**English AP Language and Composition**

**Sarah Shintaku – Rm H10 http://www.sshintaku.weebly.com**

**Course Description**

An AP English Literature and Composition course engages students in the careful

reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature through the close reading of selected texts, students deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As they read, students consider a work’s structure, style and themes, as well as such smaller-scale elements as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism and tone.

This course is designed as a preparatory class for the AP Language and Composition test; therefore, all coursework is designed to further your skills and knowledge to pass this test. Students who do not complete coursework at an advanced level in a timely manner may still pass the course, but will find their ability to pass the test greatly compromised.

**Homework**

Homework will count as 20% of your grade. You will probably not have homework every night, but should expect an assignment at least three nights a week.

**Grades**

Grading is done on a standard scale-

90% and better is an A 80% and better is a B

70%+ = C 60%+ = D

Essays will make up 25% of your grade. Class Work makes up 25% of your grade. Tests and Projects are 20% of the grade. Participation/citizenship makes up 10% of your grade. Participation is based on students effort/contribution to class discussions and non-written work completed in class.

I will accept work up to five days (one school week) after it is due. Each day it is late, you will lose one letter grade or 10% (an A turns into an B, etc). I am happy to accept work via e-mail, but I will not print it out for you. I will not accept work more than one week late without a valid medical excuse or family emergency.

**Behavior**

As high grade students, you know what appropriate behavior for a classroom is. I expect you to be prepared, be productive and be respectful. If you choose to act in a way that is disruptive or disrespectful, you will earn the consequences for your actions. My classroom operates on a 3 strike system. On your third warning, you earn detention. On your third detention, I will contact your parents and issue you a referral. Extreme behaviors result in a forfeiture of warnings and immediate issuance of consequence, at my discretion.

In any instance of cheating or plagiarism, the assignment will receive a “0” grade.

**Materials**

It is highly recommended that you come prepared with the necessary materials to be successful. This means - bring your own paper and pen/pencil and whatever books we are currently working with.
I do not have a required material list, however, I highly recommend you have a binder or folder in which you can keep handouts throughout the course of the year. We will be reviewing many of the materials over and over again so you need to keep your copies in a safe place.

**Reading**

We will be reading The Crucible, The Great Gatsby, and To Kill a Mockingbird. We will also be using selections from The Language of Composition, The Language of Literature and The Compact Reader.

In addition to the reading we do as a class, students will also be responsible for reading independently one approved book per quarter.

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**Detach and return no later than August 13th**

I have read and understand the expectations outlined in this syllabus.

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Student Name Student Signature

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Date Parent/Guardian Signature