our year together! AP English IV is designed to prepare students to take the AP English Literature Exam in the spring and if you do well on the exam, you will receive college credit FOR FREE! As we all know, you can’t get something for nothing, so in hopes that all students will do well on the exam, this course will have high expectations as students will be doing the equivalent of college level work.

As several AP English teachers will tell you: “This class IS college, it is not preparation for college. I say that not to scare anyone away but to make sure you know and can prepare for what is to come. Yes, you will have to read; Yes, you will have to write, but if you put the work into this course now, you will be extremely well prepared for any college level English class you choose to take and you might even get to skip a couple!

**Contact information:**

**E-mail: tricia.mckenny@bourbon.kyschools.us Twitter: @HeyMsMcK**

**Website (will be updated weekly with assignments): http://msmckenny.weebly.com/**

**For text updates about class (through computer program “Remind”):**

**Text @McKAPEng4 to 859-661-4413**

**Course Overview:**

From the Bourbon County High School Course Directory:

“English IV AP Literature and Composition: Utilizes approaches to literary criticism as outlined in The Handbook of Critical Approaches to Literature. Analysis of literature will be intense and will be geared to prepare students for the AP exam. Students will write a research paper based on a single major literary work, its author, its critics and its position in the spectrum of world literature. Writing will include personal narrative, short story, literary analysis and expository essay. Students are expected to produce a senior Writing Portfolio. Students enrolled in this course work at the sophomore college level. The course requires a major investment of time.”

This class is structured to prepare students to take (and succeed!) on the AP English Literature test administered by the College Board on **Wednesday, May 6, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. Mark your calendars!**

**Goals:**

* Students will develop, extend and refine the process of literary analysis that is the heart of an AP course.
* Students will extend their analytical skills in an opening unit on tone, irony, and satire and continue to refine these skills in a unit using short stories. They will then spend time exploring and studying poetry in order to develop, extent, and refine the analytical process.
* After forming a foundation, students will build upon these skills as they tackle longer works such as plays and novels.

**The AP Test:**

This course is designed under the assertion that ALL STUDENTS in it will be taking the AP English Literature test. In order to help all students achieve success, we will be taking many practice tests and looking at many test examples in class.

**Test Resources:**

* The College Board (the people who administer the AP test) has a very useful and informational web-site for students to use. It is : <http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/Controller.jpf> We will be taking practice tests and looking at examples in class, but students (and parents) are encouraged to use this web-site for more practice materials. (Note: if you are taking other AP classes in addition to this one, you can find materials for every AP subject here!)
* The College Board (and other companies) publishes several AP study guides and “textbooks.” These may be useful to some students, but I will not require you to buy them for this class. Most of the materials found in them will be given to you in other forms during the course (through handouts and practice tests, all to be kept in your binder!) and I would rather be able to give you things for free that we will actually use than have you spend your own money on something that may or may not be helpful.

**English Binder:**

Welcome to College! You will not have a professor hovering over you checking your notebooks and binders. It is expected that you will keep a class binder and/or notebook for all class notes, handouts, and all writing assignments (in-class essays and outside assignments) to refer back to when preparing for the AP Test. These binders will not be graded for points, but at the end of each 9 weeks students may turn in a complete and organized binder for up to *10 extra credit points.*

**Course Grades:**

**Grading Scale:**

The Bourbon County High School Grading Scale will be followed:

92-100% = A; 82-91% = B; 70-81% = C; 64-69% = D; 0-63% = F

**AS AN AP CLASS, GRADES WILL BE WEIGHTED ON A 5 POINT SCALE FOR GPA CALCULATION.**

**Grading:**

1. **Test scores** are based on a combination of 1 TIMED essay (40 minutes) and 20 multiple choice questions. Tests will be graded on a sliding AP Scale that will be explained in class and posted on the class website and will be out of 100 points.

2. **Essays:** Students will write 20+ essays and/or essay outlines throughout the year, including the three essays on the AP Exam. These will consist of in-class TIMED essays (see above) and out of class essays/outlines completed as homework. Students will also complete 5 major analysis papers and longer essays each worth 100 points. The due dates are listed on this syllabus for these assignments.

3. Students should be prepared for regular “reading check” quizzes at any time. These will count as ¼ of a test grade (25 points).

