

College Prep English IV – Mrs. Jami Jo Paugh

Syllabus and Course Policies

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Communication:

Email is the easiest way to reach me with questions or concerns. Parents are always welcome to request a phone conference; please email me so we can schedule a time.

Course Description/Objectives:

CP English IV is a reading and composition course. The primary purpose is to prepare you for college-level expectations in reading, writing, and academic habits. To accomplish this, you will:

- Read literature and non-fiction material at a high level of complexity.
- Write in a variety of styles and practice revising your own writing.
- Focus on personal responsibility by advocating for yourself, owning your own learning, and using initiative in locating resources and handling absences.

Semester 1 Units:

1. Narrative and college/scholarship essay writing
2. Academic honesty, research and citation, and expository writing
3. *The Crucible* and synthesis writing
4. Short stories and literary analysis writing. Final exam: On-demand literary analysis essay (10% of semester grade)

Semester 2 Units:

1. Dystopian novel and research paper
2. *Hamlet* and thematic analysis
3. Choice novel and project
4. Final exam: Play and film study (10% of semester grade)

Technology: You must have your district-issued device in class, charged, and usable every day. It is expected that you can access StudentVue and Google Classroom at all times. If you have issues with your password or login, visit Tech Support.

I expect responsible use of personal technology like phones and earbuds. Keep your phone upside down or out of sight during instruction and work time. Remove earbuds any time I am talking as well as when you are working in a small group. You may listen to music during most independent work. The more you demonstrate competence, responsibility, and respect during class time, the less I will be concerned about your use of personal technology.

Grading: 60% essays and essay exams, 20% quizzes, 10% classwork/projects, 10% final

- Standard total points grading scale: 90%+ A, 80-89% B, etc. I round to the nearest percent.
- StudentVue/ParentVue assignments will be organized by unit and clearly titled. Please reach out with any questions about specific items. Items listed as 'Not for grading' are

included for student self-assessment and informational purposes and not considered in grade calculations.

- Any time you question why a certain grade was assigned, contact me. I will review it and explain my reasoning and/or adjust the grade if I made an error.

- Essay revisions are encouraged, and they are often required for students scoring below proficiency. When an essay is submitted late, revision will not bring the grade above an 80%.

- Second semester, there will be a research paper of approximately eight pages that will serve as the culminating writing piece for the course. Ample class time will be used for this paper. In keeping with college expectations, no late work will be accepted on this assignment.

Academic Honesty: Academic dishonesty includes any attempt to take credit for another person's work. I follow district policy for handling issues of academic dishonesty, which can include grade deductions and/or administrative referrals. We will use www.turnitin.com in this class. Specific examples that tend to come up in this course include:

- Copying work from another student. Students who work together must always write answers in their own words to show me that they understand the concepts. When work appears to be copied, all students involved receive zeroes on the assignment.

- Unintentional plagiarism, in which the student fails to properly quote or cite information. This will result in a grade deduction and a chance to correct the error.

- Intentional plagiarism, including copy/pasting or slightly rewording text from a website or another student's paper. This will result in a serious grade deduction up to a zero for the assignment, as well as administrative action. In a college course, this would generally result in failing the course entirely.

Absences and late work:

- Essays and projects that are late can earn a maximum grade of 80%. The exception is the senior research paper, which is not accepted late.

- If you are absent, it is your responsibility to make up missed quizzes and class work within two school days. Check google classroom and StudentVue regularly to ensure you are caught up. Talk to me if you have an extended absence and we will work out reasonable deadlines.

- Essays and long-term projects should be turned in on time even if a student is absent. Contact me in the event of serious illness or other situations that prevent you from doing so.

- Excessive tardies may result in parent contact, detention, and/or office referrals.

- Technology problems do not excuse late work. Plan ahead and do not count on everything working if you wait until the last minute to turn something in.