4. Grades will be weighted as follows:

Assessments/Quizzes and Tests: 70%

Homework/In-Class assignments/Participation/Discussion: 30%

**Late work policy:** As an AP class, part of the goal is to prepare you for college and “The Real World” both of which have *deadlines* and *responsibilities*. In this class ALL assignments are expected at the beginning of class on the day they are due.

**This means students will have a hard copy, ready to turn in when the bell rings!** Using a computer to e-mail, print, find, etc. an assignment *after* the bell rings means the assignment is LATE.

Any work received by the end of the day **will be deducted 10%**. Any work turned in a day late **will be deducted 20%.** Work turned in 2 days late **will be deducted 30%.** **Work that is 3 or more days late will not be accepted.**

**Note on fieldtrips/other absences:** If you are attending a field trip/college visit/other activity in which you know ahead of time you will miss class when an assignment is due, ALL WORK IS DUE BEFORE YOU LEAVE! If you will not be in the building, work is due the day before. If you are in the building, it is your responsibility to turn in all work **before you leave!**

**Plagiarism Policy:**

*I will not tolerate plagiarism or cheating—this includes copying answers to homework questions, passing off another’s work as your own, using Internet or other sources when not permitted, and using cell phones during a test.*

Cheating is any attempt to use another student’s answers for your benefit. If this occurs on an in-class quiz or test, both students will receive 0’s on the assignment. If cheating occurs on a homework assignment (it is obvious students discussed and/or shared answers), both students will receive 0’s on the assignment.

*Plagiarism is any attempt to pass off another’s work as your own and results in a zero for the assignment.*

If plagiarism occurs on a major outside assignment (those listed below) the student will receive a 0 on the assignment and will be given one week to re-submit the assignment (for no credit, but to meet the requirements of the course). Failure to re-submit the assignment will result in a failure to meet a course requirement, so the student will receive an F for that nine weeks.

**Accessing Grades:**

Grades will be updated weekly in Infinite Campus. It is expected to be the STUDENT’S responsibility to check their grades and see me if there are any questions.

DISTRICT IC INSTRUCTIONS:

Students may access the Portal by Logging into <https://infinitecampus.kyschools.us/campus/portal/bourbon.jsp> or click “Infinite Campus” then click on the link to the Parent portal on the Bourbon County Schools home page (<http://www.bourbon.k12.ky.us>).

Students should use their student ID number as their user name. If they are unsure of their password, they should contact Ms. Elkins in the BCHS Library.

Parents should have received a Census Verification form at Open House or in the paperwork from the first day of school. They should correct any mistakes, add their email address, sign and date the form before returning it to the High School. When we receive the request for the portal, we will send the parent an email with all of the information they need to activate their portal account.

If they already have an account, but have forgotten their user name or password, they can retrieve that information by emailing [Parent.portal@bourbon.kyschools.us](mailto:Parent.portal@bourbon.kyschools.us). They should include their student’s name, grade, and school they attend in the email.

Any portal questions may be directed to [Parent.portal@bourbon.kyschools.us](mailto:Parent.portal@bourbon.kyschools.us) or contact Ms. Elkins in the BCHS Library (987-2185 ext. 4200) or Sarah Auvenshine at Central Office (987-2180 ext. 1129).

**Help and Tutoring:**

-I am available for tutoring and will have a schedule in the classroom. Throughout the fall, tutoring is only available in the mornings, by appointment. After the fall soccer season, tutoring is available after school on a scheduled day each week.

**What will we cover???**

-We will begin with a foundation in short stories and poems before diving into longer works, novels, and plays.

-Topics and themes (included works studied) will vary according to student/teacher discussion and interest but may include: *Hamlet, Inferno, Brave New World, Frankenstein, The Awakening, 1984, Of Mice and Men, Othello, The Stranger, Heart of Darkness,* and many more.

**Major Essays/Outside Assignments:**

Students will complete 5 written assignments outside of class. Each will include a rough draft, a student-teacher conference, and the final copy. These will be explained more in-depth in class.

**\*\*COMPLETION OF THESE ASSIGNMENTS IS A REQUIREMENT OF THIS COURSE. Failure to complete ANY of the following assignments will result in a grade of “F” on the student’s report card for that 9 weeks as they have not met a requirement of the course.\*\***

**ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE ON THESE DATES REGARDLESS OF WHETHER A STUDENT IS IN SCHOOL OR NOT ON THIS DATE! (including drafts)**

If a student will miss class on this date, assignment is still due BEFORE THE BELL RINGS to begin the period. They may be e-mailed or hand delivered by another student, parent, guardian, carrier pigeon, etc. ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE IN SOMEHOW OR THEY WILL BE CONSIDERED LATE.

**First Semester:**

**1. Short Story Analysis**

After learning the techniques of analysis, students choose a story to analyze in an essay. The students interpret what the author is saying, how he/she informs and instructs, what his/her tone is, and how the tone develops. The students analyze how the author uses literary devices to develop the meaning. The discussion of the devices must not be the focus of the analysis; rather, students connect their use to the author’s purposes for using them. Students must not choose a story that they have read previously. *They DO NOT read any critical material for this or any independent analysis (this means NO INTERNET!!).* Suggested authors and works will be provided in class.

**Draft: Friday, October 3**

**Final Copy: Friday, October 24**

**2. Poetry Explication**

This assignment will be completed during our study of poetry and extends the students’ independence of poetry analysis. They will choose a poem that they have not read and do a full explication. The explication includes a line-by-line analysis of what the poem means, what the poet is saying and his/her tone, with textual examples. Literary devices that develop meaning or are otherwise significant to the author’s purposes are a must for this assignment. Suggested authors and works will be provided in class.

**Draft:** **Friday, November 14**

**Final Copy: Tuesday, November 25**

**3. Dual Poem Compare/Contrast Explication**

This assignment extends on the skills learned during our poetry unit*.* Students will choose 2 poems (options will be provided) to compare and contrast 2 poems while building on the skills learned in class.

**Draft: Friday, December 12**

**Final Copy: Friday, December 19**

**Second Semester:**

In addition to the novels and plays read as a class, students will read two novels or plays independently and write analytical/evaluative essays on them. You will be given a list of novels and plays to choose from, but may make other choices if you check with me first. You will also receive a list of released prompts from the free-response questions from old AP Exams to choose from when writing your essay. Due dates for these essays will be assigned after Christmas break, but students may begin reading/working on these AT ANY TIME! One final paper will be due toward the end of the third nine weeks, one will be due around mid-term of the fourth nine weeks (before the AP exam).

**AP English IV Signature Form**

Student Name (Print):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\*\*I have read and understand the syllabus for AP English IV.

Student Initials:­­\_\_\_\_\_ Parent Initials:\_\_\_\_\_

\*\*I am aware of all course requirements as listed on the syllabus (including the 3 outside assignments for first semester and the two novels and/or plays for second semester).

Student Initials:­­\_\_\_\_\_ Parent Initials:\_\_\_\_\_

\*\*I am aware that I am NOT to consult Google or Internet sources for assignments FOR ANY REASON on the major papers and that doing so will be considered plagiarism.

Student Initials:­­\_\_\_\_\_ Parent Initials:\_\_\_\_\_

\*\*I am aware of the due dates for the major papers AND have marked them on my calendar.

Student Initials:­­\_\_\_\_\_ Parent Initials:\_\_\_\_\_

\*\*I am aware of how to access Infinite Campus to check student grades.

Student Initials:­­\_\_\_\_\_ Parent Initials:\_\_\_\_\_

\*\*I am aware that AP English IV is a college level class and will, at times, require college level work in order to prepare all students to take the AP English Literature exam. This includes work load and content.

Student Initials:­­\_\_\_\_\_ Parent Initials:\_\_\_\_\_

\*\*I understand that if I have any questions, comments, or concerns I may feel free to contact Ms. McKenny at the school at any time.

Student Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent E-mail Address: Phone #:

**REMINDERS TO WRITE DOWN OR SAVE:  
Follow @HeyMsMcK for information**

**E-mail tricia.mckenny@bourbon.kyschools.us with any questions or concerns**

**Text @McKEng3 to 859-661-4413 for text updates**

**All class materials including make up work are available on website: http://msmckenny.weebly.com/**

Questions/Comments/Concerns: